

Glad Tidings

August

FROM THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

2025

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

Philippians 4:13

Strength For Today And Bright Hope For Tomorrow

I Corinthians 15:19

REST FOR YOUR SOULS

Matt. 11:28-30 – “[28] Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [29] Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. [30] For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Psalms 127:1-3 – “[12] What man is he that feareth the Lord? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose. [13] His soul shall dwell at ease; and his seed shall inherit the earth.”

Isaiah 26:3 – “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.”

In this world that is filled with tribulation, there is nothing God’s children crave more than to feel rest in our souls, for our souls to dwell at ease, and to walk in perfect peace with our Lord. In these three verses, we find Christ’s formula to produce that peace and rest for our souls. While our lives might not necessarily be at rest, we can still have rest, ease, and peace in our souls in the midst of a chaotic world and life.

For those who are laboring and heavy laden, if you: 1) come unto Christ, 2) take Christ’s yoke upon you, 3) learn of Christ, 4) walk in the fear of God, 5) have your mind stayed on Christ, and 6) walk in faith and trust in Christ.

Then, God promises that: 1) you will find rest unto your soul, 2) God will teach you his way, 3) your soul will dwell at ease, 4) your seed shall inherit the earth, and 5) you will be kept in perfect peace.

Come unto Christ. If we desire rest, ease, and peace in our souls, it will not be found in seeking the world, but in seeking and coming unto Christ. We come unto Christ and pursue him in our private devotions, in our Bible reading and study, in our prayer closet, in public worship, and in fellowship with saints. We have to be purposeful to seek and come unto Christ because this world will entice us to draw away from him and the kingdom. God has promised that if we seek Christ, we will be found of him (1 Chr. 28:9). We have to be diligent and purposeful to ask, seek, and knock in coming to Christ, and if we do, then fellowship with Christ will be given, found, and opened (Matt. 7:7-8). It is personal fellowship with Christ that eases the tensions and stress that this world inevitably puts on our soul.

Take Christ’s yoke upon you. It is an inevitable guarantee that we will have a yoke in this world. We will no doubt have burdens to bear and crosses to carry. If we carry the burdens of this world ourselves with our own strength, we will be crushed under that weight, and our souls will constantly be under stress, burden, and fear rather than rest. Therefore, every day, we have to make the purposeful decision to give our burden yoke to Christ and to take his yoke upon us. I try to have this mental image in my prayer time when I am very stressed and burdened. I try to mentally picture in prayer me taking my yoke off my neck and giving it to Jesus, and then me taking Christ’s easy and light yoke and putting upon myself. Having this mental picture in prayer of giving my burdens to Christ and taking his yoke upon me has helped me have more peace and rest in some very difficult times throughout the years.

Learn of Christ. Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. If we are looking for our souls to be in perfect peace, we will only find greater knowledge of peace by learning more about the Prince of Peace and the God of all comfort. We learn more about Christ from his word, from reading and studying his word, from hearing his word preached, and from godly, edifying discussions of the scriptures with others. The more we learn about Christ, the more peace and rest we will have in our lives. Especially, the more we learn of Christ’s power and sovereignty, we know he is in control and sovereign over all the burdens that rob the peace of our souls. We rest more fully in Christ’s power over our tribulations by learning more about the character, substance, and power of Jesus Christ.

Walk in the fear of God. If we desire for our souls to be in peace and rest, then we cannot be tangled up and controlled by the fear of man, or the fear of the unknown, or the fears of many other things in this world. However, when we live in the fear of the Lord, when we make decisions with God’s smiling favor upon us as our primary motive, regardless of the opinions of men or fear of external consequences, then we can have peace in our souls regardless of the external factors. If we walk each day with a reverence and fear of the Lord as our primary deciding factor in our lives, come what may of joy or sorrow, be my portion pain or rest externally in our lives, then we will have a peace of conscience and soul knowing we are right with and obedient to the Lord, regardless of the popularity of the decision or external ripple effects.

Have your mind stayed on Christ. The best way to come to Christ, take his yoke, learn of him, and walk in fear of the Lord is to have your mind perpetually fixed on the Lord, to be constantly meditating on God and on his word. We are in a battle for our minds with this world and the devil every day. This world is constantly enticing us to have our minds drawn away from God, his kingdom, and his word. Satan wants to fill our minds with carnal pleasures and ungodly thoughts, and we have to be very purposeful to bring every thought into subjection to the obedience of Christ (2 Cor. 10:5). We have to filter out the filth of this world from our minds and be purposeful to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous and praiseworthy (Phil. 4:8). We need to delight in God's word and to meditate on the scriptures day and night, and if we do, then we will be abundantly fruitful and prosperous for the Lord.

Walk in faith and trust in Christ. Nothing will rob and quench peace and rest in our souls faster than a fear of the unknown and fear of being overwhelmed in a certain circumstance. What is the remedy for that? We do not trust in ourselves, in our own wisdom, in our own might or strength. Rather, we trust Christ in faith and rest in his power, not in the frailty of our own weakness. When we walk each day trusting Christ rather than ourselves, it will ease the burdens and fears of our souls. Is it not better to rest our heads at night trusting in a God that is able to do exceeding, abundantly above, all we ask or think (Eph. 3:20), rather than trusting our own frailty that fades like the grass? Let us fully trust Christ in faith with the burdens and challenges of our lives, and it will certainly ease the fears and tensions of our soul.

Now, if we follow these commands we have considered, these are the Bible promised results that the Lord will provide for his obedient children. I believe we all desire these results of rest, guidance, ease, inheritance, and perfect peace, and the Lord has promised these effects to those who are obedient to the commands we have discussed above.

Find rest unto your soul. If we follow God's formula given to the laboring and heavy laden, God has promised a divine result of rest unto your souls. This rest for our souls is a direct result of taking Christ's yoke upon you that is easy and light. This world lends us to busyness, fast pace, and exhaustion. However, walking in Christ's yoke will provide rest and peace in our souls, instead of exhaustion. We might not have perfect rest in our lives. Actually, a restful soul in Christ most likely will have a very busy life in serving the Lord in the kingdom. However, that work is very easy and light when it's in the service of our Great Master. This doesn't mean that we sit around all day not doing anything. Actually, the true rest for our souls will be found in being very active and busy being about the Father's business.

God will teach you His way. We all need guidance and direction from the Lord for the right pathway to walk in the Lord's will for our life. If we are following the formula above, then we are certainly walking on the narrow way that leads to abundant life in the kingdom of God. However, we especially need the Lord's providential guiding hand in discerning the right path in life-altering decisions in our life. I know from experience the burden of soul that comes from not having clarity about the way the Lord intends for you to go in your life. However, if we follow the formula above, God has promised to guide us providentially in teaching us his way, his providential individual pathway for just us to walk in our lives.

Soul will dwell at ease. It is a miserable thing for your soul to dwell in fear and tension and stress. How can our soul dwell at ease, even if the circumstances of life seem to be adverse or chaotic? Ease, rest, and peace in our souls will come from obedience to the formula above. That does not mean that our life will necessarily be at ease. Our external circumstances might still have tension or conflict, but if we are walking in the fear of the Lord, rather than the fear of man or any other debilitating worldly fear, then we can still have ease in our souls, even in the midst of external conflict and tension, if we are walking in obedience.

Seed shall inherit the earth. For the child of God who is obedient to the formula above, God even promises legacy blessings upon future generations beyond our lifetime. God promises for the seed of the obedient child of God to be blessed to inherit the earth, to have abundant possessions and blessings in the kingdom of God. If we live each day with a rest, peace, and peace of soul, will it not make us better husbands, wives, and ultimately parents? If children see their parents exercise patience that comes from rest in our souls in their parenting styles, they will emulate that pattern in their lives and ultimately in their future parenting as well. If children see their parents dealing with challenging circumstances in this life in a God-honoring way and displaying a peace of soul in midst of external circumstances of chaos, then it will show them the value of a life centered and firmly planted in the kingdom of God that they also will desire to emulate and seek after.

Kept in perfect peace. Then, finally for God's children that follow the pattern above, but especially those who have their mind stayed on Christ and trust him in faith, God promises for their souls to be in perfect peace. Again, that does not mean that there will be no tribulation, conflict, or tension in the external circumstances of our life. Rather, true obedience to Christ will inevitably create conflict with the world, the flesh and the devil. In the midst of the inevitable external conflict with this world, we can still dwell in perfect peace and rest with Christ in our souls, when we follow the pattern and formula he has given us here in his word. (David Wise)

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Elder Jonathan Wise & Elder David Wise, Co-Editors

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

By Elder Larry Wise (1944-2024)

It seems the devil and his angels are running rampant in our society deceiving the hearts and minds of the people of God. I say the people of God because the hearts and minds of those that aren't His are naturally deceived and they do that which their evil hearts conceive and have pleasure therein. The murder of unborn babies has been condoned for years with no end in sight and the gays and lesbians are gaining ground and anyone opposing these groups is classified as bigots. The Bible clearly defines what is right and wrong but today we need to be prayerful about the woe that the prophet pronounced on the acceptance of things wrong and condemnation of those things that are right. "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their won sight!" (Isa. 6:20-21)

Those babies that are allowed to be born by God-fearing parents grow up to be adults and what type instruction they receive will determine much about what kind of adults they will become. Parents cannot depend upon the educational system to teach their children what is acceptable and unacceptable; they must do as the scriptures instruct: "And, ye fathers,

provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Eph. 6:4). When children aren't taught as they should be, they enter the educational system and are exposed to textbooks that portray a society that tolerates abortion, homosexuals and gays under the guise that none has the right to criticize. The liberal says they have the right to freedom of speech but when someone speaks up against what they teach, they cry foul which is hypocrisy at its zenith.

It used to be safe for our children to watch cartoons on the television but today parents cannot trust that avenue of entertainment. Disney has just recently depicted a gay kissing scene in one of their children's cartoon shows and Christ is made a mockery by Hollywood or as Elder Sonny Pyles says "Hellywood" with its false betrayal of Christ. Paul was surely right when he said, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." (II Tim. 3:13). Timothy was taught, however, to continue in the things he had learned and been assured of.

It seems that the ungodly element commands more respect today than the Christian element that is increasingly being charged with hatred because they oppose the tolerance and acceptance of things the Bible forbids. Many years ago, there was a country song that said, "Mammas, don't let your babies grow up to be cowboys" but let them be doctors and lawyers and such. This was after giving a somewhat less than flattering depiction of the life of a cowboy. While we have no control of our children's eternal destiny, it is all in the hands of a sovereign God, we do have some control over what our children are taught and exposed to that might mold or distort their view of what is acceptable and what they ultimately grow up to be. We need to be a positive influence and not a negative one.

Today it seems that people cannot even determine if they are a boy or girl and some parents I have heard give them space to determine their own identity. I cannot understand this because these are people that should know better because of their up-bringing and this gives further credence to the scriptures that declare that in the last times some shall "depart" from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines of devils. (I Tim. 4:1). Folks, people may have any kind of operation they want to change their gender, but it will not alter what they are; they are a boy or a girl, a male or a female. It seems that people have never read about Sodom and Gomorrah and the reason it was destroyed with fire and brimstone. The Bible plainly says, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination." (Lev. 18:22). See also Romans 1:26-27. The Bible is the ultimate authority of what is right.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "It is always right to do that which is right" and that has always been the case. In fact if we do anything that isn't right in the eyes of the Lord, we have failed ourselves and our God.

When our children are taught they came from monkeys, is it any wonder they grow up to act like monkeys? Is it any wonder when we see men and women falling into bed with one another on a daytime soap opera (and yes men with men) that it sends the wrong message to viewers and people wind up doing the same with no regret? Shame! Shame! David said, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psa. 11:3). The Lord is in His holy temple so the righteous should keep on doing what is right, depending on the Lord. (April 2018)

SUFFICIENT (ENOUGH)

By Elder Jerry Wise
Pontotoc, Mississippi

A simple definition that a child could understand. I'm not going to speculate on the apostle Paul's thorn in the side; like everyone else it would be pure speculation. No doubt, Satan was there to cause Paul some type of affliction or difficulty.

So many times people will quote the words "My grace is sufficient for thee." If you ask someone what these words mean; you will get a verity of answers. First person, "My" most definitely is Jehovah God himself. It's his grace that's sufficient; solely given by the Almighty and evidently Paul needed nothing else, according to God himself; nor do we.

I find this amazing, beautiful and extremely powerful; maybe someone will remind me of this when I find myself down and out: It's called the "dumps."

I need to look at God's amazing grace that was sufficient in calling this dead dog from wondering in the world of satisfying me to living in the service of Christ.

I find it extremely beautiful when I walk in the light of God's grace and some days he tells me; you need draw closer to me.

With God's magnificent power, he spoke the worlds into existence and made man from the dust of the earth and a woman from a rib; How did he do that? "Amazing."

Paul tells us he wanted to know the power of his resurrection!!!! This same power tells Paul, "My grace is sufficient." "God's grace":

1. God's saving grace!! Not merit based; just Christ Jesus.
2. God's forgiving grace!! Christ Jesus' blood.
3. God's numerous grace!! Never runs out; because of Christ Jesus.
4. God's new grace!! Mercy new every morning, because of Christ Jesus.
5. God's free grace!! He has made me free in Christ Jesus.
6. God's future grace!! There are trials yet to come. Jesus has overcome the world.

I think many times, we preacher should speak solely on this sufficiency and just brag and brag of Jehovah's sufficient grace. Paul seems to do this very thing in many places.

Once an old elder was struggling as he began to speak and all of a sudden, he began to talk of God's sufficient grace; he lit up the church with amens; As he said later, if you ever find yourself in my position, just start bragging on God!! God's grace is enough!!!

"And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work:" -2 Corinthians 9:8

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen." -2 Corinthians 13:14

From the Master's table!!!
O Victory in JESUS!!!!!!!

Sunday Reflections – What sacrifice will be offered unto God today?

By Elder Rusty Wise
Tupelo, Mississippi

Romans 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.

First of all, will God's children even make an attempt to come to the household of faith? Will we come before his presence with joyful singing as we make melody in our heart? Will we be full of thanksgiving for all that he has done for us? Will we be wholly focused on praising the one true and living God for all of his tender mercy and his marvelous grace?

God has provided all that we need to not only survive in this world, but to live a life of joy unspeakable and full of glory. We have been given the wonderful knowledge that Jesus has finished the work of God the father and has secured our hope in glory. That not one single one to whom he was given will be lost. Is this not worthy of our time to praise him?

When we recall how he has blessed us throughout our lives; when we see his providential care gleaming in the midst of our trials; when we are lifted up out of the pit of despair by his mighty hand; do we have but a moment of our time to offer a sacrifice unto him? A sacrifice for which he has redeemed, and cleansed, and justified by his own precious blood. Do we have any time left in our tremendously busy schedule that we may praise him?

Perhaps our self sacrifice is too much to ask, after all we have to consider our own families, our own welfare, our own lives. Even though these things are

precious gifts given unto us for our stewardship. Do we treat our blessings as we do our best tools? That is do we take care of them?

You may sing of the beauty of mountain and dale,
Of the silvery stream-let and flowers of the vale,
But the place most delightful this earth can afford
Is the place of devotion, the house of the Lord.

Hope to see you there!

SARAH'S FAITH IN HER GREATER LORD

Elder Joe Nettles
Hamilton, Mississippi

1 Peter 3:16 – “Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement.”

Peter, writing through inspiration of the Holy Ghost, singled out this instance in the life of Sara as a shining example of faithfulness. One may wonder why Sara referring to her husband as "lord" (from Genesis 18:12) was such a big deal? This word "lord" was translated from Hebrew adon, "firm, strong, lord, superintendent of household, of affairs, master, king". Was this a good description of Abraham? Let's briefly examine what all Sara had experienced in her marriage with Abraham by the time of her declaration (remember, she was not receiving direct communication from Jehovah, only from the word of her husband!):

- According to Jewish tradition (and as also recorded in the Muslim Koran), Abraham (I'll use Abraham instead of Abram, Sara instead of Sarai) quit the family business of idol craft when they left Haran. If true (Joshua 24:2 may give credence), then their income was interrupted.

- She followed Abraham to literally "God knows where" (Genesis 12:1)

- She witnessed Abraham's lack of faith in the One who caused them to head into the unknown (Genesis 12:10-13)

- Abraham deferred to his unworthy nephew when choosing the best land (Genesis 13:8-11)

- Abram, for Lot's sake, left Sarai and his home less defended to fight against a confederation of kings (Genesis 14:11-16)

- In addition to the risk of the venture, Abraham refused the wealth of the spoils (Genesis 14:21-24)

- Sara saw Abraham abandon a reasonable, beneficial, safe plan to make Eliezer his heir (Genesis 15:1-6)

- Sara saw Abraham's lack of wisdom and leadership in foolishly allowing the sordid situation with Hagar (Genesis 16:1-5)

- Sara shockingly received news out of the blue one day that their names would be changed to names that seemed ridiculous (Genesis ch. 17)

- In a land fraught with dangerous enemies, Abraham in one fell swoop circumcised all in his house who could fight for their defense in the case of an attack (Genesis 17:22-24)

How many marriages are likely to survive so many "You plan to do what" or "that seems crazy" decisions and actions? Yet, Sara in faithful devotion hung in there with Abraham like a rusty fish hook! Wow, well done, Sara!

Having infallible scripture, a risen Savior, and a Spirit-led church, thanks be to God we today don't have to trust just another person's word (as did Sara) for confidence, direction, and faithful choices. Knowing this, how much more faithful should we be!

CANNOT HEAR, CANNOT COME

By Elder Marty Smith
Woodstock, Georgia

"And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father. From that time many of his disciples went back, and walked no more with him. Then said Jesus unto the twelve, Will ye also go away?" (John 6:65-67)

Many Christians today think that God the Father gives every man, without exception, the ability to come to Jesus Christ. They think the only thing that prevents any man from coming to Him is that man's willingness. But the Bible teaches that, before the new birth, man lacks the willingness and lacks the ability to come to the Lord. Jesus Christ states: "Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word." (John 8:43) Notice that He does not say "will not hear," but He says "cannot hear".

Only after God causes a man to be born again does that man have the ability, or the willingness, to come to Jesus Christ.

This is not always a popular teaching. It portrays man as not being able to choose, not in control, and totally dependent on God and His grace. At the start of John chapter 6, the Lord has a crowd of over 5000 people; by the end of the chapter, the crowd seems to be about 12 people. A large crowd does not mean the truth is being taught, and neither does a small crowd. The criterion for truth is not crowd size; the criterion for truth is harmony with the word of God.

But because of His everlasting love, His abundant grace, and His shed blood, the truth is that the crowd size - however small here - will be innumerable large in heaven. All that the Father gives to Jesus Christ will indeed come to Him.

THE HOARY HEAD

By Elder Herman Clark (Deceased)

I suppose this little article is for the younger generation living today. I can remember as a small boy, my father and mother taught us some things that some children of God today know nothing about. It is not the children's fault, but the burden lies on the shoulders of the parents.

One of the many things my parents taught me was to always show respect for the elderly. We were taught to say, "Yes sir" and "No sir" to the elderly men and "Yes ma'm" and "No ma'm" to the elderly women. Even a stranger was answered with these words. I hear some small children answering their mothers and fathers with the slang words, "huh?" and "do what?" (I know about this too), and the list goes on. If I talked back to my father or mother, it was woe unto me. The peach tree limb surely would find my backside. Stripes were in store because of my back talking.

We as children dared not interrupt our elders when they were speaking. Thankfully, I still find some parents teaching their children to show respect for the elderly and to them I say thank you for being the examples and teachers of good manners to your children. Also, we all sat down at the table for the meals my mom would prepare. If we children wanted a piece of corn bread, more peas, or any other food on the table, we dared not reach across the table and help ourselves but simply said, "thank you for some peas". We would then pass our plates, and Mom would dip the peas from the bowl to our plates.

One thing I feel lacking in many homes today is the time spent together as family. Even our meals are sometime eaten "on the run". When the preacher came to our house in those days, the men ate first, the women later, and then the children. I said to myself many times that I will not make my children wait while the preacher eats all the good pieces of chicken and my children eat the neck. Do you remember such?

In those days it was common courtesy for a man or boy to give his seat to a woman or an elderly person. We read of a commandment given to the children of Israel found in Leviticus 19:32, "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God: I am the LORD." I feel that this is good to teach our children today.

We find a lesson taught in 2nd Kings chapter two concerning the prophet, Elisha. Another lesson I learned as a child was never to "make fun" or "mock" anyone. In this lesson, some little children mocked the Prophet Elisha and suffered the consequences. In 2nd Kings 2:23-24, "And he went up from thence unto Bethel: and as he was going up by the way, there came forth little children out of the city, and mocked him, and said unto him, Go up, thou bald head; go up, thou bald head. And he turned back, and looked on them, and cursed them in the name of the LORD. And

there came forth two she bears out of the wood, and tare forty and two children of them." Do you think that showing respect to the elderly is important? I certainly think so. We are not only to rise up before the hoary head, but also honour the face of the old man, and fear the LORD. The chastisements by my parents for disobedience are nothing compared to the stripes we feel in our hearts when chastened by the Lord for disobedience.

When God gave Moses the Ten Commandments, they were written on two tables of stone. The apostle Paul teaches us that one of those Ten Commandments which is found in Ephesians 6:1-3, "Children, obey your parents in the Lord: for this is right. Honour thy father and thy mother; which is the first commandment with promise; That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth."

Children, be careful what you say to your parents. I can remember things I said over 50 years ago that were hurtful to my parents because I was not honoring them. It was hurtful to me when I felt the peach tree limb coming across my legs. (Wow! Did that switch sting!) Those things still haunt me at times. I suppose I will remember those things as long as I am in my right mind. So, children, honour thy father and mother. You will not be sorry.

(From "The GOODNEWS Newsletter", October 2007)

The Mind of a Christian – A Servant

By Elder Matt Jordan
Arab, Alabama

"Let this mind be in you..." (Philippians 2:5)

Jesus came into the world as God manifest in the flesh, but he 'emptied' himself to become a servant. He became what he created but his Deity never diminished. He had to humble himself to serve his own creation; so it must be with us if we are to have the mind of Christ.

Jesus came not to be ministered unto, but to minister to others. The world promotes a 'me first' attitude and tells us to reject the idea of submission and subjection. In his submission to the will of his Father, Jesus subjected himself to death on the cross. What humility! What commitment! What love! Can we think for a moment that God does not expect the same humble submission from us?

If you are one of His, you have been bought with a price and you are not your own. We need to recognize that true peace and contentment comes not from serving ourselves, but from serving one another. To the world, life is about 'me' but for the Christian it is peace, joy, and righteousness in the Holy Ghost, and submission to God.

DEACON ORDINATION

Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS. Aug. 23, 2025. Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church in Burnsville, MS will have a service on Saturday, August 23 at 10:30am for the purpose of ordaining Bro. Zach DePoyster to the office of deacon. Lunch will be served afterward. We invite all to attend this special occasion and offer their support to this faithful brother, especially ordained elders and deacons. Also be in prayer for Little Flock, as the congregation is currently without a pastor. For more information, contact Elder Jonathan Wise at 662-419-2721.

CHURCH NEWS

Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS. Aug. 9-10, 2025. Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS the 2nd weekend in August 2025 (Aug. 9-10). Services will be Saturday night, Aug. 9, at 7:00 p.m., with supper at 6:00pm. Sunday, August 10, at 10:30am. Elder Nathan Guess is the invited minister.

Mt. Pisgah Primitive Baptist Church, Duck Hill, MS. Aug. 8-10, 2025. Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Mt. Pisgah Primitive Baptist Church, 1840 Hwy 404 East, Duck Hill, MS. The meeting will be the 2nd weekend in August 2025 (Aug. 8-10). Beginning Friday at 6:00pm with supper and service to follow. Saturday service will begin at 10:00am with lunch to follow and there will be an afternoon service starting at 1:30pm. Sunday service will begin at 10:30am with lunch to follow. This will be an open meeting, and all are invited. Elder Eddie Hollowell is Pastor of Mt. Pisgah. We look forward to fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Mantachie, MS. Aug. 16-17, 2025. Everyone is invited to the meeting at Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Mantachie, MS the 3rd weekend in August 2025 (Aug. 16-17). Services Saturday, Aug. 16, at 10:30am with lunch, and afternoon services at 1:00pm. Sunday at 10:30am. Elder David Crawford is invited minister. Elder Darren Owens is Pastor of Pleasant Hill.

Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS. Aug. 22-24, 2025. Everyone is invited to the meeting at Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS the 4th weekend in August 2025 (Aug. 22-24). Services Friday night, Aug. 22, at 7:00pm. Saturday, Aug. 23, at 10:30am with lunch. Sunday at 10:30am. Elder Ronald Lawrence is the invited minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS. Aug. 31, 2025. Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS will host the 5th Sunday night fellowship meeting in August 2025 (Aug. 31). Worship at 5:30pm, with supper to follow. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany, and Hopewell Primitive Baptist churches.

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS. Sept. 12-14, 2025. Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, 5 miles west of Ecu, MS on Hwy 346, the 2nd weekend in September, 2025 (Sept. 12-14). Services Friday night, Sept. 12, at 7:00pm. Saturday, Sept. 13, at 10:30am, followed by lunch. Sunday, Sept. 14, at 10:30am, followed by lunch. Elder Michael Gowens is the invited minister. Elder Jeremy Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Tombigbee Fellowship Meeting. New Hope Primitive Baptist Church, Hatley, MS. Sept. 19-20, 2025. The Tombigbee Fellowship Meeting will be held with New Hope Primitive Baptist Church, in Hatley, MS the 3rd weekend in September 2025 (Sept. 19-20). Services Friday night (Sept. 19), with supper at 6:00pm and worship at 7:00pm. Saturday (Sept. 20), at 10:00am with lunch and 1:30pm afternoon services. Elder Tim Cunningham is Pastor of New Hope.

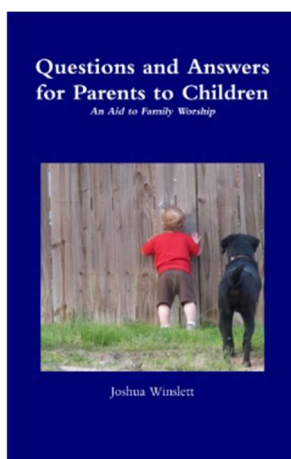
Friendship Primitive Baptist Church, Winona, MS. Sept. 27-28, 2025. Friendship Primitive Baptist Church in Winona, MS will have its annual meeting the 4th weekend in September 2025 (Sept. 27-28) Services Saturday, Sept. 27 at 10:00am followed by lunch and afternoon services. Sunday at 10:30am with lunch. This is an open meeting. Elder B.T. Strum is Pastor of Friendship Church.

Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Maben, MS. Oct. 25-26, 2025. Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church at 55 Tahoe Rd in Maben, MS will have its fall annual meeting the 4th weekend in October 2025 (Oct. 25-26) Services Saturday, Oct. 25 at 10:00am, followed by lunch, and 1:30pm afternoon services. Sunday worship, Oct. 26, at 10:30am with lunch. Elder Tim McCool is the invited minister, and we plan use other ministers to preach as well, as the Spirit guides. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Clear Springs Church.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

My 3 ½ year old grandson, Isaac, likes to watch "Elmo's World" of animals and he was drinking his sippy cup of milk. I asked him did he know where milk came from, hoping to elicit a cow response. Without hesitation he said, "Walmart."
(From June 2018 Glad Tidings, written by Larry Wise)

FEATURED BOOK



**Questions and Answers for Parents to Children,
By Joshua Winslett**

“Questions and Answers to Parents for Children” is a Primitive Baptist catechism and family worship aid from a sovereign grace perspective. It is written in a traditional catechism format. This short work discusses various biblical topics that children might ask their parents. It includes an introduction essay on family worship, instruction on how to use a catechism, questions, answers, verse references, and essays on the doctrines of grace.

You may purchase this book at the link below:

<https://marchtozion.com/books/questions-and-answers-for-parents-to-children/>

You may visit the websites below to find an extensive library of Primitive Baptist books:

<https://www.sovgrace.net/shop/>

<https://marchtozion.com/book-table/>

<https://www.lulu.com/spotlight/dm00769/>

Great Is The Lord, And Greatly To Be Praised

By Elder Clayton Nowell
Headland, Alabama

Part 1. Psalm 48:1: “Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness.”

The greatness of our God gives us great reason to praise Him. And while His greatness is beyond our ability to define, yet it is both our privilege and obligation to give Him glory and honor as we muse upon just how great He is. If we didn’t understand that He is greater than all, then we wouldn’t have reason to praise Him. And perhaps that is why some praise Him so little – because where there is little esteem, there will be little to no praise.

Moreover, He is worthy of our highest praises at all times because He cannot change. Malachi 3:6, says, “For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.” James says He is one “with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.” (James 1:17) What a tremendous blessing that this God is our God! We are blessed to know Him, and to know that there is no god that can be compared to Him. We don’t have to wonder if the gods worshiped by other nations are more powerful than our God. Neither do we have to wonder if other religions have any advantage over Christianity. Our God has made Himself known unto men. And, He has shown us His love, mercy, and power in many ways.

But towering above all aspects of His glorious attributes is the fact that in everything He is, there is holiness. His love is holy love, His mercy is holy mercy, and even His wrath is holy wrath; because whenever it is shown, God has perfect reason for it and the sovereign right to dispense it. Oh, what a glorious privilege to know and love the only True and Living God – who gave His only begotten Son for the sins of His people!

In Old Testament times, God set His name in Jerusalem and commanded that He be worshiped from there. But today, our bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost (see 1st Corinthians 6:19) and His church is to worship Him where ever they are – not just as we assemble corporately, but all through our day – giving thanks to our Father for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life through Him.

May we worship Him privately in great devotion, so that when we come together to worship in His house, we may offer up great and acceptable praises to Him who is Great, and worthy of unlimited praise!

Part 2. Psalm 48:2: “Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King.”

In the natural setting, men like W.M. Thompson have written extensively about how well-situated Mt. Zion was, with many natural defenses, offering great protection to its inhabitants. But friends, I say today that even more magnificent than that great natural city, is the “spiritual” Mount Zion where God dwells among His people now in His Kingdom. There has never been, nor will there ever be a more beautiful and more fortified city than the city of our God. Thus, there is great reason for joy and no reason to fear any enemy, whether people, disease, or anything that troubles us, as we dwell in confident trust of His protection in His kingdom today.

“3 God is known in her palaces for a refuge.” What a blessing to know that “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” (Psalms 46:1) We are never beyond His care. What peace this has afforded His saints down through the ages until this time.

"4 For, lo, the kings were assembled, they passed by together" While we can't tell when this happened, we know God often went before Israel to help those who trusted His care.

"5 They saw it, and so they marvelled; they were troubled, and hasted away. 6 Fear took hold upon them there, and pain, as of a woman in travail." There were times like 2 Chronicles 20:15, where God said, "Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's." Or 2 Kings 7 is another time when the enemy was afraid and fled. And so, no league formed against God's people can prevail when they look to Him, wholly depending upon Him for deliverance. (2 Chronicles 15:2)

"7 Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind." This is easily in His power.

"8 As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God: God will establish it for ever. Selah." We who have heard His life-giving voice that spoke life into our soul, and who now can see His power over all things, can rejoice that even death itself will never have any power over us because "greater is He that is in you, than he that is in the world." (1John 4:4)

May we make use of that "selah" (meaning pause, and consider) this week (and every week), to remind ourselves we have the protection of Almighty God, He secured our eternal salvation through His Son; and if you feel the weight of your sins before this Holy and Righteous God, it is only because He has already shown mercy to your soul and blessed you with His Spirit. The gospel then, can tell you the good news of salvation, and eternal security, only through Jesus Christ. May our lives be a testimony of thankfulness and daily trust in our Great Lord, who sent His Son to save us, and in whom we will safely dwell forever.

Part 3. Psalm 48:9: "We have thought of thy lovingkindness, O God, in the midst of thy temple."

When facing the need for help, it is good to remember how the Lord has helped us in the past. Further, it is such a blessing to meet together with God's people and hear their testimony and praise reports that further remind us how the Lord has blessed. God shows us His lovingkindness in many ways. We have received grace – unmerited favor bestowed upon undeserving individuals. We have enjoyed His mercy.

As Psalm 103 says, "10 He hath not dealt with us after our sins; nor rewarded us according to our iniquities. 11 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his mercy toward them that fear him." All of this, friends, is due to God's lovingkindness for His people that He loved before the foundation of the world. (Eph 1:4, Joh 17:23-24, 2Ti 1:9, et.al.) And so, Ephesians 2 says, "4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with

Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) 6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus: 7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus."

"10 According to thy name, O God, so is thy praise unto the ends of the earth: thy right hand is full of righteousness." As this psalm began, it said, "Great is the Lord our God." So according to THAT name, His praise is great in all the earth. And, there is no scarcity of help and blessings which God supplies in just the right ways: for God knows our need. Thus the hand of the Lord is full of all that we need, and what the Lord supplies is always good and right – right for us, right for others we could help, and right for His name to be praised and glorified because of His goodness and mercy upon us and those we love.

"11 Let mount Zion rejoice, let the daughters of Judah be glad, because of thy judgments." Today, that's the church of the Lord Jesus Christ. God's people rejoicing in being blessed of the Lord to know that "great is the Lord our God." As it was in the Old Testament, so is He today! What they receive of His judgments shall always be right. Therefore, let the Lord's people rejoice who know how blessed they are, and who understand that God is great and mighty to save! Let us rejoice in His judgments which are right and good. When we rejoice in His glory, we are exalting Jesus Christ as our Savior and soon returning King because this has been God's purpose from before time, and the means of saving His people from their sins rested solely in His perfect sacrifice. Thus, the greatest provision of His goodness and the greatest expression of His mercy and grace are both to be found in the finished work of His Son, Jesus Christ.

May we worship Him privately in great devotion, so that when we come together to worship in His house, we may offer up great and acceptable praises to Him who is Great, and worthy of unlimited praise!

REGENERATION AND RESURRECTION

By J. Harvey Daily (Deceased)

Jesus said, "As the Father raiseth up the dead and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom He will." John 5:21. Our Lord here teaches that there is a similarity between regeneration and resurrection. When the dead are raised it will not be a gradual change, but "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet," the dead shall rise. Even so when a man is born of the spirit it is not a gradual refining of his corrupt inclinations, but a powerful quickening of the Holy Spirit. There can be no space between life and death. There is a travel in experience. "As many as are led by the Spirit of God they are the sons of God." They do not become children by being led. Life

must precede action. It could not be the result of the choice or will of the dead sinner that they receive life any more than can it be the result of the will or choice of the grave. It is the will and choice of God.

When the dead are raised they come up incorruptible. This will be a great change. So it is in the new birth. In the washing of regeneration, sin with its evil effects is removed. The sting of death is sin, and this sting must be removed. The strength of sin is the law, but the spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made us free from the law of sin and death. The spirit thus changed will never die. That which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Though the thief on the cross was condemned, justly condemned to die, and right at the door of hell, with a life of sin and crime coming up on every side, yet our Savior, by His power could take them all on Himself and justly, quicken and sanctify that sinner in a moment, and assure him that he was soon, even that day to be with Him on glory.

As the Saviour has quickened the sinner's spirit in time, so will the body be quickened in the resurrection. When He comes for the body He will find it dead and entirely helpless. Corruption will not hinder Him from calling in a way that they can hear. No weakness, pain, sickness or death shall then bother them. We will then be fit to meet the Son of righteousness as He ushers us into a cloudless, eternal day. What a Saviour we have.

(From "Advocate and Messenger", December, 1942)

THE PERSECUTED

Elder Ben Cordes

Lexington, Kentucky

(Part 8 of 8 in Series on The Beatitudes)

"10) Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11) Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute [you], and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake. 12) Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." (Matt. 5:10-12)

The final Beatitude of the Lord Jesus expresses blessings for the elect of God who suffer. The suffering that is addressed is not to be understood as illness or afflictions that arise due to poor health. Persecution is when a person suffers hostility at the hands of others who reject that person's beliefs.

The Bible details many instances of people who suffered persecution for their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible records the prophets, including John the Baptist, the apostles, and other disciples were persecuted, almost all of them to the point of death.

"33) Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, 34) Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. 35) Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection: 36) And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: 37) They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; 38 (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth." (Heb. 11:33-38)

The story of the Christian faith reveals a history of persecution. However, the most notable persecution was the suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ. In some ways the story of Christ's suffering is so commonly understood that it does not carry with it the passionate response that it perhaps had on us when we first heard the account of Christ's afflictions. Nevertheless, we must remember that Jesus Christ is God in the flesh. The King of Heaven and Earth descended to dwell among men and wasn't warmly received, but rather suffered abuse and death at the hands of men. May the effect of the gospel story never become dull to us.

It is absolutely contrary to our mortal nature to choose suffering. However, Christ showed us that He knew persecution would be what sinful men would express in response to the holy and virtuous words that Jesus spoke. It was His intention to save sinful men through His death knowing that the recipients of His salvation were also at enmity with Him.

As Christians, it is our duty to follow the example that Jesus Christ has set before us. To live in faithful obedience to God the Father in whatever scenario of life we may exist. Through bliss and ease, and through trials and torment. There is no greater cause for living or suffering than to do so for the belief in Jesus Christ. Though no one wishes suffering or death upon themselves, or others, yet it is the potential we must accept when we commit ourselves to living a Christian life.

In general, the martyrs (those who are killed because they refuse to renounce their belief in Jesus Christ) are acknowledged in the scriptures for their unwavering faith. They are highlighted for their confidence, not in their faith, but in the object of their faith, that is Jesus Christ. The Savior sees when His people suffer for His name's sake, and He cares. Augustine said, "It is not the punishment, but the cause which makes the martyr." Augustine was correct since it is no ordinary thing for which the persecuted are willing to suffer; it is the infallible, eternal, glorious Son of God to whom the whole earth shall bend their knees

at His return (Phil. 2:10). People can die for various reasons, but it is the person who dies because they lived for Jesus that becomes a martyr.

The persecuted are blessed to know that they have a kingdom that awaits them. The martyr will close his eyes in this world at death and will open them in the glory of God's paradise where his faith is made complete. Those who suffer for the truth and their most deeply held belief in Christ Jesus are made assured by God that Whom they suffer for is worthy. Since Jesus, who knew no sin, was willing to suffer for sinners like us, we should also be willing to suffer for Him. We need to be thankful for the time of peace in which we live, though such peace isn't guaranteed to continue. We cannot allow the peace we now experience to soften our commitment and cause our faith to weaken. Let all who follow Jesus repeat the motto, "Till death!" May we all be happy, even as our fathers and mothers in the faith were, to live, suffer, and die for Christ, who gave His all for us.

A TENDER PLANT

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Isaiah 53:2: "For he shall grow up before him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: he hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him."

This is a prophecy of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in the flesh to redeem his children. The prophecies start with calling him as a Tender Plant. The gospel speaks of him coming forth from the womb like a tender plant into the world. **Luke 2:16: "And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." The Lord came not as a grown man, but as an infant subject to frailty, disease as any child that comes into the world.** If someone had a desire to do him any harm such as Herod he couldn't raise his tiny arm to protect himself, so God the Father sent word to Joseph to hide the babe down in Egypt. **Matthew 2:13: "And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him."** Jesus willingly subjected himself to all these dangers making himself as a tender plant.

As a root out of a dry ground. Another disadvantage a tender plant can have is the soil in which they are planted. Here he is described as a root in dry ground. That is not the best of ground for a tender plant to grow out of. Soil with sufficient amounts of moisture is the ideal environment for a plant to grow

from. When Joseph brought Christ out of Egypt, he was taken to Nazereth and raised there. **Matthew 2:15: "And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son."** **Matthew 2:23: "And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene."** We look at the dry ground as a figure of the spiritual environment of Nazareth. In Palestine the best religious environment would be down on Jerusalem where the temple was. There was where the priest lived. The Pharisees, the Sadducees. It was the best ground for religious prosperity. Nazareth was not the best environment for a child to be raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They just had synagogues for worship. Great men of religious education did not live in Nazareth They were taught in the temple by other great men. To think that the greatest preacher of them all. One who was Prophet, Priest, and King the son of a lowly carpenter who had not letters of great religious training, and would come out of Nazareth was just unthinkable at the time. I believe that all of this points to the glory of God. For our Savior to come as a tender plant out of a dry ground shows that it did not come from man, but it came from God! This is the work of our marvelous God! May all praise and glory be to his holy name! (R.L. Taylor)

GLORIOUS PLACE—HEAVEN

A widely respected man known as "Uncle Johnson" died in Michigan at the incredible age of 120. Perhaps his advanced years could be credited in part to the cheerful outlook that characterized his life. One day while at work in his garden, he was singing songs of praise to God. His pastor, who was passing by, looked over the fence and called, "Uncle Johnson, you seem very happy today." "Yes, I was just thinking," said the old man. "Thinking about what?" questioned his pastor. "Oh, I was just thinking that if the crumbs of joy that fall from the Master's table in this world are so good, what will the great loaf in glory be like! I tell you, sir, there will be enough for everyone and some to spare up there." - Source Unknown (June 2018 Glad Tidings)

What a day that will be, When my Jesus I shall see
And I look upon his face, The one who saved me by his grace.
When he takes me by the hand,
And leads me through the Promised Land,
What a day, glorious day that will be!

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