

Glad Tidings

July

"Buy the truth, and sell it not." (Prov. 23:23)

2024

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

Any significant structure that is built must have a solid foundation or else the structure will not stand the assaults to which it is subjected. Many people are being deceived today doctrinally, politically, socially, and morally. Paul writes of many that had their faith overthrown their belief in the resurrection, but something was still intact. "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his..." (II Tim. 2:19) In spite of this deception, the foundation of the Lord's knowledge of His people still stood. He has known them from the ancients of eternity.

Peter acknowledges that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God because it had been revealed unto him by the Father in heaven. Then Jesus told Peter, "And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18) The Rock of Jesus Christ is the foundation of the church. "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ." (I Cor. 3:11) "...Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation: he that believeth shall not make haste." (Isa. 28:16) Zion is a mountain in Jerusalem which is a figure of the church and Jesus is the chief cornerstone of that church.

We see by the above scriptures that the Lord has a sure foundation undergirding His people and the church. This can never be destroyed. The people of God should build their lives on the foundation of Jesus Christ as the Rock of Ages by hearing the word of God and putting it into practice. The Bible says that when the winds, floods and rain beat on this house it withstood the assault because it was founded upon a rock. Conversely, if the foundation is on sinking sand, the house will fall when assaulted by the same winds, floods, and rain. (Matt. 7:24-27) Have a builder's mind and build on a sure foundation.

Satan cannot destroy the Lord's people so they lose their home in heaven. He cannot destroy or prevail against the Lord's church because it is built on Jesus Christ as the rock. However, He makes every attempt to destroy the lives of God's people as a roaring lion after its prey. (I Pet. 5:8) There are certain things that the people of God can do to thwart these efforts of Satan. The scriptures are a perfect thorough furnisher with all the information needed to meet this foe.

Our freedom is being increasingly infringed upon in this nation and foundations upon which this nation has been great is attempting to be destroyed. The traditional and Bible family is under attack with same sex marriage, homosexual adoption and parents losing the right to educate their children in a morally and biblically accepted manner. The Psalmist poses this question that seems most relevant today. "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psalm 18:3) Notice that it is only the righteous that can do anything as the unrighteous are just interested in continuing this gross perversion.

Part of the answer to the question of what the righteous can do when the foundations are about to be destroyed is intimated in the following verse: "The LORD is in his holy temple, the LORD'S throne is in heaven: his eyes behold, his eyelids try, the children of men." (Psalm 11:4) The Lord is still in His holy temple. He still hears the cry of the righteous. When we seem to be overwhelmed by the issues facing today's people of God, we have a biblical way of responding. "Hear my cry, O God; attend unto my prayer. From the end of the earth will I cry unto thee, when my heart is overwhelmed: lead me to the rock that is higher than I." (Psalm 61:1-2) That same rock on which the foundation of the church rests.

Jesus as the foundation is the way, the truth and the life. Truth is important to freedom. Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32) We read of a time in the Bible where truth was at a premium as Isaiah writes, "And judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter." (Is. 59:14) Truth had fallen in the streets and there was no justice or judgment. The prevailing attitude among the elite today is that there is no truth; it is only relevant as each individual perceives it.

Today, we don't know what to believe. The real truth is being suppressed to fit the perverted attitudes of the unbelieving. Every avenue that disseminates any information has their version of the truth. The Bible has the real truth so stand on the solid rock and adhere to it. Remember the Lord knoweth them that are His and the foundation of the church will never be destroyed. The last weapon to withstand the assaults of Satan is to pray with all supplication in the Spirit. (Eph. 6:18) Also, one of those weapons is loins girded about with truth. The Spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. Help us to be strong in the Lord! (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; 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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FOREKNOWLEDGE

By Elder J. Q. Depoyster (Deceased)

The following is from the book "Twelve Baskets of Fragments: by Elder J. Q. Depoyster. (I heard this man of God preach some wonderful sermons—*Editor*)

"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." (Rom. 8:29) Just what is meant here concerning the foreknowledge of God? I believe that most Bible scholars would agree that it means more than just the fact that He knows of events before they take place. However, His foreknowledge does mean that He knows in advance of all happenings. Nothing takes Him by surprise, and He does know all things and all events before they happen. But in this text of scripture it speaks of God foreknowing people. He knew these people before they were born. Nothing happens that He did not know about in advance, because it is written, "Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it." (Isa. 46:10-11) But this text says, "whom he did foreknow." He is here talking about people which He foreknows, and not about events. This cannot mean that he foreknows all of the human race of people in the sense of this text, but it means that He foreknew a portion of the human race in the sense of their being the objects of His love. To say the He did foreknow all of the human race is to say that all people will be

saved, because it says that He predestinated all the foreknown to be conformed to the image of His son.

According to the Bible, all people will not be saved and glorified, so we must conclude that He does not know everybody in the sense of this text. Those whom God foreknew were those in whom He delighted and loved with an everlasting love. They are His people who were chosen in Christ Jesus before the foundation of the world. (Eph. 1:4) Since God is love, and love is eternal, there never was a time in which God did not foreknow (love) His people. This love is the motive which caused God to determine to save the people of His love. (Jer. 31:3) "...The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." All the foreknown are predestinated, and all who are the predestinated are the foreknown. Needless to say then, that all whom God foreknew, no more, no less, will spend eternity with God. The prophet Jeremiah, one of God's foreknown people, was inspired to write, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." (Jer. 1:5) The foreknown of God are a special people unto Him. As a nation, Israel was God's choice. (Deut. 7:6) "For thou art an holy people unto the LORD thy God: the LORD thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth." National Israel was redeemed from Egyptian bondage. (Deut. 7:8) "But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt." This is typical of Christ redeeming all of His elect people, whom God foreknew out of the bondage of sin, but primarily, we want to consider God's foreknowledge as it relates to all the redeemed family of God in every nation, kindred, tongue and people. No one can be saved unless God foreknew him, and because all the foreknown are predestinated to the image of Jesus Christ, it follows that a definite number of people will be saved. There will be in heaven just as many as God expected to be there and there will be no more there than He expected. The number which God foreknew and purposed to save, cannot, by the efforts of men, be increased or diminished.

If there is an objection that God foreknew every human being in the sense of this text, then we must of necessity, conclude that all will be saved, but we must remind you of His words written in Matthew 7:23 "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you, depart from me, ye that work iniquity." This is the declaration of Jesus himself. He says here, "I never knew you," thus it is plainly seen that He did not know them as those foreknown in Romans 8:29 who were also predestinated unto eternal life. If these in Matthew

7:23 had been predestinated, never would Jesus have said, "I never knew you", nor would He say, "depart from me." God is eternal and so is His foreknowledge. It would be well to note here that there never was a time in which God did not foreknow His elect people, and there never was a time in which He did know those of Matt. 7:23. None of these had fallen from grace, because if they had, God would have at one time knew them. He certainly would know a saved person, but He says, "I never knew you." If any of them had fallen from grace the text would have of necessity have read, "I knew you at one time (while you were saved) but now I know you not." The truth is that God never forgets those He foreknew (loved). In the sense of creation, God knows all people, but not all are included in the covenant of grace. God did foreknow all of His chosen people who are His by choice (God's choice). They belonged to Him and He gave them to His Son as a gift and the Son redeemed every one of them with His precious blood. God has a special love for His own people and it is good that He knows all of them. II Tim. 2:19, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his..." Jesus refers to His people as sheep, and in John 10:27-28 says, "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And I give unto them eternal life, and they shall never perish..." The sheep are God's foreknown people and eternal life is sure for every one of them. "And they shall never perish." This certainly proves that none of those whom God foreknew shall ever perish. Never means just what it says, hence there is no such thing as a child of God falling from grace (eternally-Editor). If one falls, he perishes, but God's people will never perish. Much more could be said on the subject of foreknowledge, but if the scriptures given herein are not sufficient to persuade one, it would be of no use to proceed further on the subject, so we will turn our attention to other things which pertain unto eternal life and Godliness.

INTERESTING BIBLE FACTS

Q: What is the shortest chapter in the Bible? A: Psalm 117.

Q: What is the longest chapter in the Bible? A: Psalm 119.

Q: What chapter is in the center of the Bible? A: Psalm 118.

FACTS: There are 594 chapters before Psalm 118 and there are 594 chapters following Psalm 118. Add these numbers up and you get 1188.

Q: What is the center verse in the Bible? A: Psalm 118:8. "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

Does this verse say something significant about God's perfect will for our lives?

The next time someone says he would like to find God's perfect will for his life and that he wants to be in the center of His will, just send him to the center of His Word!

Psalm 118:8 "It is better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man."

Now isn't it odd how this worked out...or was God in the center of it? (From the INTERNET and "ITMS" July 2012)

THE BURDEN OF FEAR

By Elder Robert (Bobby) Willis (Deceased)



Matthew 17:6-7, "And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid. And Jesus came and touched them, and said, Arise, and be not afraid."

Our everyday, common life is filled with anxiety and stress. Living in America is a grand gift which lessens them somewhat. However, as beneficial as living in the United States is, those benefits do not remove our biggest burden we all carry. What is this burden? It is the burden of fear. Accidents fill us with fear! Growing old brings fear! Serious sickness causes us to fear, especially when sickness befalls a young child! Despite our claims to the contrary, we all fear something.

In *Matthew 17: 6-7*, Jesus took three disciples to the summit of "the mount of transfiguration." These apostles came face to face with (1) pure holiness—which always makes people to fear because we all have evil in us, (2) God's power—which scares powerless humanity silly, and (3) Jesus' identity—he was more than a man, more than just a righteous friend. To say he is God's Son is one thing; to see Christ in all of His glory is quite another. All this, along with hearing the voice of God, caused them to fear.

Peter, James and John's reaction: In overwhelming fear, they fell on their faces and were "sore afraid." Notice how Jesus responded to that fear. He did NOT say, "I thought you were capable of handling this!" or "Where is your courage?" or "What are you afraid of?" Instead, "Jesus came and touched them!" He told them to get up, and encouraged them to not to be afraid. I am reminded of the song "He touched Me." The chorus goes like this:

**He touched me, oh he touched me
And oh the joy that floods my soul
Something happened and now I know
He touched me and made me whole.**

Jesus understood their reaction, cared about them, and encouraged them. He was not ashamed of them for being afraid. Instead he helped them in their time of weakness. Jesus lifted the burden of their fear! We are instructed to cast "all your care upon him, for he careth for you" (I Peter 5:7).

If today, you are loaded down with anxiety, stress, and/or fear: maybe even all three; I pray that God will touch you and lift your burden of fear.

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

PASSING OUT

Peter says, "Moreover I will endeavour that ye may be able after my decease to have these things always in remembrance." (II Peter 1:15) I was especially impressed with the word "decease" which signifies passing out. I thought of many precious preaching brethren in Indiana and Ohio with whom I have been intimately acquainted. Many are gone, and many are about ready to be mustered out of the service. I thought of my parents whose memory I will cherish. Many godly brethren and sisters who had been such help to me in my early ministry came before me. These have passed from the earthly scenes and gone to another world.

It would not be right to say their souls sleep and are in a state of unconsciousness. That would be doing violence to the meaning of language. If a mother's babe is put to sleep she would not say it is gone from her. Husband and wives fall asleep at night and become forgetful of each other for the time, but who would say that they have gone from each other? If the soul-sleeping theory were correct we would say they were sleeping only, but Peter says, "After my decease", meaning when he would leave his body. If the theory that both soul and body sleep in the grave were true, when would a saint leave his body or be absent from it? Paul's desire was to be absent from the body, to be present with the Lord, and plainly says that while he is in the body he is absent from the Lord. If soul and body sleep together in death, who would Paul and Peter talk of putting off the tabernacle? (II Cor. 5:1-4 and II Peter 1:13-14)

The Bible teaches and Baptists have believed the teaching that at death the spirit leaves the body. The dying Stephen prayed: "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Jesus is gone into heaven, and the saints must go there to be received by Him. Jesus will remain in Heaven until He comes in body at the great day. To be sure He comes to us in Spirit when he first quickens us into divine life, and when He calls us by death, when He comes to us in judgments along the way, or when He smiles upon us in divine favors while we yet abide in the flesh, but bodily He is in heaven and there our souls and spirits will go when we put off our moving tent and soar to the spirit-land.

Believers, does not your spirit thrill with heavenly delight as at times you feel the work of celestial fire burning in your soul? Do you not find comfort in this old-fashioned doctrine of the Bible? Men may study and labor to remove this doctrine from our hearts, but it will there remain and well up to comfort and gladden our hearts.

David said he could go to the child after its death. The child in soul and body could not have been in the grave, for in the grave there is no remembrance of God. The soul goes into God's presence and that is "far better" than to abide in the flesh. I feel sure that a child of God would rather in the flesh endure the trials

of this life than to become forgetful of the many mercies of the Redeemer. It is sweet to reflect upon God. It would surely not be sweeter to become forgetful of Him.—**Elder George A. Bretz**, *Primitive Monitor 1918 via "Advocate and Messenger"*, March, 2009)

LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS

By Elder A. D. Wood (Deceased)

"Unto the upright there ariseth light in the DARKNESS, AND FULL OF COMPASSION, AND RIGHTEOUS." Psalms 112:4. The upright is a righteous person, gracious and full of compassion. Being gracious and full of compassion identifies them as being upright. In other words, here are some things that go together. He is upright, gracious, and full of compassion, the light that riseth in darkness is wonderful. Let me appeal to the experiences of the Lord's children on this point, there was no way out, darkness prevailed over you, and shut you up in prison as was John; Yet during the darkness light ariseth. When God sees fit to deliver us from this darkness, it is a great experience with the Lord. I think Peter was talking about this in Second Peter 1:19, "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:" God can and does come to his people in the dark hours of life. "At midday, O king, I saw in the way a light from heaven." Read the 27th chapter of Acts, where Paul and others were tossed to and fro by the troubled waters of the sea, and finally ran aground and the ship wrecked. God appeared unto him, and said, "Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee." In our Imagination we are able to see the darkness. We are not able to see the deliverance for them until he comes and shows himself in this manner. This certainly was a time of darkness with Paul and others; but, the light that ariseth in the darkness meant much to Paul. He then said, "Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer; for I believe in God that it shall be even as it was told me." This light that shineth in the dark, brought much assurance unto Paul as he expressed himself, "I believe God." Their deliverance came as it was revealed unto Paul, and he delivered the message unto others. This is a great lesson for the Lord's people in this day, because we will have days of darkness as we travel in this old world.

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

"Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the LORD shall be a light unto me." (Micah 7:8)

"The entrance of thy words giveth light; it giveth understanding unto the simple." (Psalms 119:130)

OBEDIENCE TO THE FAITH

In Romans 1:4,5, Paul said he had received grace and apostleship—"for obedience to the faith among all nations"—for the name of Christ. Notice, Paul did not say that the grace and apostleship he had received were "for obedience to the faith BY all nations"—but rather, "for obedience to the faith AMONG all nations."

According to Col. 1:6 our Lord's commission to "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature" had been complied with in the apostle's day. The gospel had been preached "in all the world,"—that is, the KNOWN world, and among all nations. And it is obvious that the apostles and ministers of that day did not achieve "obedience to the faith BY all nations, but through the grace given unto them some AMONG all nations were indeed brought into a proper compliance with the precepts of the gospel."

It is clear that one of the main objects of the gospel is "obedience to the faith." It is not sufficient merely to ACKNOWLEDGE the faith or to PROFESS the faith, but it is necessary that we BE OBEDIENT to it. Otherwise we are not true disciples of the Lord. The faith, that is, the true gospel of Jesus Christ, requires OBEDIENCE on the part of His believing people. It is delightful and joyous to HEAR the "certain sound" of the gospel trumpet, but it is not enough merely to be HEARERS of the word; it is necessary that we be DOERS of the word as well (James 1:22). Ministers of the gospel are to teach God's people to OBSERVE (put into practice) whatsoever things Christ has commanded in His word. It is only in this way of obedience that the children of God can enjoy fellowship (communion) with His servants, with Him, and with Christ. Only in this way can their joy be full (I John 1:3,4).

Obedience to the faith is God's ordained means by which we are to prove the sincerity of our discipleship. Christ says, "If ye love me, keep my commandments" (John 14:15); and "His commandments are not grievous" (I John 5:3). If we love Him as we ought, we will delight ourselves in His presence (Psalms 119:47) and serve Him with all readiness of mind. May He bless us with greater zeal and devotion.

Elder Ralph Harris
Guest Editorial

(From "*The Christian Pathway*", Sept. 1985)

SATISFIED

I am satisfied with God. So often I am not satisfied with myself. But, I am satisfied with God and with His Son and (I trust) with my teacher, the Holy Spirit. I am satisfied. I am contented. I rest in the finished work of the immaculate Lamb of Gpd.

Varn Marshall

(From "*The Christian Pathway*", Sept. 1985)

THAT LOVE WONDER FROM HEAVEN

By Elder Roland U. Green (Deceased)

"God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Man, though he claims to have love, is constantly involved in war, crime, hatred. In the name of "love" he commits adultery, condones murder and other crimes.

In the midst of all this façade shines for the glorious wonder of heaven, God's radiant love. The light of that love shines in the darkness of the world, and the world doesn't comprehend it. (John 1:5)

The first of the great thoughts in our base text is love. As already indicated, there is much today that goes under the name of "love." But the term as used in our text has to do with an attitude of God, a tie of fellowship and friendship which exist for good and spiritual ends, as is expressed in the hymn, "Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love." Paul says to "put on love, which is the bond of perfectness." (Col. 3:14) To have perfectness is to be complete or full, not lacking or missing.

A good example of the bond of perfectness in love is marriage or the husband-wife relationship. After God made Adam, he said that it isn't good for him to be alone; he is not complete in himself. So, God made an help meet for him. Eve was the perfection or completion of that which was lacking in Adam. Only after Eve was created as a help meet or mate were they able to "become one flesh" in the sense of marital union that they might be "fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth."

When Adam sinned by eating the forbidden fruit, he broke the bond of perfectness which held him in union with God. God's eye is too pure to behold iniquity (Hab. 1:13); he has no fellowship with sin. The sinner is lacking in righteousness, in love, in the traits which make a person perfect or whole. What he has to offer to God is impure, imperfect, and so is unacceptable to God.

The only way the bond of perfectness or complete union with God can be accomplished is for a perfect sacrifice to be made for sin. Partial payment will not do. God gave us a preview of the solution to this problem when he had Abraham to take his only son Isaac to be a sacrifice, and Isaac asked, "Where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" The answer from father Abraham, "My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering." And so, John 1:29 exclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world."

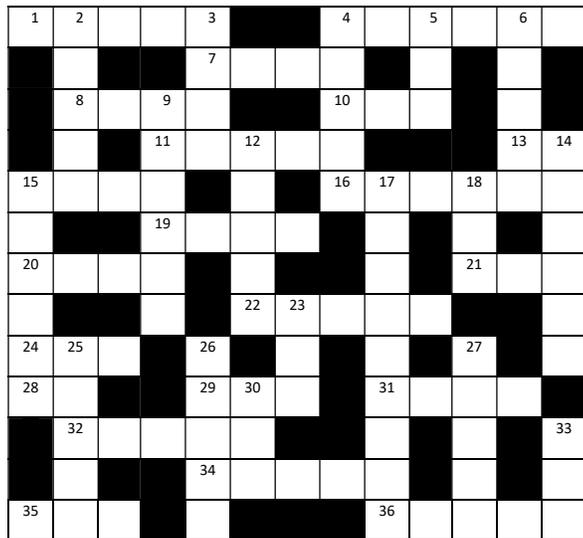
How can this be? Because of God's wonderful love. "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins," (I John 4:10) This is the bonding agent at work. Jesus offers himself to God, a perfect sacrifice, and one offering completes the job. "For by one offering he

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BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. King Nebuchadnezzar ate ___like an oxen.
4. Scribes chose the chief rooms at ____. Passovers.
7. Ishmael and Isaac were an allegory. 2 covenants. Ishmael is Mt. Sinai which is ___ and in bondage.
8. My people are destroyed for ___of knowledge.
10. The ___ of the covenant had the mercy seat.
11. Darius thought to set Daniel over the whole ___.
13. ___I come in the volume of the book written of me.
15. Old lions perisheth for lack of ____. Fresh meat.
16. Queen who replaced Vashti and kin to Mordecai.
19. Israel wasn't to make ___or graven image. Singular.
20. God sends the ___ on the just and unjust. Water.
21. The promises of God in him are ___ and amen.
22. ___was the fair sister of Absalom defiled by Amnon.
24. There is ___ Lord, one faith and one baptism.
28. ___ man hath seen God at any time. Not yes.
29. The animal offered as sacrifice instead of Isaac.



(Answers on Page 10)

31. Consider the lilies of the field how they ___.
32. We are redeemed with the precious ___of Christ.
34. House was filled with the ___ of the ointment Mary anointed the feet of Jesus with.
35. Rise, take up thy ___ and walk said Jesus to the man sick of the palsy.
36. Egyptians gave Israel no more ___ to make brick.

DOWN:

2. Thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ___ over many things.
3. God for Christ's ___hath forgiven you so be kind and tender hearted.
4. He knoweth our ____, he remembereth we are dust.
5. Seek and ye shall find; ___ and it shall be given.
6. That ye may eat and drink at my ___in my kingdom.
9. John the Baptist was the voice of one ___ in the wilderness.
12. I must be ___ my Father's business said Jesus.
14. Titus was appointed by Paul to ___ elders in every city.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

15. Let the wicked forsake his way and return to the Lord and he will abundantly ____. Forgive.
17. Be not forgetful to entertain ____. Might be angels.
18. Wood ___ and stubble are not to be built on the foundation of Jesus Christ; it will burn. Straw.
23. To whom is the ___ of the Lord revealed? Limb.
25. Not many mighty, not many ___ are called.
26. Do the work of an evangelist; make full ___ of thy ministry Paul wrote Timothy. Evidence.
27. Be ___ be vigilant because your adversary the devil.
30. We are not to ___ to God's word nor take away.
33. The hour is coming and ___ is when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

Elder Sam Bryant told me of a time when he was a boy who reached his limit with the long-winded preacher, and he asked his mother if he could get a drink. Answer: NO. Then he asked if he could go to the bathroom. Answer: NO. Finally, he asked, "Well Mama, can you go out and spank me?"—By Elder David Montgomery from his facebook page.

I heard the above Elder Sam Bryant say that he was the youngest of 15 children in his family. He said that when his mom and dad got the perfect child they stopped having children, but his siblings said they quit because they gave up trying for perfection.—*Editor*

THAT LOVE WONDER FROM HEAVEN

(Continued from Page 5)

hath perfected forever them that are sanctified." (Heb. 10:14) At the end of that one offering, as Jesus hung on the cross, he said, "It is finished," bowed his head and died. Thus, we are made perfect. "What wondrous love is this, O my soul." It is the wonder for which we shall praise God in all eternity.

(From "Glad Tidings", December 1986)

CONSIDER THE SPARROW

Consider the sparrow. She doesn't starve to death, for her Heavenly Father knows and he takes care of the sparrow. He says, "Your Heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things." We are not alone down here. Have you ever heard of the sparrow and the robin having a conversation. And the robin was looking down here on all these human beings running around in a state of panic and worry. And he said, "What are they so worried about?" And the sparrow said, "They must not have a Heavenly Father to take care of them like we do."—Sam Bryant sermon excerpt (From "The Christian Pathway", Sept. 1985)

CHURCH NEWS

Laodicea Primitive Baptist Church, Lafayette Springs, MS will have its annual meeting the 4th weekend in July 2024. (July 26-28) Services Friday night, July 26, at 7:00 pm. Saturday, July 27, at 10:00 am with lunch and afternoon services. This is an open meeting this year. Everyone is invited. Elder Steve Weaver is Pastor of Laodicea.

Elgin Crossroads Primitive Baptist Church, 3153 SR 101 Rogersville AL will have their annual meeting July 19-20 2024. Friday, July 19, supper at 5:30 pm and services at 6:30 pm. Saturday, July 20, services at 10:00 am with lunch at noon and afternoon services. Elder Michael Gowens, Pastor of Bethel PBC, Calabash, NC is invited minister. Everyone is invited to come and worship. Elder Ben Shettles is Pastor of Elgin Crossroads.

All are invited to Rector Primitive Baptist Church, Rector AR, the weekend before the second Sunday in August 2024 for our Annual Meeting. We will have a light supper at 6 pm with services to follow at 7pm on Friday night August 9th. We will begin services at 10 am Saturday August 10 with lunch and afternoon services. Lord willing, we will have an ordination service of Bro. Jeremy Horton to the ministry on Saturday afternoon. Services will begin again Sunday morning at 10:30 am. We plan to have an open meeting and are prayerful all who can will attend. Elder Devon Horton serves as Pastor at Rector.

Everyone is invited to the meeting at Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS the 3rd weekend in August, 2024 (Aug. 16-18). Services Friday night, Aug. 16, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 17, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodlettsville, TN is invited minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS the 2nd weekend in August, 2024 (Aug. 9-11). Services Friday night, Aug. 9, at 7:00 p.m. preceded by supper at 6:00 p.m. Saturday night, Aug. 10, at 7:00 p.m. with supper at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 11, at 10:30 a.m. Elder Ben Shettles, Pastor of Elgin Crossroads PBC in Rogersville, AL is invited minister. Elder Jonathan Wise is Pastor of Little Flock.

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” (Jude 1:3)

“God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.” (John 4:24)

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, 5 miles W. of Ecu, MS on Hwy 346, the 2nd weekend in September, 2024 (Sept. 6-8). Services Friday night, Sept. 6, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 7, at 10:30 a.m. followed by fish lunch and much more. Sunday, Sept. 8, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Elder Tim McCool, Pastor of Bethlehem PBC in Echola, AL, is invited minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.



Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS was blessed with a Spirit filled Communion Meeting May 17-19 with Preaching by Elder Jonathan Wise, New Albany, MS and Elder David Wise, Starkville, MS. Picture above. These are natural brothers as well as spiritual brothers. The preaching was blessed as well as the singing and fellowship. Thanks to everyone who came and supported the meeting with your physical presence or by your prayers The Lord was gracious and concluded with Communion on Sunday.—*Editor*

The Tombigbee Fellowship Meeting (formerly Tombigbee Association) will be held with Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Wolfe Rd in Caledonia, MS the 3rd weekend in September (2024) (Sept. 13-14). Services Friday night, Sept. 13, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 14, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and ordination of Bro. Ron Nivens and Bro. Jim Waddle to the office of deacon in the afternoon. Elder Joe Nettles is Pastor of Sulphur Springs.

Friendship Primitive Baptist Church in Winona, MS will have its annual meeting the 4th weekend in September, 2024 (Sept. 21-22) Services Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10:00 am followed by lunch and afternoon services. Sunday at 10:30 am with lunch. This is an open meeting. Elder B. T. Strum is Pastor of Friendship Church.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Randolph, MS the 3rd weekend in July 2024 (July 19-21). Services Friday night at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, July 20, at 10:30 a. m. with lunch. Sunday at 10:00 a.m. Elder Rusty Wise, Tupelo, MS, is invited minister. Elder Calvin Warren and Bro. Braden Rogers has been preaching 2 Sundays each in the absence of long time Pastor, Elder Tom Bouchillon, who has been physically unable to preach. We pray for him and the church as well as other churches in need.

THE AMEN CORNER



By Elder Ricky Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama
ShareTheWord: 10-18-13

Fundamental Truth

The resurrection of this body is a fundamental teaching. If it is not true then the apostles and Jesus Christ taught it wrong and the writers of the inspired word penned it wrong. The doctrine of the resurrection of the body is the doctrine that all doctrine is based on. **“If there be no resurrection then Christ is not risen”** says (1st Cor. 15). We have no apology to make for believing this doctrine. If the fundamental doctrines that have stood the test through the ages are not worth contending for, then I see no reason for us even to continue as a people for we have not an identity that would separate us from any other denomination.

Where these fundamentals have been neglected we find a disposition to substitute human power and will for the strong arm and unchangeable purpose of a Holy God, and, in their mistaken way the free-willer and work monger feel they must reach out in some way to “Steady the Ark.” The fundamentals of our faith that have been published again and again and adopted generally by our people have become known as our recognized faith. Our recognized faith is identified by scriptures like Phil. 3:21 and is very plain in the fact that it states, speaking of God **who “Shall CHANGE our VILE BODY that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body”**. The redemption of the bible is not just redemption of the SOUL, but of the body (Rom.8:23), Soul, and Spirit (1st Thess. 5:23). It is essential to the truth of the Gospel and the Faith once and for all time delivered to the saints that the same body that Jesus suffered in was raised up and this raising up thus identified him as the Son of God with POWER (Rom 1:4). His body was recognizable (Luke 24:39) yet it was changed, glorious and Spiritual. Sad to say, some who claim the name Primitive Baptist deny the resurrection of the body; what a departure from the faith.

Our bodies at the resurrection will be Changed. Paul went into quite a lengthy discussion in 1st Cor. 15 about the resurrection of the body. IT is sown in Weakness, IT is raised in POWER; IT is SOWN a Natural body, IT is raised a Spiritual Body, not a Spiritual Spirit. My argument against the non-

resurrectionist is that the same body that is committed to the earth and sown like a seed in the ground will be changed from Natural to Spiritual and IT (the same body) will be raised up at the Last Day (St. Jn. 6:39). It will have an identity just as One Star differeth from another, has its own identity, in Glory (1st Cor. 15:41). I have said that this doctrine not only gives the man something to hold on to; but it actually holds the man. I say that if this doctrine is genuinely understood it will be a sure foundation stone in the doctrine of Salvation by Grace. When a person has this doctrine burned into His mind and soul, that salvation is not based on human merit but in the purpose of God; He can come to no other conclusion but that all other doctrine is sinking sand and slippery ground. Someone said that *“This doctrine is the battering ram that will shake the gates of Hell”*. I like that terminology.

We do not need to read an essay nor heed philosophical minds because there is no energy in them to draw men into a closer nearness with the Lord, but, the preached gospel of salvation by grace and all its tenant’s is full of comfort to the sinner. If these doctrines are fairly treated and rightly understood, Oh, what a solace to the wanderer. The gospel of this rotten arminian world is *“Do the best you can and God will save you, but, YOU have to meet the conditions God demands and come to him on gospel terms”*. The Gospel of Christ says, “You are a lost sinner and deserve nothing more than the wrath of an eternal God and all His displeasure, and if you are to be saved and finally resurrected from the dead to live in heaven it must be by an ACT of Sovereign Grace. In public speaking we were taught, if you are desiring to make a strong point you usually ADD a NEGATIVE; so, Paul says; **“Not according to our Works”** and then adds the positive, **“but according to his own purpose and GRACE”** (II Tim. 1:9).

In the Old Hymnal... ZIONS SONGS.... page 260 these words are found and how true they are, *“Election is a glorious word, at which professors rage in vain; they throw their falsehoods at the Lord, but still this truth remains the same. In ages dark when Satan’s power, lit up the faithful and the flame, and martyrs passed the burning hour in love to their Redeemers name. None but the sheep are in his hand, His own elect in Him do stand, election made the difference too, b’fore sin was born or angles (sic) flew”*. AMEN AND AMEN.

Elder Ricky Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

“Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other. Truth shall spring out of the earth; and righteousness shall look down from heaven.” (Psalms 85:10-11)

“By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and by the fear of the LORD men depart from evil.” (Prov. 16:6)

A NATION IN JEOPARDY

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

Anybody that knows anything will have to admit that we are living in perilous times. We have been warned in God's word about this as Paul writes Timothy, "This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." (II Tim. 3:1) The Holy Spirit felt it important to inform Timothy that perilous times would come. We are still living in the last days as Hebrews says God is not speaking to us by the prophets as in the past but in the last days speaks to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. (Heb. 3:1-2) Jesus is not here in person but His inspired word is and we are to take heed to the things which we have heard.

The word perilous means dangerous and fierce. The dangers for this nation and consequently the people of God are more "within" than without. The Bible calls this world an evil world. (Gal. 1:4) Further, Paul writes Timothy saying, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." (II Tim. 3:13) Evil men just get more evil as time marches on. Paul paints a picture of despicable behavior in these last days of these evil men, and I might add evil women as well in (II Tim. 3:2-4), "...lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy,..."

There are people in positions of authority "within" this nation that would destroy America as we have known. It. Many things that the Bible plainly condemns is being promoted by the government and private sector. What is worse is that our children are being subjected to this ungodly acceptance of ungodliness in the educational system. Parents are kept in the dark and in many places have no say in anything the children are taught. Homosexuals are given special treatment where the Bible plainly says it is an abomination. "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination." (Lev. 18:22) The Bible calls people that are guilty of this sin a Sodomite and two cities were destroyed because of this sin. "And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;" (II Pet. 2:6) Paul exhorts Timothy to continue in the things he has learned and not be carried about by these evil men who wax worse and worse. (II Tim. 3:14) We are not to give place to the devil and evil men.

These are not perilous times for evil men but for the children of God who desire to do what is right. Even these people are being deceived and it is mainly because they do not read or know the word of God or just don't care. They just go along to get along. The wise man Solomon wrote. "My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not." (Prov. 1:10) Why are we not to consent? First because the Bible says so and then because of the consequences. "For their feet run to evil and make haste to shed blood." (Prov. 1:16) When the nation of Israel abandoned God's ways thus forsaking Him, they suffered the judgment of God. "And I will utter my judgments against them touching all their wickedness, who have forsaken me," (Jer. 1:16) God is longsuffering but eventually that longsuffering comes to an end.

We are taught to be subject to the higher powers for rulers are not a terror to good works but of evil. (Rom. 13:1-3) However, when those powers require things that God's word forbids, we are not required to submit. After a giant golden image had been erected, King Nebuchadnezzar signed a decree that if anyone would not bow down and worship this image after hearing all instruments of music he would be cast into a burning fiery furnace. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego would not comply because they were worshippers of the true and living God. They were indeed cast into the fiery furnace but the Son of God was there with them and they were miraculously delivered. They believed in a God who was able to deliver. (Dan. 3:17) Rulers must be just, ruling in the fear of God. (II Sam. 23:3) The Bible says when the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked rule, the people mourn. (Prov. 19:2)

The Lord has smiled upon this nation for a long time, but He can hide His face as well. The only reason God hides His face is because of flaunting of His laws. This can be against an individual or against a nation. Job 34:29 says, "When he giveth quietness, who then can make trouble? and when he hideth his face, who then can behold him? whether it be done against a nation, or against a man only:" God hid His face from Israel because they did evil and served other gods. "And I will surely hide my face in that day for all the evils which they shall have wrought, in that they are turned unto other gods." (Deut. 31:18)

Salt is not only a seasoner but also a preserver. The disciples were addressed as the salt of the earth by Jesus and gives them this warning, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." (Matt. 5:13) They would be like that linen girdle of Jeremiah that had become marred and was "good for nothing." This girdle represented Judah and Jerusalem and evil people who refused to hear God's words. (Jer. 13:9-10) Yes, these are perilous times but may there be enough salt and savour to continue to bless with liberty and freedom.

IT GETS TO BE A HABIT

There are those who do not “feel well”; they are not too sick when it’s necessary but not well enough to enjoy going to meeting. If we put as the condition of our service that we must be delighted with all we do, then we are not following Christ, for He came into the world not to be ministered unto but to minister. A deaf man was asked why he attended preaching as he could not hear anything that was said. His reply was, “Serving God does not consist in hearing preaching, but in filling your seat in the church and praising God in your heart.”

It is discouraging to hear the excuse that members were not well enough to attend services unless it is known they are really sick. This “feeling poorly” gets to be a habit and our health is one of the “cares of this world.” The devil can grow a crop of “feel bads” as easily as any other weed. Perhaps a ride in the fresh air is just what you need. Then too, is not the God that we serve able to heal the body? But you are afraid it might make you feel worse and suppose it did, can you not afford to bear some bodily discomfort for the sake of the cause of Christ?

He gave His body to suffering, pain, and death for you, and now must you be in robust health, perfectly at ease and free from all pain before you can make any effort to acknowledge His goodness and sustain His church. Before you decide that you are too sick to attend your church meetings, be sure that it is not the devil trying to grow a thicket of “the cares of this world” in your path way with the intention of driving you to spiritual barrenness.

Elder Walter Cash In Messenger of Peace 1917
(From “*The Christian Baptist*,” May 1977)

**ANSWERS
BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

ACROSS:	DOWN:
1. ssarg	2. relur
4. stsaef	3. ekas
7. raga	4. emarf
8. kcal	5. ksa
10. kra	6. elbat
11. mlaer	9. gniyrc
13. ol	12. tuoba
15. yerp	14. niadro
16. rehtse	15. nodrap
19. lodi	17. sregnarts
20. niar	18. yah
21. aey	23. mra
22. ramat	25. elbon
24. eno	26. foorp
28. on	27. rebos
29. mar	30. dda
31. worg	33. won
32. doolb	
34. ruodo	
35. deb	
36. warts	

A SQUASH VINE

I enjoy reading two Bibles—one is the King James Version and the other is the Living Bible. I read the King James Bible at night and the Living Bible during the day.

I was hoeing in my garden recently and I took special notice of the structure of a squash vine. This was in God’s Living Bible—His handiwork. This plant was very beautiful with a unique structure and the bright broad leaves were so arranged that each leaf received sunlight—no leaf shading another leaf—and the fruit was forming at the base of the vine. The vine had blooms on it and the blooms were being visited by bees which help pollinate the blooms so they can bear fruit. The vine was well-linked to the ground and it was getting its supply of food and water from this linkage, the leaves received air and sunshine through their pores. Each part of the vine was working in unison with every other part thus through the handiwork of God in nature the vine bears fruit. All of this came from one small seed that had no resemblance of the vine.

As I was studying this part of God’s Living Bible I saw a beautiful picture of the church. As each part of the vine works in unison with every other part to bear fruit so does each church member work in unison with every other member to make the church the shining light wherever she stands. The strength of the church comes from one source and that source is God. Inasmuch as the church’s strength comes from God no member can rightfully say, “Look what I have done!”

When the church is functioning in unison as the squash vine was she is very beautiful. Her “leaves” are broad and green, her fruit is comely and delightful and her Husband is well pleased. Surely it is pleasing to our Master when He comes into His garden and sees it flourishing and “eats” His pleasant fruit.

There are no greater riches or pleasures on earth than this: namely to be a member of the Primitive Baptist Church and work in unison with all of the other members and bear fruit together to praise God.

Elder George R. Hunt

(From “*The Christian Pathway*”, March 1982)

HOLD—ONS

(From “*The Christian Pathway*”, March 1982)

1. Hold on to your hand when you are about to do an unkind act.
 2. Hold on to your tongue when you are just ready to speak harshly.
 3. Hold on to your heart when evil persons invite you to join their ranks.
 4. Hold on to your virtue—it is above all price to you in all times and places.
 5. Hold on to your foot when you are on the point of forsaking the path of right.
 6. Hold on to the truth, for it will serve you well and do you good throughout eternity.
 7. Hold on to your temper when you are excited or angry, or others are angry with you.
 8. Hold on to your good character, for it is and ever will be your best wealth.
- Selected

MARTHA AND MARY

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Luke 10:41 — Luke 10:42: “And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.”

This is the story of two sisters that loved the Lord and were good disciples, but even good disciples make mistakes.

Now Jesus had come to their town and had graciously accepted their invitation to come under their roof and dine with them Luke 10:38. “Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.” She had a sister that was named Mary who was there also at the time. Mary chose to sit at her masters feet, to listen to every word that Jesus said. (verse 39). Oh to sit at Jesus's feet and hear his precious voice as he talked about the Father, and all things pertaining to the kingdom of God. What a good choice Mary had chosen to sit at his feet and listen to every word that Jesus spoke. However Martha had chosen another path to take. Luke 10:40 “But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.”

To understand what Martha had chosen to do, as opposed to Mary, we can find it in the word "cumbered". Cumbered means to be over-occupied, too busy, about a thing, distracted, to be anxious (Phil 4:6). Martha had other things on her mind, than listening to her Lord. She was so anxious to make sure that everything was tidy, and the food was the best ever. She was hurrying about to take care of these things, while her sister Mary sat there not helping her. When Mary realized this about Martha, she was angry and with that anger she spoke to her Lord in a tone that was not right, and not respectful to her Lord. In fact it seems almost like she is ordering him to tell her sister to get up and help her! Now the Lord could have snapped back at her with something in a defensive and angry tone, but this is how he answered her. Luke 10:41 “And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things”: In a soft tender and loving voice he says her name twice. Immediately he changes the

environment of the room, from demand and anger to love and caring. The fleshly nature loses its stronghold to the soft loving voice of our Savior. Martha, you have many things on your mind, but you lack one thing. Luke 10:42 “But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her”. Mary chose to sit and listen to Jesus's every word. She had chosen correctly, and Martha needed to stop everything that she's doing and sit down and listen to her Lord. Please understand this. It is ok to tidy up the home, it was ok to make sure that everything was in order. It is ok for Mary to help her sister accomplish these things. It is a matter of priorities. Everything in its own order I Corinthians 14:40. The number one priority should be that when Jesus began to speak, everyone listen! The house can wait, so can the dishes. There is time for all of that later. Right now, listen to what your Lord has to say. He comes first. When we are sitting in the sanctuary where the minister is preaching, we need to listen to what he has to say. He is an inspired messenger of God. Listen, and ask God to help you listen. God comes first in our lives. We need to put him first in our life. In doing so, God will richly bless us.--R.L. Taylor

EARS FROM HARVESTED SHEAVES

By J. C. Philpot

July 17

“Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered.”—Hebrews v. 8.

Our gracious Lord had to learn obedience to the will of God by a personal experience of suffering, and especially an implicit submission to his heavenly Father's will. And what was this will? That he should take upon himself the huge debt which his bride had incurred by original and actual transgression; that he should offer himself as a ransom price to discharge and put away; that he should bear our sins in his own body on the tree, with everything which was involved in being made a curse for us; that he should by death overcome Satan, who had the power of death, and deliver them who all their life, through fear of death, were subject to bondage; and that, whatever sorrows and sufferings should lie in his path, he should bear them all, and learn, in and by them, implicit submission to the will of God. This was the will of God, for he was determined that his law should be magnified, his justice glorified, his infinite purity and holiness revealed and established; and yet, amidst all and through all his displeasure against sin, that his infinite wisdom, tender pity, everlasting love, and sovereign grace might shine and reign in the happiness of millions through a glorious eternity. This, too, was the joy that was set before Christ, for which he endured the cross, despising the shame, and is now set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

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