

SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Where The Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For More Than Fifty-Eight Years" Since 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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"A Church Seeking To Please God In Prayer, Song, Preaching, And Worship."

Please Join Us As We Pray For:

All of Our Military, Their Family's & All the Civilian Workers in The Middle East, 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, Frankie Baldrige and daughter, 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 Poole, Danny & Nita Mollette, their cousin Kayla, The Muncy Family, Lee & Mary Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Matthew Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ronnie Henderson Jr. & Children, Ricky Henderson and Family, Velma Hammond, Don Hammond and Families, Donna Johnson, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Gina, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Diane Thomas, Clair and Jace Fails, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Carolyn Davis, Vickie Adkins, Shirley King, Tim Thomas and the Thomas family, Brother Dan Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergey Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

The Pastors Message:

God's Sovereignty Part 1

Subject: Introduction

Ephesians 1:4 – 14

It is very clear that some people do not take the time and initiative to learn the truth about God but somehow seem to be scholars in the scriptures. I was taught by my mentor Elder Harace Hammond many things about my study of the scriptures. Pastor Hammond was a well learned man, just a few hours short of a PhD and a school teacher for many decades of his life. As young minister I looked up to him as a man I could learn from, and to this very day I still respect what him for taught me. Pastor Hammond first taught me to understand God as much as I could, because to study God is to understand Him, His thinking, His works, and how He had predestinated the order of things to be. Because you will never understand God's word if you do not rightly understand it's Author. Secondly, Pastor Hammond taught me that the bible was written in absolute context, even though it was written over thousands of years and by many different people, they we all led and inspired by the Holy Spirit and therefore the entire document was in absolute context, without question! Thirdly, Since the scriptures was authored by God thru The Holy Spirit it was not only written in "absolute context" also there was "no contradiction" in the entire scriptures from Genesis to Revelation or the beginning to the end. He taught me that God is the same and He never changes nor does the meaning or purpose of His word change, only people change. I have learned this all to be valuable information in my ministry from a man God put into my life for a period to teach me wisdom and how to rightly study and learn the bible. What a gracious God We have.

For a few weeks I want to take a little time to expound on a few things I have been blessed to learn over the many years that I have studied the bible in context and without contradiction. I have first learned that God is Sovereign, and by that word I mean that God created and absolutely controls everything in creation. God left nothing to chance, God left nothing outside of His Sovereign will or control. We will see and understand that God elects, predestinates, ordains, and foreordains, we will learn that God saves sinners, and that sinners do not save themselves. We will learn that we bless God only in returning the blessings that He has blessed us with first. We will learn that salvation is a gift and blessing from God and not and

from any action or choosing of our own. God saves sinners, sinners do not save themselves. We will learn what it means to be a "child of God", that these are not just words but an absolute reality. We will learn about the eternal covenant between the Father and Son before the foundation of the world, when the Father presented His elect to the Son as a gift with the fore-ordained His plan that the Son come to this world born of a woman in the "likeness of sinful flesh" Romans 8:3, "who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death" Hebrews 2:9 to redeem them all.

I know there are so many who do not see these truths in the scriptures either because they have never been taught them, or they simply outright reject them. Folks, please understand, the Sovereignty of God is not a "past thought" nor has it outlived its usefulness. God is the same and He never changes, in thought or actions, therefore please understand that the past truths of the scriptures are also today's truths, no matter how the world changes. God said, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever. Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein." Hebrews 13:8 – 9

If you use the scriptures "our-of-context" or outright reject what you read or base your thinking on religious doctrine or tradition you will never understand the truth and will worship in a lie until you die. God said, "And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." Romans 1:23 – 25 You will never understand the scriptures if you never see them as written, in context, and without contradiction. If you do not truly understand God, you will never understand His word. This is the starting point of learning about God and His word, GOD IS SOVEREIGN! Therefore, all of God's actions are sovereign, all of God's wills are sovereign, and all of God's works are sovereign.

It is here in Ephesians Chapter 1 that you will find "the right understanding" of God's Sovereignty, if you study with me you will see many truth's about God and His workings. Please continue with our study.

This Sea of Love!

By Charles Spurgeon, From his sermon "The Shulamites Choice Prayer"

Christian, turn it over in your mind — "Christ loves you!" not a little; not a little as a man may love his friend; not even as a mother may love her child; for she may forget the infant of her womb.

Jesus loves you with the highest degree of love that is possible; and what more can I say, except I add, he loves you with a degree of love that is utterly impossible to man.

No finite mind could, if it should seek to measure it, get any idea whatever of the love of Christ towards us.

You know, when we come to measure a drop with an ocean, there is a comparison. A comparison I say there is, though we should hardly be able to get at it; but when you attempt to measure our love with Christ's, the finite with the infinite, there is no comparison at all.

Though we loved Christ ten thousand times as much as we do, there would even then be no comparison between our love to him and his love to us. Can you believe this now? — "Jesus, loves me!"

Why, to be loved by others here on earth often brings the tear to one's eye. It is sweet to have the affection of one's fellow; but to be LOVED BY GOD, and to be loved so intense — so loved that you have to leave it as a mystery the soul cannot fathom — you cannot tell how much!

Be silent, O my soul! and be silent too before your God,
and lift up your soul in prayer thus —

"Jesus, take me into this Sea of Love, and let me be ravished
by a sweet and heavenly contentment in a sure confidence that
you have loved me and given yourself for me."