

# SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Where The Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For More Than Fifty-Nine Years" Since October 21, 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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## 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, 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, Danny Mollette, cousin Kayla, 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, Jace Fails, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Carolyn Davis, Vickie Adkins, Shirly King - Son David – and family, Brother Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, Christel and her daughter, James Jackson and wife, David Henderson and Wife, Hailey Renee McManus, Little Cam Works, Brother Dan Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergey Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

## The Pastors Thoughts:

### What Is Man?

*"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;" Romans 3:9.*

People are described by God as miserable, unholy, wretched, and sinful beings. Mankind, which includes all human beings are not good in any way. God gives a very ugly description of people right here in Romans 3. He says He is talking about both Jews and Gentiles, *"What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin;"* Romans 3:9 People are only good in their own eye's or other peoples eye's but not in God's eye's, we are "...men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness" Romans 1:18, in verse 21 God said, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.", in verse 22 God said they think of themselves as wise but are only fools, in verse 23 God said, "And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man" God is Sovereign, all wise, all powerful, all gracious, all saving, and ETC. nothing like man, but people make God out to a lesser than them, God said in verse 24 "Wherfore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts..." God don't want them therefore God cast them to believe the devils doctrine in their own hearts. God went farther in verse 25 "Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator..." They deny the True God and worship the lesser god that is humanism, "I can do this on my own". Verse 26 "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections..." They can have their Paganism, their self-salvation, they can hate the true God and Saviour and worship themselves, God gave them up, no hope for them. Why, why did God give them up, verse 28 "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind..." God said in verse 31 people are "Without understanding..." that is of the True God, True Saviour, or the workings of the True Holy Spirit, therefore they worship a fake humanistic god that Satan has set in their evil hearts instead of the True God. People are totally depraved, God said, "I know that there is no good in them, but for a man to rejoice, and to do good in his life." Ecclesiastes 3:12 God went on to describe people this way "...There is none righteous, no, not one:" Romans 3:10, verse 11 says "There is none that understandeth..." they do not understand God in any way, so they reject the trye God. Then still in verse 11 God said, "...there is none that seeketh after God." They do not even want God. God went on in verse 12 "...they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."

And in verse 17 God said, “...the way of peace have they not known”. This is a description of total depravity that many rejects, although these same rejectors also are the ones God is talking about. We must recognize that in us is not good, we are unable to save ourselves, we need a Saviour and that Saviour is Jesus Christ. Jesus said, "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." Matthew 11:28 – 30 So, what is man, worthless outside of Jesus Christ and a child of God in Christ Jesus!

### **The Bible Is Not Enough**

By Curtis Pugh

We hold the Bible in highest esteem. It is the Word of God. It tells us all that we need to know about salvation and how to live a life that is pleasing to God. But a mere head-knowledge of the Bible will not save. The Bible says that “knowledge puffeth up,” (1 Corinthians 8:1). We fear there are a great many professing Christians who have only the kind of head-knowledge that results in pride and confidence in their ability to obey the Bible.

Other than the Bible, what is needed for a sinner to be saved? The Lord Jesus said, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again,” (John 3:6, 7). While the Bible is the Word of God, the Bible is not the Holy Spirit. Jesus said that a birth brought about by the Spirit is necessary for salvation. That is why we say that the Bible is not enough. We note that the Greek word for “born again” found in the original language of the Bible is more often translated “from above.” The King James Bible – if you have a complete one – bears this out. It has a note in the margin that says, “again – from above”.

There is not a verse in the Bible that says do this or that and you will be born again. Jesus said, “The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit,” (John 3:8). No man controls the wind. And no one controls whether or not he or she is born from above. Since a lost man – a natural man – cannot do anything to please God, no act of obedience can induce God to birth a sinner into God's family.

“What? Someone cries out – a natural man cannot please God?” That is what the Bible says in Romans 8:8: “So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.” It is a mistaken idea that praying the sinner's prayer (whatever that is), going forward in a religious meeting, being baptized, making a decision for Christ, or doing any other thing will cause God to look favorably upon a lost sinner. How can a sinner please God? The next verse, Romans 8:9 tells us, “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.” The Holy Spirit of God must of His own will move into a lost person in the new birth before a person can please God. Lost person, you are entirely dependent upon God. Have no confidence in the flesh. “Ye must be born again.”

### **Church News.**

These are the Conferences that our Pastor has agreed to speak this year.

Bible Conference on March 26 – 28 Pastor Johnson will be speaking at Northside Baptist Church in Oakdale, LA. Pastor Larry Wilson Please join us if you can.

Bible Conference: on May 28 – 30 Pastor Johnson will be speaking at Grace Bible Baptist Church in Denham Springs, LA. Pastor Robert Keller Please join us if you can.

Our Conference is scheduled for September 17 – 18 this year.