

# Glad Tidings

March

2024

*“Buy the truth, and sell it not.” (Prov. 23:23)*

**FROM THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**LET US GIVE THANKS FOR OUR RELIGION**  
*Strength For Today And Bright Hope For Tomorrow*

*Philippians 4:13*

*I Corinthians 15:19*

## FROM THE PASTORS DESK

People search for happiness in various forms. Some seek it in sports, drink, drugs, alcohol. When that is the case, they're searching in all the wrong places. For any of God's children to be truly happy, the Lord can't be left out. Happy in scripture generally means to be "blessed"; both in the Old Testament and the New Testament.

Happiness is a condition someone is in or what has been done because of that condition. Israel of old was a chosen people and delivered from the bondage of Egypt. "**Happy** art thou, O Israel: who is like unto thee, O people saved by the LORD,..." (Deut. 33:29) They had been saved from slavery in Egypt and were on the edge of Canaan. The Lord was their shield and help, but they forsook Him many times.

As a result of Israel being saved, they had access to the land of Canaan and blessings (happiness) by being obedient to the God that delivered them. When Israel obeyed the laws of God, they were victorious and prospered in their journey. When they turned their backs on God, He withdrew blessings and judgment was measured out. Solomon tells us, "Where there is no vision, the people perish: but he that keepeth the law, **happy** is he." (Prov. 29:18) When vision is lost and eyes turn from the Lord, happiness is forfeited. Solomon learned this truth the hard way, having lost his vision and turned to idolatry.

Those that served in Solomon's court and heard his wisdom were "happy" servants. The Queen of Sheba came to see the glory of Solomon and hear his wisdom. The half had not been told her of the wisdom of this man when Solomon answered all her questions, saw his glory and observed the people that served. She said, "**Happy** are thy men, happy are these thy servants, which stand continually before thee, and that hear thy wisdom." (I Kings 10:8) The New Testament tells us that one "greater than Solomon is here" in the person of Jesus Christ. (Matt 12:42) We need to hear His wisdom in the courts of the Lord as we listen to the scriptures being expounded by His called servants. We too can experience the happiness that the queen witnessed as we keep the laws of God. Jesus told His disciples after He washed their feet as an example and told them they ought to do the same, "If ye know these things, **happy** are ye if ye do them." (John 13:17) To be happy (blessed) here is found in not just the hearing but in the doing of the will of God.

When we fail to observe the laws of God, the Lord chastens us for our disobedience. This is not pleasant. But let us not think this is a curse; it is because we are His child. The book of Job says, "Behold, **happy** is the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:" (Job 5:17) This correction is evidence of the love God has for us as His sons. "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." (Heb. 12:6) "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." (Rev. 3:19)

We always get into trouble when we trust ourselves and not the Lord. The Bible speaks unfavorably of those that trust in riches or anything else other than the Lord. Then we read where true happiness resides and it is by the wise man Solomon: "He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good: and whoso trusteth in the LORD, **happy** is he." (Prov. 16:20) When we trust the Lord from whom all blessings flow and fear not man, we can have joy unspeakable and full of glory; as a result of this: Isaiah writes, "Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." (Isaiah 12:3) These are wells that never run dry and are never stagnant but always refreshing.

When we trust the Lord, we inadvertently might put ourselves in jeopardy of suffering for the cause of Christ. But even then, the scripture declares us happy during this unjust suffering. "But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, **happy** are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;" (I Pet. 3:14) Peter also tells us that if we are reproached for the name of Christ, we are **happy** for the spirit and glory of God rests upon us. (I Pet. 4:14) The time will come when the Lord will right every wrong as the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us. (Rom. 8:18)

We have this glorious expectation (hope) of seeing the Lord in glory: consequently, we know we have His help in time of trouble. He is always that stronghold but especially in times of trouble. (Nahum 1:7) The Psalmist says, "**Happy** is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the LORD his God." (Psalm 146:5) We cannot find this help in man or worldly institutions; we must do as the Psalmist writes, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth." (Psalm 121:1-2) True happiness is found in the Lord and may we seek that with heart, soul, and mind! (Elder Larry Wise)

**EDITORIAL OFFICE**

Please send all articles, announcements, change of address, correspondence and contributions to the Editor of Glad Tidings at the address below or call 662-489-5017 for announcements. You may also send e-mail to [wisepb310@gmail.com](mailto:wisepb310@gmail.com); we reserve the right to reject or edit any material. **All published material must be received 2 days prior to the 8<sup>th</sup> of the month** to be included in the following month's issue and sent to the Editor at the following address:

Elder Larry Wise  
12932 Hwy 9 S.  
Randolph, MS 38864

All names and addresses of Glad Tidings will be deleted from the mailing list if an issue is returned as undeliverable *as addressed unless proper notification has been received*. There is no subscription price for Glad Tidings. We do accept contributions as Glad Tidings is reader supported. **Make checks payable to "Glad Tidings" and send to the Editor at the above address.** They are sincerely appreciated. This is a Primitive Baptist Church publication.

\*\*\*\*\*

**ADOPTION**

(Conclusion)

By Elder Harold Hunt  
Maryville, Tennessee

**The Paperwork**

Every adoption generates some paperwork. If the adoption is legal and binding, there will be documents to prove it. This adoption generated some papers. Our adoption is not recorded with paper and ink; it is written on the tables of our heart. We are taught in our hearts to know that we are the children of God. "Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit." 2 Cor. 5:5.

Those of you who have been involved in real estate could teach me more than I have ever imagined about the principle of earnest money. Earnest money is given in advance of the actual transaction as a kind of pledge to bind the bargain. It is an advance payment, which indicates that you intend to carry through with the deal. God's Spirit in the hearts of his children bears witness that he intends to carry through with his promise. It is evidence that he intends to carry the recipient of that Spirit home to live with him in glory.

Can you imagine a little boy in an orphanage? He is so lonely. The people who run the place do the best they can to take care of him, but that is not like having parents to take him in their arms and love him as their own. And can you imagine that one day he has been adopted by the richest, the kindest, the most gentle man in that town, and the adoption papers are on file in the front office? Do you have an idea that while he is waiting, every now and then, he would like to go to the office, and look at the adoption papers, and see that his name is written there? And don't you think he would appreciate it if somebody would show him the papers? That is what I am trying to do with this little booklet. I hope you can get just a glimpse of the adoption papers. "Now he that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit."—a pledge that seals the bargain.

If you feel the Spirit of God stirring in your heart that is the earnest of your inheritance. That is your evidence that you are a heaven-bought, heaven-bound child of God. From your vantage point, that is the paperwork of your adoption. From God's vantage point Job says, "Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high." Job 16:19. Paul says, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his." 2 Tim. 2: 19. That is talking about the firm and sure decrees of God, written in the halls of eternity, but right now, we are looking at the evidence of the adoption as it is written in the hearts of God's children, and we will save the other aspect of the question for another time.

**The Evidence of Our Adoption**

In Romans, chapter eight, Paul says, "For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Rom. 8:15. The very first words children learn to say are Mama or Papa, or perhaps Da-da. I have never entirely figured out whether children learn to say Mama and Papa first, because we teach them to say that, or whether it is just natural for them to learn to make those sounds early, so ages ago parents learned to call themselves that. I don't know, and I am not going to worry about it, but this is another way in which our heavenly Father is like our natural parents. God delights to hear us acknowledge him as our Father, and because of that, he has "given us the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Abba is the Hebrew expression for father. It is a very simple sound, very much like Papa or Da-da. How simple a thing to say. It is so simple that a little child can say it—Abba Father.

Verse 23, "And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body." In the old days the Jews had a feast called the Feast of the

Firstfruits. That meant that the full crop was coming after awhile. That is what it means when we find the Spirit of God stirring in our hearts. Those are the firstfruits—"the firstfruits of the Spirit." The full crop is coming after awhile.

The firstfruits of the Spirit are the firstfruits of the adoption. It indicates that the climax of the adoption, the final act of the adoption, is coming after awhile.

I have heard it said that we do not know anything at all about what heaven is going to be like. I believe we can know something about it. I believe it is going to be a whole lot of what we get just a little of down here. These are the firstfruits. The last fruits are like the firstfruits. There is just a lot more of it. If you have ever had the first taste of apple pie, you have a pretty good idea of what the rest of the pie is going to be like. And if you have ever felt God's Spirit moving in your heart, you have an idea of what heaven is going to be like.

Some folks have gotten the idea from Romans 8:23, the adoption will not take place until the resurrection. But, no, the resurrection is when the adoption will finally be complete. It has been going on all along. It started a long time ago. It started in eternity past when God determined upon the adoption. The first act of the adoption was when he chose his family in Christ Jesus in eternity past. Then he did all the legal work that was necessary for our adoption in sending his son to suffer and die on the cross, and to satisfy every just claim of the law. He paid the price of our redemption. Then he sent his Spirit into our hearts in the work of regeneration.

### Waiting to Go Home

Now we are waiting—waiting for the final act of adoption. I am enjoying the wait. I used to say I would like to live to be ninety years old and preach twice a day until then. But I don't think I could quite stand up to that. I have tried preaching twice every day, and that is more than I can handle. I would not mind to live to be ninety years old, and preach once a day. I am enjoying the day. Paul said, "For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain" Phil. 1:21. I am not in any hurry to leave this old world. But the older I get, and the closer I get to the end of my journey, the more I think about that day, when my heavenly Father will come for me. The last act of adoption is when the adopting Father comes and gets his child, and takes him to live with him in that big house on the hill. I am looking forward, with fond anticipation, to that good day, when the final act of adoption will come, and we will be forever at home with the Lord.

(From "Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature" Vol. 1-- Edited by Elder Harold Hunt)

\*\*\*\*\*

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." (John 14:3)

### PEACE ON EARTH—PEACE IN HEAVEN

By Elder T. L. Webb, Jr. (Deceased)

When Jesus was born in Bethlehem, the angels announced His advent in the earth with a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, good will toward men" (Luke 2:14). From heaven to the earth came *peace* through the Lord Jesus Christ.

When Jesus made His triumphant entry up to Jerusalem, riding upon a colt and approaching the Mount of Olives, the multitude of the disciples began to rejoice and praise God with a loud voice for all the mighty works that they had seen, and said, "Bless be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord, *peace in heaven* and glory in the highest" (Luke 19:38). In these two passages of scripture, we have the essence of the Gospel of Christ. The Jesus born in the city of David was the very Word that was God who created all things, the appointed and anointed Messiah who came down from heaven to satisfy God's righteous law in the room and stead of His chosen people. Reconciliation for their sins was to be accomplished on the earth by Him becoming our peace. It was on the cross that He abolished in His flesh the enmity that existed and also reconciled us unto God. "He is our peace:" (Eph. 2:14). This had to be accomplished on the earth! Sin had to be met where sin existed!

Having seen the mighty works of this same Jesus, and now recognizing Him as Lord and King, His disciples accompanied Him on this last journey toward the Mount of Olives. The agony and death of Calvary was soon to come. They, by faith, looked beyond this mundane sphere to fairer worlds on high, and by the power of His Holy Spirit could say, "*Peace in heaven*". His work on earth would soon be over and the blood of His everlasting covenant would be sealed in heaven. The glory of His presence on earth would now soon ascend back to the Highest from whence He came, but not until *peace* had been won by the Mighty Conqueror.

The Captain of our salvation has now gone on before us. He left a peace with us that the world could never give us. He carried His precious blood to the Almighty father, having obtained eternal redemption for us. He has entered into the Holiest of Holies, into heaven itself for us. He is now seated at God's own right hand and *peace*, lasting peace, has been obtained by Him for us. They that preach the truth preach this "gospel of peace."

Yes, a heavenly message indeed. "Peace on earth," but far greater still could His disciples shout when they beheld the King on His way from His low estate to fulfill the will of His Father, "*Peace in Heaven*." There is Glory, far exceeding any glory the earth could have ever produced, now in the Heaven of heavens.

From heaven He had to descend,  
To earth to bleed and die.  
Back to Heaven He must ascend,  
And glory now fills the sky.

(From "Advocate and Messenger", February 1978)

**OBEDIENCE**

By Elder P. D. Gold (Deceased)  
(*Gospel Messenger*, Dec. 1920)

The Land of Canaan was given Israel by the Lord. It was their inheritance: for what we inherit comes by favor through blood and love, not for money, or reward, labor, or toil. But while such was the blessed land given to the children of Israel, they were to be taught that  **blessings followed their obedience**, and that curses followed their disobedience. When Israel disobeyed God the rains were withheld, and the sky became as brass, and the earth yielded not her increase. The giants of her borders would at times spring up to slay them, and the Canaanites would then swarm in their midst, and get the mastery over them, nor would their eye pity them, and they would overrun and impoverish their land. For when Israel disobeyed the Lord they were at once shorn of their strength and prostrated before their enemies. No people were as strong as Israel when they trusted and obeyed the Lord; nor were any so weak and feeble as Israel when they did not depend upon the Lord. What terrible judgments overtook them when they tempted the Lord, their God! There is no god like the God of Israel, therefore He is a jealous God, and will not give His glory to another. Israel had no excuse for their sins. They destroyed themselves, still their help was in God that made Heaven and earth. God ruled in the high places and in the valleys or deep places. In **each there lay a blessing in obedience to God**, but in each there lurked a curse in transgression. When we disobey God how is the fruitful field become a desert solitary and barren, and the land yields no increase; but in its stead, there springs up briars and thorns of the wilderness. Distress of spirit, anguish of soul, pride, discontent, lusts of the flesh, blindness, darkness, woe and misery are our daily companions, and sorrowful meat and miserable comforters are they all.

How easy and natural to be slack and careless! How quickly we leave our first love! How few strive to enter at the straight gate! How few labor to enter into that rest that remaineth to the people of God! Remember Lot's wife. How many fearful warnings stand as pillars in Absalom's place, Achor's Valley, or the crossing of Ephraim! We may be disputing about tithing herbs, and yet neglecting the weightier matters and judgment, truth and mercy. We may dispute about some abstruse question we can never understand to the neglect of things to be observed every day, and in the doing of which we surrender no right, nor doctrine, and forfeit nothing belonging to Israel.

He that is faithful in preaching repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ, yields not a whit of the doctrine of election, but is entering more fully into the land. They that believe should be careful to keep their bodies under, and, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, should live soberly and godly in this resent world, surrendering no part of truth, but only

more fully defending it. He that teaches that all that are taught in preaching should give to those that teach deny not one word of the doctrine of truth, but only more fully demonstrates and illustrates its glorious unity and perfection. The land belongs to us, the truth is held by Primitive Baptists, but we are slack to go up and possess the land. We do not hold the land as we should. You must occupy the land or you do not enjoy it. Here is one that has received a good hope through grace that his sins are forgiven for Jesus; sake, or that is accepted in the beloved. His plain duty is to be baptized at once. He should not wait a month or a year. Ananias did not instruct Saul to tarry, but arise at once and be baptized. The jailer at Phillippi did not even wait until the next day, but was baptized the same hour of the night that he believed.

Some preaching tends to encourage people in slackness, telling them to keep them from obeying God as long as they can, as much as to say to suffer is better than to obey. An infant is born; the midwife counsels the mother to leave the little one out in the cold all winter, and, if it survives all that ill-treatment, it is shown to have a good constitution and will do to take in the house and bring up. What sort of a mid-wife would that mother deem that heartless thing to be? Is it not better to obey than to suffer or sacrifice? To obey is better than all sacrifices or excuses you can ever offer.

Some preachers harp on some one point of doctrine, making it a hobby to the neglect of other matters that God of Heaven has also taught. We meet some preachers that cannot speak without all the time dwelling specially on **predestination**, but cry out against preaching that they that believe in God should be careful to maintain good works. Baptist generally hold to predestination, and I am glad they do. If they did not I should certainly want to go somewhere else and to a people that do love it; for it is the doctrine of God, our Savior; but Baptists are often slack about entering into the goody land by neglecting to perform good works and bring forth fruits meet for repentance, which the same God that teaches election teaches to be observed.

"We desire to see brethren show their moderation by giving good heed to all that God commands, not attaching more importance to any one thing to the neglect of another that the word of God warrants, but rightly dividing the Word of Truth, and giving to each his portion in due season."—Elder P. D. Gold

\*\*\*\*\*

**OBEY**

Where our Captain bids us go,  
'Tis not ours to murmur no;  
He that gives the sword and shield  
Chooses too the battlefield  
Where we are to fight the foe.

Source Unknown

**PARADISE**

By Elder E. B. Watts (Deceased)



There is a dimension that is bound in neither length, width, height, nor time. Such cannot be understood by human mind nor defined in any language on earth. Men have had glimpses of it and have felt its influence. Some have entered into it, but have never returned to describe its glory. This boundless dimension is the abode of God. This is Paradise. Despite tradition, we have no Bible account of Paradise ever being here on earth. True, we often refer to the Garden of Eden as paradise, but the Bible does not.

The garden that was man's first dwelling place on earth was bounded by a land called Eden and by four rivers that supplied its waters. It was bound by the element of time and relativity. Paradise is mentioned three times in the Scriptures, each in the New Testament. The first was Jesus' promise to the thief on the cross: *"to day shalt thou be with me in paradise."* (Luke 23:43) The second was the instance of Paul's reference to one he knew to be *"caught up in paradise"* and heard unspeakable words, which is not lawful (The translator's marginal note renders the word *"lawful"* as *"possible"*). The third reference is Revelation 2:7: *"...To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God."*

Is not Jesus, the Risen and Glorified source of all our spiritual food and comfort, now in the midst of the heaven of heavens, sitting at God's right hand, making intercession for the saints of God? Are not the ransomed souls of those who have died now reposing in the paradise of God? Have not the saints, in their dying moments, seen heaven opened to see the paradise their souls are about to enter? Have we not tasted the fruit of paradise that God gives to those who follow Him? Someday, when the dimensions of time are no more, our mortal bodies will be made fit to abide in that dimensionless paradise forever and ever and ever!

(From *"The Christian Baptist"*, May 1978)

\*\*\*\*\*

"For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:" (Phil. 1:23) Where was Christ when Paul wrote this? He was on the right hand of God. Paul also said that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord; (2 Corinthians 5:8) Paradise for sure!—*Editor*

**THE TRUE RICHES**

The just and generous use of wealth is one of the virtues required of those who are blessed with it, and their faithfulness in this is among the proofs of their fidelity to God, who has loaned to them (just loaned to them) all the bounties of the earth. Our works are brought into judgment, is taught in many places in the Word of God. We entirely discard the idea that alms confer merit on us. But we know it makes a difference how we do. "If we live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live." (Romans 8:13) This we know is true, for it is the Word of God. One may be a Christian and be a man of wealth, but the purest, best use of it is required of him by the Lord.

May not the riches of this world, when not properly appropriated, be the mammon of unrighteousness? Many trust in it for real happiness when it vanishes like frost before the rising sun. People have come to trust in it for salvation. That which is a blessing is turned into a curse. Too much desire for wealth leads to covetousness and that is idolatry, a thing that God hates. As the stewards of the Lord are all accountable to Him for the right and proper use of what He has put in their hands. Wealth, when it is from the Lord, is a blessing and should be so regarded and the right and generous use of it should not make the heart sad. When Jesus told the rich ruler he lacked one thing, "sell all that thou hast and distribute unto the poor,..." he was very sorrowful for he was very rich." Seeing his demeanor, Jesus replied, "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God."

They are a snare that God's dear children should be aware of. If this rich ruler has been rich in the true riches, as was Lazarus the beggar, it would have been a pleasure to him to relieve the needy. When giving is from the proper motive, then "it is more blessed to give than to receive." The grace of God, love of God, shed abroad in the heart, is wealth that far exceeds gems from the mountains and pearls of the ocean. "But seek ye first," said the Master, "the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matthew 6:33) Here you find lasting treasures, gold unalloyed, joy and peace, and it will continue throughout eternity while the riches of this natural world will soon pass away forever.

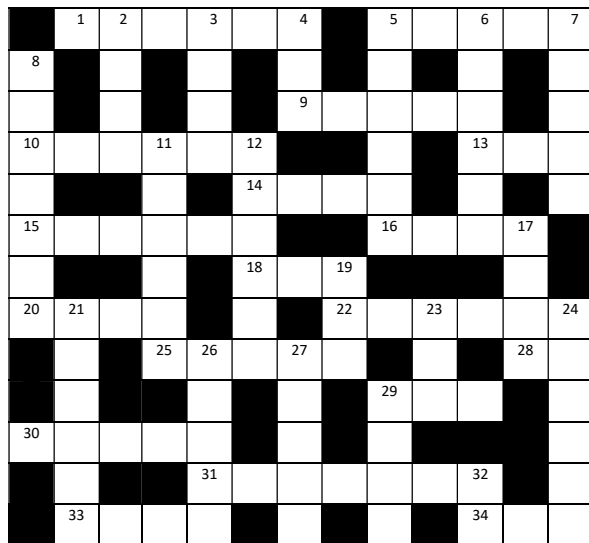
"Let no man seek his own, but every man another's wealth." (I Corinthians 10:24) The apostle said he did not seek his own profit, but the profit of many. Charity seeketh not her own but "suffereth long" and is "kind." This spirit loved and lived would regulate all the rest. This which is only temporary should never awaken our deepest interest or be our chief concern. If they demand our attention at all, let them be of secondary importance. The joyous looking forward to an eternity of blessedness is the solace of the soul.

Elder R. E. Thompson  
("Primitive Monitor" (1915) via Christian Baptist, 1978)

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS:**

1. For a day in thy \_\_\_ is better than a thousand.
5. Whosoever \_\_\_ work on sabbath was put to death.
9. Israel would not hear prophets but hardened their \_\_\_ like the neck of their fathers. Below the head.
10. Jacob saw a \_\_\_ with angels ascending on it.
13. Veil was rent from \_\_\_ to bottom at Jesus' death.
14. Why stand ye here \_\_\_ in the market place? Unbusy.
15. I will put my law in their \_\_\_ parts. Not outward.
16. Take heed to the sure word of prophecy as a light that shineth in a \_\_\_ place.
18. Moneychangers made God's house a \_\_\_ of thieves.
20. They gave Jesus vinegar mingled with \_\_\_ to drink.
22. The eyes of Adam and Eve were \_\_\_ and they knew they were naked.
25. No fountain both \_\_\_ salt water and fresh. Tongue.
28. Pennsylvania abbreviation.
29. God called the \_\_\_ land Earth. Not wet.



(Answers on Page 8)

30. If the woman be not covered, let her also be \_\_\_.
31. The husband of Hannah whose womb God opened.
33. The young lions \_\_\_ after their prey. Sound.
34. Jesus told the Sadducees about resurrection that ye do \_\_\_ not knowing the scriptures.

**DOWN:**

2. Son of Ruth and Boaz and in lineage of Jesus.
3. Why do the heathen \_\_\_ and the people imagine a vain thing? Uncontrolled anger.
4. \_\_\_ is the transgression of the law. Offence.
5. John saw a woman arrayed in purple and scarlet and \_\_\_ with gold and precious stones.
6. Herod put Peter in prison intending after \_\_\_ to bring him forth to the people to kill. Jesus arose.
7. If ye know these things \_\_\_ are ye if ye do them.
8. Now unto him who is able to keep you from \_\_\_.
11. The tongue is an unruly evil full of \_\_\_ poison.
12. Samson put forth a \_\_\_ to 30 companions to solve in seven days of the feast.

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**DOWN:**

17. If ye love me \_\_\_ my commandments.
19. Cain went and dwelt in the land of \_\_\_.
21. Hope is an \_\_\_ of the soul, sure and stedfast.
23. Peter cut off the \_\_\_ of the high priest's servant.
24. Left handed Ehud used a \_\_\_ to stab king of Moab in the belly and kill him.
26. Esther came uncalled into the \_\_\_ court of the king and he held out golden scepter to her.
27. Samson was to let the \_\_\_ of his hair grow.
29. Before the cock crow thou shalt \_\_\_ me thrice.
32. \_\_\_ that is not with me is against me. Pronoun.

\*\*\*\*\*

**OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES**

One father asked his preschool son who was busy with his blocks, "What are you building, Son?" "A church," the son replied. "S-h-h-h, we must be very quiet." The father was encouraged. "Why are we to be quiet in church, Son?" "Because," said the child, "the people are all asleep." A slight exaggeration I am sure but then I sometime wonder.—*Editor*

Our 4-year-old grandson, Eli, was with us awhile back, and he wanted to play ball with his Nana, but he wouldn't he said until he did his exercises. He picked up a block of lego blocks in his hand and used them as barbells, going up and down in each hand. Then he got in the floor and did some sit ups. His Nana told him to put his arms behind his head. He did and guess what? He couldn't sit up like he did before. I asked him, "What about the pushups?" He got on his stomach and did what he considered pushups but of course his back wasn't rigid. Then he got up and said, "OK, I'm ready to play now." We never had saw him do this before.—*Editor*

\*\*\*\*\*

**ON PRAYER**

The chief fault of some prayers is that they are too long: not that I think we should pray by the clock, and limit ourselves precisely to a certain number of minutes; but it is better of the two, that the hearers should wish the prayer had been longer than spend half or a considerable part of the time wishing it was over. The prayers of some good men are more like preaching than praying. They rather express the Lord's mind to the people, than the desires of the people to the Lord. Indeed this can hardly be called prayer.

John Newton (1725—1807)

(From "The Christian Baptist", September 1978)

"Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

**CHURCH NEWS**

New Hope Primitive Baptist Church 60267 Hatley Rd. Amory, MS plans to host our annual meeting on Saturday March 2, 2024. The morning service will begin at 10:00 a.m. with lunch at noon and afternoon service at 1:30 p.m. This will be an open meeting, so we hope our preacher brethren will prayerfully consider being with us. We are looking forward to a refreshing time of worship and fellowship and hope to see many of you with us.—Elder Tim Cunningham, Pastor of New Hope.

Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting at Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, 1651 Bethel Rd, Bonifay, FL – February 29 – March 2, 2024. Services: Thursday Supper 5:30 PM, Worship at 7:00 PM; Friday at 10:00 AM with lunch at 12:00; Afternoon service 1:30 pm Supper (Fish Fry) 5:30 PM, Worship 6:30 PM Saturday at 10:00 AM with Lunch 12:00, Afternoon service at 1:30 PM, Elder Don McPherson is Pastor.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, 1411 Van Buren Ave., Oxford, MS the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend of March, 2024 (Mar. 22-24). Services on Friday night, March 22, at 7:00 pm. Saturday, March 23, at 10:30 am followed by lunch and afternoon services. Sunday at 10:30 am. Elder Rusty Wise, Tupelo, MS, is the invited minister. Elder Jeremy Wise is Pastor of Antioch. NOTE: This is a change from previous years in which the meeting was held the first weekend in August.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church, 40283 Wolfe Rd. Caledonia, MS, the second weekend in April, 2024 (Apr. 12-14). Services on Friday night, April 12, at 7 pm preceded by supper at 6 pm. Saturday, Apr. 13, at 10:00 am followed by lunch and afternoon service at 1:30 pm. Sunday, Apr. 14, at 10:30 am with lunch. Elder Ricky Harcrow, Fort Payne, AL and Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodlettsville, TN are invited ministers. Anyone needing overnight lodging contact. Elder Joe Nettles, Pastor of Sulphur Springs.at 912-585-9025.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday night Fellowship Meeting (Mar.31) will be hosted by New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS with supper at 5:30 pm and worship at 6:30 pm. Elder Joe Nettles will be preaching, having stayed over from preaching there on 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning service. Elder Rusty Wise is Pastor of New Prospect. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church.

Elder Calvin Warren will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecru, MS the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in March, 2024 (Mar. 31) with services at 10:30 am. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

**CHURCH NEWS**

Elder Larry Wise will be with Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS on 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday n March 2024 (Mar. 31) with services at 10:30 am. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April 2024 (Apr. 12-14). Services Friday night, April 12, at 7:00 pm. Saturday, April 13, at 10:30 am followed by lunch. No afternoon service. Sunday at 10:30 am. Elder Gary Rhodes of Arkansas is invited minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

**RESPECTED PRIMITIVE BAPTIST MINISTERS FROM THE PAST**

Elder C. H. Cayce was one of the most well known and respected Primitive Baptist preachers of his day. He had debates defending the truth of the Bible and published *The Primitive Baptist* that circulated to several thousand people. People were always asking for his views on certain scriptures, and he would publish them in *The Primitive Baptist*. There is now available Editorial Writings from the Primitive Baptist written by him on certain scriptures and subjects.

Elder C. H. (Claudis Hartsel) Cayce



(1871-1945)

New Salem Primitive Baptist Church, Walnut, MS will host its 2024 Annual Meeting the weekend of March 30 - 31, 2024. Services Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 am, followed by lunch and 2:00 pm worship service. There will be no night service. The meeting concludes Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> beginning at 10:30 am, followed by lunch. Guest ministers for the meeting are Elder Jackie Smith, Fulton, MS and Elder Mike Orloff of Joplin, MO. We invite you to come worship with us. Elder Dwayne DuBard is the Pastor of New Salem.

Clear Springs PBC, Maben, MS annual meeting is April 27, 2024 at 10:30 with lunch and PM services. Elder Chris McCool and Elder David Pyles, invited ministers and Bro. Joe Ott is interim Pastor.

**VIEWS GIVEN**

By Elder T. L. Webb Sr. (Deceased)

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest; and finding none, he saith, I will return unto my house whence I came out. And when he cometh, he findeth it swept and garnished. Then, goeth he, and taketh to him seven other spirits more wicked than himself; and they enter in, and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first.—St. Luke xi. 24,25,26.

Brother Z.T. Freeman, of Waldo, Ark., has requested that I give my views on the above Scripture, and in doing so, I wish to call attention also to two preceding verse, which we read, “When a strong man armed keepeth his palace, his goods are in peace: but when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.”—St. Luke xi. 21,22. The Saviour had been casting out devils, and had been accused of casting out devils through Beelzebub, the chief of devils. The Saviour’s reply that “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and a house divided against a house falleth,” forever condemned their accusations. Then He says, “But if I with the finger of God cast our devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.” So it is today. A mere profession of religion and joining the church, without any grace, is no evidence of the kingdom. People get very religious sometimes before regeneration, but finally give it up and their last state is worse than the first, and some call that “falling from grace,” but it is not. They did not have any grace to fall from. They just fell from their religion and self-righteous enthusiasm. I think the Scripture at the head of this article describes such characters—one who has tried out the dry, formal kind of religion (without any grace) and become disgusted and dried up.

“When the unclean spirit is gone out.” This unclean spirit evidently means the devil. But it is not to be understood by this that the man is entirely separated and freed from the devil. But this “going our of the man” is when he transforms himself into an angel of light—associates with the religious class. He does not forsake his home, yet, in a way, he is out on the alert, going up and down the earth seeking whom he may devour—seeking rest in dry places, but finding none, he returns to his house. A good meeting might be a dry place to the devil. Notice the house he returns to belongs to him. He has full possession and control. He is a strong man armed, and is keeping his palace, and his goods are in peace. But he gets religious, and, no doubt the man gets religious too. He goes to church gets right up in the most prominent place he can find—“an angel of light.” What does that mean? That means a preacher of course. Then he returns, taking seven of his brethren home with him, who are more wicked than himself. How can that be? Well, they have more religion than he has; and the more religion one has, if it is the wrong kind, and if the person is not all right at heart, the worse off he is. So when the evil spirit and

seven other spirits more wicked than himself return and take up their abode with the poor fellow, the last state of that man is worse than the first—in a worse condition than he was before he made any pretension toward religion. But, after all, if he is an object of God’s everlasting and redeeming love, the strong man armed and in possession, yet, “in due time,” God’s appointed time, after the works of men have proven impure, one that is stronger than the strong man comes upon him and overcomes him, taken from him his armour wherein he trusted and divides his spoils, the finger of God casts out the devil and fills the heart full of love and His own blissful presence that will never again in this world nor the world to come leave any more room in it for the devil or any other evil spirit. “What God doeth shall be forever.” Jesus said, “I give unto them eternal life.”—St. John x. 28. If anyone perishes it is a prudent fact that it is not one that Jesus has given eternal life to.

(From “*Little Things*”, by Elder T. L. Webb Sr.)

\*\*\*\*\*

**ANSWERS  
BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE  
READ RIGHT TO LEFT**

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| ACROSS      | DOWN:       |
| 1. struoc   | 2. debo     |
| 5. hteod    | 3. egar     |
| 9. skcen    | 4. nis      |
| 10. reddal  | 5. dekced   |
| 13. pot     | 6. retsae   |
| 14. eldi    | 7. yppah    |
| 15. drawni  | 8. gnillaf  |
| 16. krad    | 11. yl daed |
| 18. ned     | 12. elddir  |
| 20. llag    | 17. peek    |
| 22. denepo  | 19. don     |
| 25. dleiy   | 21. rohcna  |
| 28. pa      | 23. rae     |
| 29. yrd     | 24. reggad  |
| 30. nrohs   | 26. renni   |
| 31. hanakle | 27. skcol   |
| 33. raor    | 29. yned    |
| 34. rre     | 32. eh      |

\*\*\*\*\*

The church, by some, is just a place to go on a beautiful warm day and see the people. From this point of view there is very little difference where we go, or what order of people we are with or what form of service they render; because it is of the flesh, and no more than the general practice of the world. But the house of God is a place of refuge, a place to be taught the will of God concerning His people and then to take heed to the things taught out of a love to God and for His people and His divine truths, and for the joy and thanksgiving for His countless blessings we have received, --Elder J. D. Holder, 1943



**MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

By Elder A. D. Wood (Deceased)

"But we will give ourselves continually to prayer. And to the ministry of the word." (Acts 6:4) This expression follows the act of choosing the seven men full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom to take care of the business mentioned. This points out the necessity of prayer and the ministry of the Word. The ministers said, "...we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and the ministry of the word." It seems they were determined to give themselves wholly to these things. We, who claim to have a part in this today should be as the disciples and give ourselves to prayer, meditate on the Word, and continue in them.

This is important for the elders to give themselves to this great work, for in so doing, they shall save themselves and those who hear them. I feel like the most of us have failed to give ourselves to prayer as we should. And not only prayer is mentioned in this verse, but the ministry of the Word. To give ourselves to the ministry of the Word carries with it the thought of teaching and instructing them the Word of God. In order to be able to instruct scripturally, we must study to show ourselves approved unto God, rightly dividing the Word of truth.

You certainly cannot teach the Word properly unless you are able to rightly divide the Word of truth. Paul was determined to know nothing but Jesus Christ and Him crucified, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. David expressed great confidence when he stated that, "I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever." The point I want to emphasize is that we should be determined to serve the Lord, not only through good report, but through evil report, by honor and dishonor. This is a great and important cause, to labor together with the Lord in this matter. Workers together with Him, not separate and apart from Him. To do this, we must teach and work with those whom the Lord is working with, for "it is God that worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure." We must work with those whom God has worked with in this manner. If we work with those whom God has not worked in, we are not working with God, but by ourselves. Christ taught those who were laboring and heavy laden to "Come unto me." This did not embrace anyone except those who labor and are heavy laden, so we must work with such characters for they are a particular people.

(From *"The Christian Baptist"*, November 1978)

\*\*\*\*\*

**PRAYER**

When Luther's puppy happened to be at the table, he looked for a morsel from his master, and watched with open mouth and motionless eyes; he (Martin Luther) said, 'Oh, if I could only pray the way this dog watches the meat! All his thoughts are concentrated on the piece of meat. Otherwise he has no thought, wish or hope.' Luther's Tabletalk

**AN APT ILLUSTRATION**

"Doctor, why is it that you Old Baptists do not have instrumental music in your churches?" was asked Dr. C. H. Waters when on the way to a funeral service which he was to conduct. The questioner saw no harm in the use of the organ. Very few people do. Most people think it glorifying to God. But is God really glorified in the use of the organ in religious service? Listen to the Doctor's illustration.

He said to the questioner: "What make organ do you use in your service?" The reply was, "An Estey Organ." "Well, aren't there not many other organ makers, such as Hamlin, Fisher and others?" "Yes, indeed." "Well," said the Doctor, "suppose you expected to have Mr. Estey with you today, and you wished to show him some special honor. Now in the house where you are gathered to do honor to Mr. Estey there is an organ that he made. And there are also organs made by other organ makers. Now which organ would you use in the service? Mr. Estey's organ, or an organ made by someone else?" The reply was, "Why, I would use an Estey organ of course as the service is held in honor of Mr. Estey." "Well," said the Doctor, "that is our position exactly. When we meet to serve God it is our desire to honor him in that service and we feel we can do so better by using the organ, the human voice, which He made than by using an organ made by man."

And then Dr. Waters, being a physician and well versed in the human throat gave to his questioner a description of the same, of its wonderful organism and delicate vocal cords, which by expansion and contraction sweeter music can be made than any organ made by man has ever been able to produce. There is so much truth in this simple illustration, which was original with our dear brother, that I felt it should be published for the benefit of others and am therefore taking this liberty without the knowledge of Dr. Waters.

Let us be content to walk in the foot-steps of Christ and the apostles in doctrine and practice. Let us continue, so long as we shall live, the simple service of preaching, praying and singing, when we come before the Lord as worshippers. And let us use the organ the Lord has made. It may not be trained. It may be almost worn out. But it is from His hand and He will accept our heart-felt service rendered through and by the best of all organs—the human voice. We want no other. No other was ever used in the apostolic church, and no authority was ever given by the Head of the Church, nor by any true servant of His, for the use of man-made organs in rendering praise to God in congregational service.

Elder R. H. Pittman

*Zion's Advocate*, April 1813(From *"Advocate and Messenger"*, August 1979)

\*\*\*\*\*

"Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;" (Eph. 5:19)

**A PECULIAR PEOPLE**

By Elder Rickey Taylor  
Booneville, Mississippi

Exodus 19:5: "Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine."

We would like for you to consider in our verse the word "peculiar". Peculiar has different meanings, especially to us here in America. One meaning is that someone seemed odd or eccentric, in their nature they would be known as "peculiar". Some words change in meaning as history goes by. The modern day definition of peculiar is not accurate in our bible text.

Webster's 1828 dictionary describes the meaning in our text as "Especially one's own, A people especially possessed by God and particularly prized by him." An example of that would be from the book of Job where the Lord asked Satan hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him? Job 1:8 Clearly God prized Job as one of his children, his possession. This is what the Lord means in addressing the children of Israel as a peculiar people. God possesses all the heavens and earth, yet it is his children that he treasures the most. He owns the wicked, but he doesn't treasure them because of their wickedness, for God hates wickedness. So God chose Israel to bear his name and to be a particular treasure in all the earth.

Now notice the stipulation in our verse. "If " you will obey my voice and keep my covenant." The word "if" makes it a stipulation. As long as Israel remembered the covenant and obeyed the Lord they were a peculiar treasure for him. They were the one and only nation that was chosen to bear his name upon the earth. They stood out as a peculiar people among the inhabitants of all the earth in that period of history. Thus, they would remain for many generations to come. That would change when the Lord came to earth as flesh and blood. He would discontinue the old covenant that he made with Israel and now open the church for all nations, kindred, and tongues to be a peculiar people unto him. Luke 16:16. Peter first preached the gospel to the Gentiles when he was in the house of Cornelius, the Italian. It was here that Peter would witness the Gentiles speaking in tongues and showing the Spirit had come upon them, thus the house of God was no respecter of persons. Acts 10.

So as believers today Peter tells us that we are a peculiar people of God who walk by faith of the Lord Jesus Christ. 1Pe 2:9,10 "But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light: Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy." Still the word "if" applies to us as the Lord's people to bear his name and to be a peculiar people unto him. By being obedient we do not become his children for we are already his children, for we were all chosen before the foundation of the world, a number no man can number. Ephesians 4:4-5. However if we want to be known as one of his peculiar people we must obey his word and follow him in baptism and go regularly to the house of God to show that peculiarity. When we walk by faith, we put our trust in God. That stands out against this sin cursed earth that we live upon. When we bow our head and pray to God. That is contrary to this old world. When we look forward to the future and a life beyond death. That is different to this world. We bear the name of God through our deeds and actions which is contrary to the world. We have a heart that has been regenerated by God. The world does not know what we talk about when we say Jesus Christ and him crucified, to them it is foolishness but to us his peculiar people that is the greatest news we have ever heard. God has chosen us to be a peculiar people to him. One that he treasures as he did Job.

R.L. Taylor

\*\*\*\*\*

**CRITICISM**

It is easy to pick out flaws  
In the work that others have done,  
To point out errors that others made  
When your own task you haven't begun.  
It's easy enough to fuss and find fault  
When others are doing their best,  
To sneer at the little they have achieved  
When you have nothing but rest.  
It's easy enough to cavil and carp,  
To criticize, scoff, and deride,  
For few of us have ever done perfect work,  
No matter how hard we have tried,  
It's easy enough not to speak of the best  
And to dwell all the time on the worst,  
And perhaps it is proper sometimes to find fault  
But be sure that you've done something first.

Selected

(From "*The Christian Baptist*", November 1978)

You can't let praise or criticism get to you. It's a weakness to get caught up in either one."—John Wooden

**CAN WE OVERCOME?**

By Elder Larry Wise  
Randolph, Mississippi

There are many things for us to overcome in this world if we are to serve the Lord. It can be done but not by ourselves. The word “overcome” means to subdue, conquer, and prevail. In every case Jesus always sets the perfect example. Jesus told His disciples just before His going away, “...In the world ye shall have tribulation: but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.” (John 16:33)

We can expect tribulation in this sinful world, but the good news is that Jesus has “overcome” the world.” Jesus hasn’t yet gone to Calvary, but He can call those things that are not as though they were. Jesus conquered everything that would have kept His children out of heaven. He conquered, sin, Satan, death, hell. He ascended on high and led captivity captive. His children could not prevail or conquer their enemies because they were sinners. Jesus could and did. He did the will of the Father and was dependent on His Heavenly Father. (John 5:30)

There were enemies in the land of Canaan, but the Lord had promised it to Abraham and his seed. When Moses sent out the 12 spies to scout the land, they brought back the report. Ten spies reported it was indeed a good land with milk and honey, but there were giants in the land and the city was walled. In simple terms, they felt they could not overcome the obstacles to take the land. This was an evil report that discouraged the people, but there came a good report by faith by two people, Joshua and Caleb. (Heb. 11:2) Caleb said, “...Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.” (Numb. 13:30) When we rely on the promise of God, we can overcome and have blessings if the Lord is with us. Even Paul realized this as he said, “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.” (Phil. 4:13)

There are at least three enemies to us as children of God. John sums these up by writing, “For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.” (I John 2:16) We aren’t to love the world nor the things in the world. There is something born of God that enables us to overcome the world: “For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.” (I John 5:4) Faith is given in the new birth and enables us to overcome the world by faith and belief.

The ten spies who brought back the evil report from surveying Canaan did not believe they were able to overcome the enemies (Amorites, Hittites, etc.) that dwelt in the land. John further tells us who those are who overcome: “Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?” (I John 5:5) Even Moses failed to enter Canaan because of “unbelief” as he struck the Rock instead of speaking to the Rock as commanded. (Numb. 20:12) However, Moses did enter heaven because he was an Old Testament beneficiary of the death of Jesus who overcame the world on the cross.

Prior to being born again, every child of God is bound in sin by the strong man of sin and depravity. There isn’t any trust or belief in any higher power. They keep their palace and their goods are at peace. Then one that is stronger than the strong man appears and does something marvelous. “But when a stronger than he shall come upon him, and overcome him, he taketh from him all his armour wherein he trusted, and divideth his spoils.” (Luke 11:22) The strong man is “overcome” by One stronger and given faith to trust and believe in the promises of God. The Hebrew writer tells us that it is impossible to please God without faith. (Heb. 11:6) Surely no one can doubt that overcoming the world is pleasing to God! God is pleased and His people are blessed.

There were false prophets in the Old Testament and in the New Testament and we are warned about them. We are told to try the spirits whether they be of God. (I John 4:1) John goes on to say that the spirit of antichrist was in the world; this is the spirit that confesses not that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh. John addresses the people he is writing to as “little children” and gives them the reason they have been able to overcome the antichrist. “Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.” (I John 4:4) We can prevail, conquer and subdue through Christ because the scriptures say we are “...more than conquerors through him that loved us.” (Rom. 8:37)

John writes to the seven churches in Asia and the same thing that applied to each church was “to him that overcometh” and then certain things would follow. This follows the scriptural pattern of blessings in obedience and chastening in disobedience. Jesus overcame the assaults of Satan in the wilderness through using the word of God to thwart his attacks. We can do the same if we are “armed” with the word of God and have on our armor. In the long run good will win out because the Good Shepherd has won the victory for His children. Evil is in the world and always will be but how are we to overcome this evil? Paul tells us, “Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.” (Rom. 12:21) Can we overcome? Yes indeed!

\*\*\*\*\*

God be with you until, by God’s grace, we meet again  
in the next Glad Tidings.