

Glad Tidings

January

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

We all, as children of God, have or will have saving grace for eternity; however, there is grace needed for everyday living and there is only one source of this need, and it is our Heavenly Father. Paul tells us in Romans 5:1 that being justified by faith we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Then he goes on to say in verse 2, "By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God." Paul tells the Roman church that they have access by faith into grace. Please note that they are standing in grace already (saved by grace) and are also standing for what grace represents which is salvation full and free.

Even though these Roman brethren are standing in the grace of God, they have access by faith into grace for their everyday needs and rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. There are some interstate roadways across the country that you cannot "access" from just anywhere. There must be a place or road of access to get on that major roadway. We have access by faith into grace for running our Christian race on God's highway that gives peace and joy. We cannot get admitted into a theater to watch a movie without an admission ticket. Faith is our admission (access) ticket that has been given us in the new birth.

We cannot access our Heavenly Father outside Jesus Christ. He is our mediator and intercessor. It is by Christ that we have this access through our faith utilized in petitioning God for grace in all our trials and efforts to serve Him. We are told in Hebrews 4:16, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." How do we come boldly, except through faith, believing He is able to provide? We are like Abraham who was strong in faith and was persuaded that what God had promised He was also able to perform. (Rom. 4:20-21) He eventually had that promised son but it came about on God's timetable and not that of Abraham. It is the same today as God doesn't change.

James tells us that He giveth "more grace". (James 4:6) God resists the proud but giveth grace unto the humble. We cannot have "more grace" unless we have had some grace already. We have access to the God of all grace, but we come boldly, yet humbly, to obtain mercy and find grace in time of need. God's grace is sufficient just as He told the apostle Paul when he asked the Lord to remove his thorn in the flesh.

God did not see fit to remove Paul's thorn in the flesh, but He did give grace sufficient to bear it. He was using his faith to access more grace and he received it but in an unexpected way. This trial of his faith and that of ours is precious, even though we cannot understand it all. Peter writes, "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ." (I Pet. 1:7)

God is faithful and He always has been. Because He is so faithful, He makes a way of escape (exit) to bear the trial. The same Paul that received grace sufficient also writes concerning this faithful God: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13)

We have no idea what will transpire during the year, but we know One who does and who is able to give grace for today and hope for tomorrow. We often have not because we ask not so then ask because we have access to available grace. We may not know how to verbally express what we need, but God is able to intercede through our Mediator, Christ Jesus. "Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." (Rom. 8:26) This access to the grace of God is for God's people among both the Jews and Gentiles as Paul makes clear in Eph. 2:18: "For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." (Eph. 2:18)

There is saving grace for heaven and immortal glory that came through Jesus Christ who became poor that we might be rich. There is serving grace to live in a way that brings honor to the One who loved us and died for us. The Hebrew Christians were encouraged to continue faithful in serving Christ and not the law. This of course took grace so we read, "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear." (Heb. 12:28)

I think that maybe we have been given grace to serve but we aren't using it as we should. Is that why our church houses are becoming sparser of those who have professed a faith in Jesus Christ? Thank God for access unto more grace to sustain! (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 e-mail to **wisepb310@gmail.com**; we reserve the right to reject or edit any material. **All published material must be received 2 days prior to the 8th of the month** to be included in the following month's issue and sent to the Editor at the following address:

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DISCIPLESHIP VS SONSHIP

By Elder E. D. McCutcheon (Deceased)

It seems that many of our people have not been able to understand the difference in discipleship and sonship—for that matter it appears that not very many in the Christian religion realize the difference. It seems that a large portion of the energy expended in Christendom is given toward trying to make sons of dead, alien sinners. The Bible is abundantly clear; only one who has power to give life will be able to do that, and because "He does his will in the armies of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth" and "whatsoever his soul desireth, even that he doeth" we must assume that every one of God's beloved will be made a son. Those who are dead are no more able to resist the call to spiritual life than Lazarus was to resist the call to natural life after being dead four days; there is absolutely no power to resist the call. "The hour is coming and now is when the dead SHALL hear the voice of the Son of God and they that hear SHALL live." (John 5:25)

Primitive Baptists know that sonship is certain for all of God's elect and that eternal glory is certain for all the sons. It seems that many of our people do not realize that discipleship is not certain—that discipleship is for only a few of the sons but that it is available to all the sons who hear and obey the gospel.

The gospel is NOT everything that is preached in the name of Christianity; the gospel is the complete story of man's creation, the fall, God's wondrous plan for the recovery of fallen man; the story of election, adoption, redemption, justification, effectual calling, sanctification, discipleship; death, resurrection and glorification. Discipleship and death are in the hands of men to a certain degree. There are some aspects of justification and sanctification which are left to men

and prepares for death which came by man. It gives that blessed hope of life beyond the river of death.

True discipleship means that one is a follower of Jesus; it means that one has taken His yoke and is a learner. When one can truly commit his life to the Lord, can truly trust Him as his everything in the realm of religion and can believe His word, he can then truly find a life that is satisfying. The Holy Spirit often comes into the lives of God's children in the hour of surrender to His will and fills with joy unspeakable. This is the very beginning of discipleship. Perhaps this is why sonship and discipleship are often misunderstood by the believer; why so many believe that in order for one to go to heaven he has to be a disciple. When anyone begins to hunger and thirst for righteousness and cry for mercy, sonship has been established—all such have been born again. Then when relief comes—when an experience of grace has been felt, discipleship has had a small beginning.

After this beginning, transforming takes place in the lives of those who have become true learners, true disciples. They become more Christlike every day and are not conformed to this world but are transformed by the renewing of their minds. They receive the blessings of obedient sons and "grow up as calves of the stall". The kingdom is not meat and drink to them but is righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Ghost. These are the greatest blessings that God's sons have in this world.

To become a son, one must be born of God. The one born of God has no more part in the process than he had in his natural birth: only the recipient, fully passive.

To become a disciple, one must be born again, born spiritually. Then he must hear the gospel, believe the gospel, repent of his sins, confess his sins to God and confess Christ before men, to be baptized in water and become active in the church, then continue steadfastly in serving God's people.

Have you seriously considered being a dedicated disciple?

(From "Glad Tidings", July 1982)

STAY SAFE

Years ago I learned not to depend on revelations and dreams about what to preach, but upon Bible truth. The Bible, given by inspiration, contains every truth necessary to be preached in the church, or in this wicked world in which we live. Too, I have seen so many men preach on their special revelations when they were contradicting the plain statements of inspiration. Long years ago, this frightened me, and so I try to stay safe by staying with Bible truth.—Elder H. L. Golston, 1943

(From "The Primitive Baptist—The Christian Pathway—Gospel Appeal", March 2021)

Preach the Word. Truth has already been revealed.

THE AMEN CORNER



By Elder Ricky Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

“First things First” ... 2-27-14

The words of the poet say, *“He who could for sin atone, must have no blemish of his own”*. We agree with the writer of long ago. Although He had no sin He was made sin (not sinner) for us **“that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him”** (II Cor.5:21). He came as it was written of him in the volume of the book to do the Will of God. Thus in all that he did and all that he became the Will of God was manifest. By himself he has fulfilled the law, cancelled its demands, borne its penalty, suffered the vials of almighty wrath, poured out his soul unto death, descended into the grave and encountered and conquered the king of terrors on his own ground in his own house. To add to that, we could say that Christ has despoiled the enemy of his sting and robbed the grave of its victory.

The testimony recorded that, as the children were partakers of flesh and blood, Christ also took part of the same. That through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is the devil and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject unto bondage. He took not on himself the nature of angels but rather the seed of Abraham. **“Wherefore in all things it behooved him to be made like unto his brethren; that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make reconciliation for the sins of the people”** (Heb. 2:14-17).

The captivity and bondage of God’s people was in the relation in which they stood with Adam. **“Therefore by the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation”** (Rom.5:18). It took a sacrifice above that which the old covenant could provide in the sense that the law was weak through the flesh. It took more than a relationship to Abraham, a worldly sanctuary, the blood of animals and carnal ordinances to emancipate them from that government. The Son of God must be made flesh and dwell among them, he must be made like them in all points and yet be without sin; and although like them in the point of humanity, yet holy, harmless, undefiled and separate from sinners.

It is not hard to understand that His sheep (people) were held captive in the prison house of death and God’s Justice kept the door. However, through the suffering and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus the full demands of the law were met and Justice could ask no more. Having done all and suffered all the law could demand and justice could inflict, he could enter into a greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands by his own blood. In doing so ONCE He obtained ETERNAL REDEMPTION FOR US. Those SHEEP Christ redeemed he does most assuredly CALL. We say that He knows his sheep and CALLS His sheep. He says, **“I know My Sheep and are known of Mine”**. I add also; HE knows those who are NOT OF HIS SHEEP. Romans 8:29 says, **“Moreover, whom he did predestinate them he also CALLED, and whom he called them he also justified; and whom he justified them he also glorified.”** It is scriptural to say that this is a holy calling that is not based on the work or obedience of the object (man) but according to his (God’s) own purpose and grace which was given them in Christ before the world began (II Tim.1:9). It is an effectual call; that means the call is valid and has power to perform and produce its designed effect. If the call was NOT effectual it would NOT be a HOLY calling and would be defective. BUT A CALLING THAT IS HOLY CANNOT BE DEFECTIVE. It must secure the design of HIM who calls. His calls are NOT GENERAL calls to all mankind without exception, as the Missionary Baptists and the followers of Campbellism assert, but rather special and particular to the Sheep without a defective design (Jn.10:27-30).

The arminian will teach that God may call but the will of man may very well render the call INEFFECTIVE and the charge goes up from these same religious teachers, who know not what they affirm, that He may call some that are not his and endeavor to make them his but alas, He may often fail in the enterprise if men are NOT willing to obey. They say of the Primitive Baptists, *“You hinder the preaching of the Gospel, make the church ineffective, destroy the zeal of the young and hinder the unsaved from coming to Christ who might otherwise be saved.”* I say that such a charge is false and the burden of proof is upon those who levy the charge to prove it.

I do say this and let it be understood in no uncertain terms. There is not a Primitive Baptist Preacher that I know or ever heard of that does not believe in preaching the gospel, but no matter how able the preacher, no matter how blessed the church or how zealous its members, it will NEVER add one soul to heaven’s number. The will of man nor the preaching of the Gospel is not designed or relied on to perform such a task. The very thought of dividing the honors of salvation between the savior and the sinner is to say the least, foreign to the Word of God. NO MAN can add to his faith until he is in possession of faith; faith is a fruit of the Spirit and the gift of God and

without it we cannot please God. No man can let his light shine who has no light to shine. The breaking of the pitchers of Gideon's 300 men could have produced NO LIGHT if the lamps had not first been in the pitchers. We say, as does the bible, that God has delivered us from the POWER of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son; given us an inheritance among the saints in light; constituted us as children of the light; commanded us to walk in the light and let our light shine. The reason; **"For God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness hath shined in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"** (II Cor. 4:6). AMEN.

Elder Ricky Harcrow, Fort Payne, Alabama

INDIFFERENCE

By Elder Louis Culver
Deatsville, Alabama

God's people have become indifferent toward Him, toward His church and also toward each other. We have lost the zeal according to faith which we once possessed. We are now content to remain in a vegetative state, moldering, just fading away by gradual decay.

Where we once possessed a desire to see the kingdom grow here in the world, we now appear to be content for it to die a slow, agonizing death, without any encouragement from anyone or anything. We have no time for the things of God's kingdom. We are totally engrossed daily in the mundane activities of the world which yield no lasting pleasure and which do not add to our sense of well-being.

The ungodly things of Satan have possessed us, taking over our bodies and our minds. We can no longer discern between good and evil, desirable, and undesirable. We are caught up in the ground-swell of man's popular opinion, modern-day thinking and perverse activities.

We are as insensate as a pile of rocks. Nothing causes us to blush anymore. We are insensitive to the pricks of sin and prodings of our conscience. We have become as robots, reacting only when acted upon, and that by the forces of evil. We watch, read, listen to and repeat just about everything, unmindful of the satanic forces behind them.

"If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land." (II Chronicles 7:13-14).

There is something for the child of God to do in this life. He is not to be indifferent but is to be very much concerned about what is transpiring all around him. It is time we were up and about our Father's business.

Comments will be welcomed. (From "ITMS", May 2001)

A PROSPEROUS JOURNEY

September 11, 2007

By Elder Herman Clark (Deceased)

Many "preachers" in the world today consider "a prosperous journey" as one returning from a journey having buckets of cash. I don't think that the Apostle Paul, writing Romans 1:9-12, had any such thing as monetary value in mind. He said, "For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I make mention of you always in my prayers; Making request, if by any means now at length I might have a prosperous journey by the will of God to come unto you. For I long to see you, that I may impart unto you some spiritual gift, to the end ye may be established; That is, that I may be comforted together with you by the mutual faith both of you and me."

There are some things in life for the God called preacher, (and not daddy or mommy called) while attending a gospel meeting, whether he is called upon to preach or not, when leaving the place of worship, he carries home with him things not in his pockets but in his heart. Paul had this in mind when he said "For I long to see you..."

I have not traveled so far from home that I could not return within a few days. My son, served in Iraq, upon his return said that many of the soldiers on the plane when touching the ground in the good land of the USA actually kissed the ground when they stepped upon the soil of our nation once again. I think he was one of those that did the same. I know that many had a longing to see their loved ones once again. Some didn't make it back home. Many brought back memories that they wished they could have left in that foreign country and are still battling with things they saw and had to do. It has been this way down through the pages of time, in all wars. However, Paul had a great longing to see the brethren that he might impart unto THEM some spiritual gift to the end that they might be established, and I believe his desire was that they might be established in the faith. It is a wonderful blessing to return home from a wonderful, spiritual gospel meeting with the saints in which all were strengthened in the faith.

As preachers, we need to keep in mind that the greatest blessing one can have in gospel service is to have been with the brethren in a true worship service, serving the Lord with our spirits. A service free from bondages of formalities and were blessed to worship in truth and in spirit, singing, praying, and preaching. Paul wrote in verse 13 "Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles." Paul was not using the word "fruit" as being apples and oranges. His desire of having a prosperous journey was that the saints would be more established in the faith and that there be some new converts from the

heathen religions to the true gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

One of the saddest things for a gospel minister is to return to a certain location and discover there were those that started out in the faith, in the right order, and now had left for another gospel which is not another. The reason for this is they were never really established in the true gospel. Paul wrote to the Galatian churches the following: "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel: Which is not another; but there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ." Notice some here were "so soon" removed from Christ which had called them into his grace. They were removed unto another gospel. I had rather baptize one that remains faithful to the church for the remaining of their days than 100 that leave the Church for another gospel. This is why I do not "count" numbers. Our hearts rejoice when one is brought to the understanding that truly salvation is of the Lord and not a mixture of grace and works for salvation.

It is by grace that we are saved from so great a death that came upon us by our father Adam, being washed from our sins in the blood of Jesus. Paul warns the churches at Galatia that there is not another gospel. Why do some allow those that pervert the gospel of Christ to trouble them to the point of departing from the faith, and go after some strange gospel, which is not another? Paul further states in Gal. 1:8-9 "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that YE HAVE RECEIVED, let him be accursed." These folks had heard the true gospel, because Paul said he did not receive this gospel from men but from God. Not only had they heard it but also received it. The word "received" as found in this scripture means "to join to one's self as a companion." We ought to remain married to the gospel. When one leaves the gospel for that which is not another, (also included is the biblical way of worshipping, true gospel practice, and true doctrine), one is committing spiritual adultery. The Holy Spirit never bears witness to untruth. But one is carried away when seeking entertainment for the flesh and not the establishment in the faith. God help us to continue to seek that which is strengthening, for the upbuilding of the soul and spirit.

Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick themselves up and hurry off as if nothing happened.--Winston Churchill.

The unattended garden will soon be overrun with weeds; the heart that fails to cultivate truth and root out error will shortly be a theological wilderness.-A.W. Tozer

PROPITIATION

By Elder S. A. Paine
(1874-1910)

"He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but for the sins of the whole world." 1 John 2.

The text certainly proves that sin is as universal as the "whole world," for it is the "sins of the whole world." If the "whole world" means all the race of Adam, it just as strongly proves the whole race to be sinners. The Campbellites and others who advocate infantile purity use this text to prove that Christ died for all the race. Very well, let us put them to the test, but substituting "all the human race" for the "whole world".

Syllogism

1. Christ is the propitiation for the sins of all the race.
2. The infant is part of the race.
3. Therefore the infant is a sinner.

But we try it by this theory:

1. Christ is the propitiation for the sins of all the race.
2. But the infant is not a sinner.
3. Therefore the infant is not part of the race.

How is that for theology?

Again. If Christ is the propitiation for all the sins of all the race, and propitiation means satisfaction, it follows that satisfaction was made for the sins of all the race. The entire race will therefore be saved unless they go to torment in spite of satisfaction made by Christ for their sins. Suppose we carefully study the text!

The educational question seems at present to be the prime factor of enthusiasm and necessity for some of our friends. Every paper teems with numerous and pressing pleas for more money for the education of more of our ministers for foreign work. Great heavens! What next? In these same papers comes the admission that men are ready to go, but no means with which to send them. Think of heathens going to hell for want of educated preachers. Some are ready to go, but can't without money, and what money can be gotten is used to educate more. Better send what you have on hand for the heathens are multiplying faster than our clergy. Besides, the souls that are going to hell now are as precious as any other could be in the future. If their creed be true, God's machinery is powerfully clogged. The thing is already running backward, because where they get one abroad, the Catholics likely get two here at home. "He that provideth not for his own, especially them of his own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel."

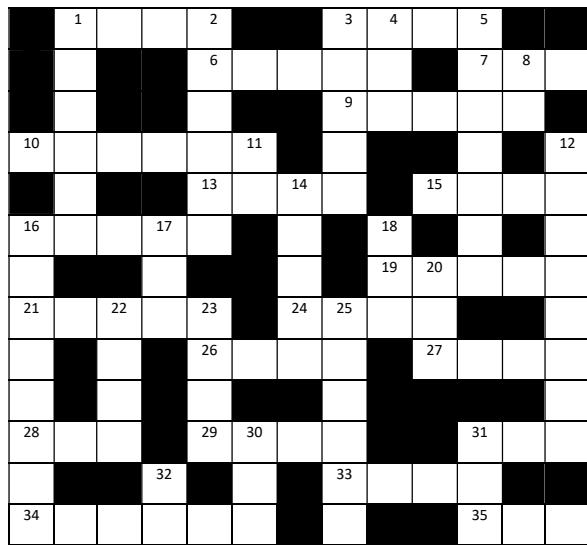
(From "The Writings of Elder S. A. Paine")

Jesus saw the travail of His soul and was satisfied.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. Naomi went out ___ to Moab but came home empty.
3. I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the ___.
6. Ye ___ polluted bread upon mine altar as sacrifice.
7. Will a man ___ God in tithes and offerings? Steal.
9. Son of David who violated his half-sister, Tamar.
10. Israel could eat anything that lived in the waters that had fins and ___.
13. The ___ of the ephod was made all of blue.
15. Children ___ your parents in the Lord; this is right.
16. Ephraim is joined to his ___, let him alone. Images.
19. Adam was put in the Garden to ___ and keep it.
21. Foxes have holes and birds of the air have ___.
24. Some seeds fell by the way ___ in parable of sower.
26. Greet all the brethren with an holy ___. Smooch.
27. Heart is waxed gross and ears are ___ of hearing.
28. ___ the Father giveth me shall come to me.
29. There is ___ righteous, no not one. Zero amount.
31. Paul saw Jesus as a man born out of ___ time.
33. Levitical priesthood came through the tribe of ___.
34. Jonathan ___ a little of the forbidden honey. Ate.
35. Jesus was ___ made manifest in the flesh.



(Answers on Page 10)

DOWN:

1. Israel was to go and possess the land of Caanan which had great cities ___ up to heaven. Barrier.
2. Men shall be ___ of pleasure more than lovers of God.
3. For this cause shall a man ___ father and mother and cleave unto his wife and be one flesh.
4. Unto whom is the ___ of the Lord revealed. Limb.
5. The Lord is a present help in time of ___. Distress.
8. Up ___ this rock I will build my church said Christ.
11. For God ___ loved the world He gave His Son.
12. Church at Laodicea was to anoint their eyes with ___ that they might see.
14. Saul put an helmet of ___ on the head of David.
16. I would not have you to be ___ brethren concerning them which sleep and to sorrow not.
17. Abraham's nephew which dwelt in Sodom.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

18. ___ to your faith virtue and to virtue knowledge.
20. The color of the heifer that was used as a sacrifice.
22. The foundation of God standeth sure, having this ___ the Lord knoweth them that are his.
23. When Moses came down from the mount the ___ of his face shone so he had to put on a veil.
25. Children obey your parents in the Lord for this ___ ___ pleasing unto the Lord. Two words.
30. I once was young, now am ___ yet I've not seen the righteous forsaken nor his seed begging bread.
31. The vine dresser said to his Lord (Jesus), let the fig tree alone till I ___ about it and dung it and if it bear no fruit, cut it down.
32. Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the Church and gave Himself for ___.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

From Elder Ronald Lawrence Sermon: His wife was driving Elder Lonnie Mazingo Sr. to the airport with their young son in the back seat with about a two hour drive ahead. Elder Mazingo kept apologizing for putting her to so much trouble. She assured him it was no trouble at all. He did this two or three times apologizing for putting her to so much trouble, having to drive him to the airport and she kept telling him it wasn't any trouble at all. After the third time of apologizing, the young son in the back spoke up with authority, "Mom, this is trouble!" Elder Lawrence didn't share how Elder Mazingo reacted but I'm sure he was gracious as always.—Editor

My sister was keeping my grandson Isaac awhile back and she gave him some water in a small cup. She expected he probably would spill some of it. Sure enough he turned it up too high and spilled it all over his shirt. After a minute to digest the situation, he said, "Well, it wasn't my fault!"—Editor (The above is from the July 2017 issue of Glad Tidings)

LOOKING ON THE BRIGHT SIDE

A man approached a little league baseball game one afternoon. He asked a boy in the dugout what the score was. The boy responded, "Eighteen to nothing--we're behind."

"Boy," said the spectator, "I'll bet you're discouraged."

"Why should I be discouraged?" replied the little boy. "We haven't even gotten up to bat yet!"

Source Unknown.

"For his anger endureth but a moment; in his favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." (Psalm 30:5)

CHURCH NEWS

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church enjoyed a good Spirit filled meeting the second weekend in Nov. 23 with a near house full on Saturday Nov. 11. The singing was outstanding, the preaching edifying, prayers fervent and excellent as well as the food and fellowship. I was there on Saturday so I can attest to this.—*Editor* The preaching was done by Elder Neil Honea from Alabama and Elder Bryce Lowrance of Georgia. The following photos are these two as they preach on Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023.



Elder Neil Honea



Elder Bryce Lowrance

The Unity Primitive Baptist Church of Moss Point, MS will host its 2024 Annual Meeting the weekend of February 9-11, 2024. The meeting begins with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. on February 9, 2024 followed by 7:00 p.m. worship service. The meeting continues with worship beginning at 10:00 a.m. February 10th followed by lunch and a 2:00 p.m. worship service. The meeting concludes on Sunday, February 11 with a 10:00 a.m. worship service followed by lunch. The guest minister of the meeting is Elder David Crawford, pastor of MacClenny Primitive Baptist Church of MacClenny, FL The church is located at 11500 MS 635, Moss Point, MS, five miles north of the junction of interstate 10 and MS 63 on the southbound side of the highway. Elder Mike Ivery is Pastor of Unity.

CHURCH NEWS

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, Ackerman, MS usually has an open meeting the 4th weekend in February beginning on Saturday. More details and confirmation in the next Glad Tidings. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia.

Congratulations to Elder David Wise and wife Bethany on becoming parents for the first time with the birth of their son, Zachary David Wise, (Photo below) who was born on September 1, 2023. God bless to bring up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.



“Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge.” (Psalms 48:1-3)

LIKE DADDY USED TO SAY: ABOUT “HOPE.”

- “Hope’n is better than wish’n.” When I’m hope’n. I’m expectin, but when I’m wish’n, I’m just want’n to get lucky.
- When fear covers today’s sunshine with tomorrow’s clouds, a mess of hope can light’n up the place up again with some of tomorrow’s sunshine.
- Heard a fella say yesterday: “I ain’t got a hope.” I told him “he was the first man I ever met who knew he wasn’t a child of God.”
- Hope is knowing you own something that is waiting for you at home.
- Grandpa once said: “Hope is kinda like getting a letter from home. It is something that makes you know what you’re missing, and gives you evidence it is there waiting for you.”
- Hope tells us to expect we will get what our minds can’t imagine, and our words can’t express.

(From “Zion’s Lamp”, October 2013)

THE BODY

By Elder Truman Keel (Deceased)

The word can be used as singular or it can be used to denote a group or singular units as one. The body of man is only one component of man. The Apostle Paul names at least three components of a man in (1 Thes. 5:23). "And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." This is evidence to me that God saved the whole man, all three components. When I come in contact with you I recognize you by your body. It can be by sight or sound or other senses of the body. I don't have the ability to see your soul or your spirit. I can only see the evidence of them.

Brethren, I pray you will be charitable and allow me to discuss the body and its use here.

We all have a body. God gave us one and even the Lord Himself took upon Him a body. (Heb. 10:5) "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:" His was prepared and ours was formed of the dust of the earth. The first man had a body.

This body, because of sin will die and return to the dust. (Job 19:26) "And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God:" Job seems to be assured that he would see God in the flesh. Let us be ever so thankful for what Paul taught us in (Phil. 3:21) "Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Our body will be fashioned like unto His glorious body. His body had no sin about it neither did it see corruption. (1 John 3:2) "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." Won't it be wonderful to be like Jesus?

The Roman letter seems to confirm this. (8:23) "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." The whole man was embraced in the redemption.

To use this body to serve God requires some effort on our part. (1 Cor. 9:27) The Apostle Paul had this to say, "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." Notice he says bring it unto subjection, indicating it is not always in subjection. I feel it is made subject to that spiritual man.

Even the body is made up of different components. In (Eph. 6) the Apostle Paul mentions several body parts in describing the armour of God. "Loins girt about with the truth—breastplate of righteousness—feet shod—and helmet of salvation." God used these body

parts to illustrate His defense for us as we fight this warfare while on our journey. He gave us this armour that protects the entire body. He gave us only one offensive weapon, even the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

(Eph. 4:12) "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" The Church, being made up of many is referred to as the body of Christ. God gave us a work to do and a body to do it with. It is even the place where the Spirit of God dwells. (1 Cor. 6:19) "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?" Brethren, Shouldn't this cause us to be more careful what we do with and to our bodies, realizing that the Holy Ghost is in you and ever present with you. It is a witness of all that the body does.

(Rom. 12:1) "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." I think this is what the Apostle Paul was referring to when he said I bring it unto subjection. God gave us a body and instructed us to present it a living sacrifice to Him, (not a dead sacrifice) and He says this is our reasonable service.

(1 Cor. 6:20) "For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." He just gave us our work to be done in our body and in our spirit. He also declares that they both belong to Him. Brethren, if this body belongs to God, and it does, maybe we ought to exercise more caution in how we present it to Him. As we go through daily life we should remember that the Holy Ghost dwells in this temple.

Would God be pleased with the manner we present our bodies? Are you comfortable in His house and His presence? Remember, it belongs to Him and we are to use it to glorify God. Let us be careful what we expose it to and how we treat it, knowing it is the temple of the Holy Ghost.

I pray these few remarks might make us conscious of how we dress it and take care of it. Remember it belong to God.

(From "Zion's Lamp", October 2013)

ONLY IN THE RESURRECTION

In 1846 former president John Quincy Adams suffered a stroke. Although he returned to Congress the following year, his health was clearly failing. Daniel Webster described his last meeting with Adams: "Someone, a friend of his, came in and made particular inquiry of his health. Adams answered, 'I inhabit a weak, frail, decayed tenement; battered by the winds and broken in upon by the storms, and from all I can learn, the landlord does not intend to repair.'"

Today in the Word, April 11, 1992.

PRESERVATION VS PERSEVERANCE

By Elder George Walker
(1943-2011)

In Jude verse 1, we read, “*Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:*”

This is only addressed to the ones that are sanctified, preserved and called, showing that all that are sanctified and preserved and all that are preserved are called. In order to be preserved, there had to be a setting apart of God’s people by God the Father, choosing us and placing us in Jesus Christ before the world began.

Then if we are sanctified by the Father, preserved in Jesus Christ, and called out of nature’s darkness by the Holy Spirit and granted eternal life—we will live forever and forever. The word “preservation” means the act of preserving—to keep in safety, secure from harm, from injury, from decay or destruction. In order to be preserved you have to have a preserver, that is someone that preserves, that saves, that defends, that keeps you from harm or destruction.

This one is the one that we have been placed in that is Jesus Christ the Savior of sinners. You see, preservation is the work of God the Father, God the Son, and the Holy Spirit. John says that there are three that beareth record in Heaven—the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost—and these three are one. Man is not active in this sanctification, man is not active in this preserving and man is not active in this calling. This is the work of God.

In Ephesians chapter 6 verses 16 through 19, we read, “Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God: Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints; And for me, that utterance may be given unto me, that I may open my mouth boldly, to make known the mystery of the gospel.”

To my knowledge, this word “perseverance” as used in verse 18, is only used this one time in the New Testament and it carries the thought as being persistent, to be earnest toward, to be diligent, to adhere closely, to continue, as to be in constant readiness.

This is indeed a great way to live our lives as children of God, yet there are many times in our lives that we fall and will fall short of the admonition that Paul gives. Yet Paul says that we ought to be praying in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints. He also tells us that through putting on the whole armor of God that we are able to stand.

Yet we find Paul telling us in II Timothy chapter 2 that there were some false preachers preaching that the

resurrection was past already and overthrew the faith of some. He then says that nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. Then we find Peter speaking in II Peter chapter 1, that we are given some things that we can add to. And says that if these things be in you and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was once purged from his old sins. This lesson today is telling us that we may or may not persevere, that it is possible that we are sanctified, preserved and called from a dead state in sin into a life in Jesus Christ, and we can start out following the Lord Jesus Christ in a way that is pleasing unto the Lord.

Then through the troubles and cares of life, or through the lack of devotion to the Lord, that we can forget that we were once purged from our old sins. You see, this purging is a one-time purging. Paul says that He has perfected forever them that are sanctified.

It seems to me that everything that man is active in, he fails and falls short, he stands and he falls. Yet we find that what God does, it is done forever. He speaks and it comes to pass. He says come and we come, he says hear and we hear, he says understand and we understand. The only assurance we have is in Jesus Christ. Even our belief did not come out from our own works.

Jesus says that this is the work of God that you believe in him that thou hath sent. If you believe that Jesus came from God and that he is the only begotten Son of God, that he is the Son of the living God, and that he is God manifested in the flesh, it is because God has worked a work of grace upon the heart that enabled you to believe.

What a wonderful thing it is to believe that we are saved by the grace of God, that because God loved us with an everlasting love, he elected you and placed you in Jesus Christ, preserved you in him and called you and gave eternal life to you through the new birth and this life really is eternal.

This life has no end, you will not be in grace today and out of grace tomorrow, even if you fall and your belief fails you and you forget that you were once purged from your old sins. You are still his, paid for by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. —Amen

(From “*The Banner of Love*”, April 2022)

THOUGH WE FALL—WE AREN’T FORSAKEN

David tells us that the steps of a good man (only by God’s grace) are ordered by the Lord, and he delighteth in his way. Then David tells us something that is still intact. “Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the LORD upholdeth him with his hand.” (Psalm 37:24) When we fall, we arise and are assured we are not utterly forsaken.—*Editor*

ADOPTION



By Elder Harold Hunt
Maryville, Tennessee
(Continued)

The Expense of Adoption

An adoption is not free; there is some expense involved. This is where redemption comes in: Paul talked about that in the Galatian letter. "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." (Gal. 4:4,5). To redeem means to buy back, to pay the purchase price. Redemption was the purchase price of adoption. And that is what the Lord did on the cross. He paid the price of our redemption, the expense of our adoption.

"For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" 1 Cor. 6:20. He bought us; he paid for us; he paid the redemption price, and he is going to have what he paid for. Sometimes you and I pay a price, and we do not get full value for our purchase price. But you can be sure that God is going to have what he paid for. God will have with him in glory every one he redeemed and paid for on the cross.

The purchase price which the Lord paid on the cross of Calvary was the most expensive transaction this old world has ever known. "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:" 1 Pet. 1:18,19).

When God created this old world, it did not tax his energies in the least. I used to think God rested on the seventh day because he was tired. He did not rest on the Sabbath day, because he was tired; he rested, because he was through. He had created all the worlds he intended to create. God could have created ten million worlds like this and never taxed his energies in the least.

When God created this world, he only created so much gold and silver. There is no more gold and silver today than there was the day he created it. But God could have created ten million worlds like this, if he wanted to, and he could have made every mountain on every world of gold. And he could have given ten million solid gold mountains for my redemption and

yours, and that would have been such a small price to pay, compared to the price he did pay for our redemption. That would have been a bargain basement price. That would have been pocket change, compared to the price he did pay. He gave the very best heaven had for our redemption. He gave his only Son.

Both Adopted and Born

When you and I adopt a child, we are somewhat limited in what we are able to do for that child. We give him our name. We give him a place in our home. We shower him with our love, and we do everything we conceivably can for him. But there are some things we cannot do. We cannot give him the color of our eyes. We cannot give him the color of our hair, the shape of our nose, the cut of our chin, the sound of our voice.

It is in the nature of children to look like and to sound like their natural parents. I have three daughters, and to some degree or another, they all sound like my wife on the telephone. Sometimes, when I call home, if I know the girls are all there, I have to ask who am I talking to.

(Other aspects of adoption to be continued)

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

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

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| ACROSS: | DOWN: |
| 1. lluf | 1. decnef |
| 3. tsal | 2. srevol |
| 6. reffo | 3. evael |
| 7. bor | 4. mra |
| 9. nonma | 5. elbuort |
| 10. selacs | 8. no |
| 13. ebor | 11. os |
| 15. yebo | 12. evlaseye |
| 16. slodi | 14. ssarb |
| 19. sserd | 16. tnarongi |
| 21. stsen | 17. tol |
| 24. edis | 18. dda |
| 26. ssik | 20. der |
| 27. llud | 22. laes |
| 28. lla | 23. niks |
| 29. enon | 25. llewsi |
| 31. eud | 30. dlo |
| 33. ivel | 31. gid |
| 34. detsat | 32. ti |
| 35. dog | |

"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" (Rev. 5:9)

CHRIST'S ACCOMPLISHMENT

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Isaiah 40:2: "Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD's hand double for all her sins."

The word accomplishment means to bring to completion or to succeed in reaching a goal. We sometimes set goals for ourselves and when we reach them, we can say that we have accomplished or succeeded in what we set out to do. With that being said, we now ask the question How are we saved? We have already been saved, and the scriptures show that to be an established fact. Our scripture in Isaiah 40:2 shows that to be true. That is why the word accomplished is used in this verse. To think that we have not been saved from hell to go to heaven is not what the scriptures say about our eternal destiny.

Many of the Lord's children think that they have to work their way to heaven. This is an unsound and sad belief. For we have no righteousness of ourselves. Rom 3:10 — Rom 3:12. "As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one." Therefore, it is not possible that our works can save us. Jesus Christ saved us by his perfect life and offered it to God on the cross. It was Christ's goal to come as flesh and blood, and this he did. John 1:14: "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth." It was accomplished. Next it was his goal to live a perfect life in the flesh. He accomplished that. John 19:30: "When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost."

Christ the Son entered into covenant with the Father, before the foundation of the world to insure that his children would be saved Romans 8:29 — Rom 8:30: "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified." This was accomplished. Christ said that he came to do the

Father's will and the Father's will was that he should lose nothing. John 6:38-39: "For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of him that sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day." That was also accomplished. If there was anything left to do, the scriptures would not have used the word accomplished in what our Lord has done. It is finished! Centuries before Christ came in the flesh the prophet Isaiah was telling the good news that Christ would accomplish the work of redemption. Christ did come and accomplished that. Now we ministers of the gospel are to comfort the Lord's children by letting them know the work has been done, enter thou into the joys of the Lord here today in his blessed kingdom here on earth. We do works now to lead a good spiritual life, resting upon the finished work of our Lord and Savior. Many set goals in their lives; some reach those goals, and some do not. Not so with our Lord, he accomplished everything that he set out to do. He left nothing undone in the work that he was given to do. That is why we look forward to seeing his precious face someday, in that eternal city.

R.L. Taylor

TOO BUSY?

We live in an ever-increasingly fast paced society and we are all busy, but are we busy doing the right things? Jesus tells of a nobleman who went into a far country to receive a kingdom and to return. He called his ten servants unto him and gave them ten pounds and charged them to "Occupy till I come." (Luke 19:13) The word "occupy" means to "busy oneself with". These servants were to use their pounds and God's servants are to use what the Lord has given them to His honor and glory and not neglect the command of the Master. The Lord will reward the faithful one who has been busy with doing the right things. Are you too busy to read the word of God? Are you too busy to attend the church assembly? Are you too busy to pray for those in need? Are you too busy so that Christ just gets the leftovers? If you are, then you are too busy.

In the first chapter of Malachi, God wasn't pleased with the leftovers and second rate as sacrifices. Even the governor would not have been pleased with such. Yes, there are necessities we must have in life and that takes effort. However, we must remember what Jesus said regarding such, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." (Matt. 6:33) May we never be too busy to serve the Lord and "occupy" until He returns and takes us home.--*Editor*

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