

Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church

"Where the Truths of God's Word Have Been Taught for Sixty-One Years" Since October 21, 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

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Please Join Us As We Pray For:

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, and Brother Philip Thornsberry, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Buckie Thompson, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Tyrell Loyd, Ted O'Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, cousin Kayla, Lee & Mary Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ronnie Henderson Jr. & Children, Ricky Henderson and Family, Velma Hammond, Don Hammond and Families, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Gina and Kirk, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Vickie Adkins, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Elder Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Roselyn Pardillo and Family and those that work with her, Hailey Beaver, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Dakota Sutton, Sister Velma Hammond, Adrienne Lavina, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

Honoring Our Father.

*"As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God. (17)
Honour all men. Love the brotherhood. Fear God. Honour the king." 1 Peter 2:16 - 17*

As Christians we have a duty in this life on this earth, it is to honor our Heavenly Father. When God tells us "*As free, and not using your liberty for a cloke of maliciousness*" the word "cloke" means a veil or mask for sinfulness. The complaint most "imitation Christians" have with Baptist in salvation is the "once saved always saved" thought gives us a license to freely sin. While they have no idea what eternal security is all about or what Jesus dying once and for all means, I understand their thinking, even though they are wrong. Christians have a blessed liberty in Jesus Christ because when He went to the cross, He carried our sins with Him, condemning Him to die. The Lord said the Just for the unjust. "*For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:*" 1 Peter 3:18 The very moment He died and shed His blood we were cleansed. We are not cleansed when we are saved, because our salvation is manifested when we are saved. The very act of our cleansing was when Jesus shed His blood. Salvation is an eternal process, it started in eternity past, it goes through earthly time, and into eternity future which is simply called eternity. However, salvation is our gift from God the Father, we are adopted into His eternal family as children. We belong to God, we were bought and paid for with the death, burial, resurrection, and blood of Jesus the Christ. As being a child of the King, we have standards to live by, and those standards are the scriptures. We are not to abuse our freedom from sin with sinning. We are not to mask our sinfulness with our salvation, because it is our freedom from sin. Jesus did not die and shed His blood so that we can live anyway we choose. We are to live "*as the servants of God.*" That is honoring our Heavenly Father in our earthly walk. "*Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called. Art thou called being a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use it rather. For he that is called in the Lord, being a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, being free, is Christ's servant.*" 1 Corinthians 7:20 - 22 Being free is freedom from our enslavement to sin, being free from our punishment for sin, we are not free to sin and use the blood of our Saviour as a covering. God said, "*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.*"

Galatians 5:16, 25 Walking in the flesh as though God doesn't mind is a big mistake. If we are not Loving the brotherhood, and fearing God then we certainly are not Honoring our King. We are not just children but also servants, and God told us "*Servants, be subject to your masters with all fear*", fear is what keeps us walking in righteousness, without our fear of our Father we will fall into sin. Our life on this earth as Christians is a reflection on our Heavenly Father and our Saviour Jesus. Just as our walk as church members is a reflection on our churches. People look at Christians and think that they (the lost sinner) are just as good as a Christian because they see some walk sinfully. When a lost soul looks at a Christian, they should see the work of God and the power of Jesus in us and our walk. As Christians we are to be walking testimonies of the work and power of God. Honoring our Heavenly Father, a glory to our Saviour, and a good reflection to what your church is about. Keep these words in your heart, "Your time belongs to your master; obey him in everything that is not sinful" -Adam Clarke.

He who counts the stars!

By Charles Spurgeon

"He heals the brokenhearted, binding up their wounds. He counts the stars and calls them all by name. How great is our Lord! His power is absolute! His understanding is beyond comprehension!"
Psalm 147:3-5

He who counts the stars and calls them by their names, is in no danger of forgetting His own children! He knows your case as thoroughly as if you were the only creature He ever made, or the only saint He ever loved!

It is most important for us to learn, that the smallest trifles are as much arranged by the God of Providence, as the most startling events. He who counts the stars — has also numbered the hairs of our heads. Our lives and deaths are predestined — but so, also, are our sitting down and our rising up! "Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered!" Matthew 10:29-30

We shall only sink into the everlasting arms!

Copied, Author unknown

If we are held in the clasp of the everlasting arms — we need not fear that we shall ever be separated from the enfolding. "Underneath." They are always underneath us. No matter how low we sink in weakness, in fainting, in pain, in sorrow — we never can sink below these everlasting arms. We can never drop out of their clasp!

God's love is deeper than human sorrow. Sorrow is very deep, but still and forever, in the greatest grief — these arms of Divine love are underneath the believing sufferer.

God's love is deeper than death. When every earthly support is gone from beneath us, when every human arm unclasps and every face fades from before our eyes, and we sink away into what seems darkness and the shadow of death — we shall only sink into the everlasting arms!

Drop your plummet into the deepest sea of sorrow, and at the end of your soundings: "Underneath are the everlasting arms!"

What abiding consolation! What all-embracing, never-failing strength!

Church News:

Happy Birthday Sister Sarah Henderson Tuesday January 03

Happy Birthday Brother Ronnie Henderson Sr. Wednesday January 04