

Spiritual Meditations

Choice selections from the letters and diary of Mary Winslow, (1774-1854).
From her writings "Walking with Jesus!"

The Christian Journey. Life is a journey, often a short one, and always uncertain. But there is another journey. The believer is traveling through a waste howling wilderness, to another and a glorious region, where ineffable delight and happiness await us. The road is narrow, the entrance strait, so strait that thousands miss it and perish in the wilderness. But true believers, under the teaching and convoy of the Holy Spirit, find it and walk in it. The King, in His infinite love and compassion, has made a hedge about them, separating and defending them from the many beasts of prey that lurk around them; and although they hear their howlings and behold their threatenings, they are safe from their power. But their strongest foe is within themselves; a heart deceitful above all things and desperately wicked. From this there is no escape but by constant watchfulness, and earnest cries to their best Friend and Guide for protection. Were it not for this faithful Guide, how often, discouraged by reason of the way, would they turn back! But He watches over them by night and by day, strengthens them when weak, upholds them when falling, encourages them when cast down, defends them when attacked, provides for them when in need, leads them by living streams, and causes them there to lie down in pleasant pastures, and on sunny banks. And as they advance they obtain brighter views of the good land they are nearing, and they long to see the King in His beauty, and the land that is yet very far off, and to meet those that have already arrived on that happy shore.

Let us keep our eye and our hearts upon our blessed home. Earth is but a stage erected as our passage to the place Jesus has gone to prepare for us. What a place must that be which infinite power and love has engaged to provide! Oh, let us not lose sight of Heaven for a moment. How prone are we to allow our minds and hearts (treacherous hearts!) to become entangled with the baubles of a dying world. No wonder Christ exhorted us to watch and pray. Heaven is our home; our happy home. We are but strangers and pilgrims here. Try and realize it. Let us keep ourselves ready to enter with Him to the marriage supper of the Lamb. In a little while, and we shall see Him, not as the 'Man of sorrows,' but the 'King in His beauty.' Then let us fight against earth and all its false attractions, for it passes away.

God is my Shepherd, and all my concerns are in His hands. Blessed, forever blessed, be His dear and holy name, who has looked with everlasting mercy on such a poor, vile sinner as me; and encouraged me with such sweet manifestations of His love, to trust my soul and all my interests in His hands!

"Sin darkens the eye and hardens the heart."

Today is February 11, 2024

Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church

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

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

(903) 490-3048

Pastor E-Mail: pastor.johnson@sgmbaptist.com

Pastors Blog: sgmbcpastor.blogspot.com

Church Web Site: www.sgmbaptist.com

Church Facebook: www.facebook.com/sgmbcpastor

****Our Prayer List****

"Pray without ceasing." 1 Thess. 5:17

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Ted O'Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Jerry Hughes, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family, Baby Titus Massey, Shane and Brook Sims, Ricky Bennett, Nick, Madison, and Baby Emory Patty, Bill Gossett, and Russell York, Brother Medic, Sister Mhalyn Lavina and children.

****Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works****

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." Acts 1:8

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.

"A Message from Pastor Johnson"

"Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof..." 1st Peter 5:2

Lies are sin.

*"A false witness shall not be unpunished, and he that speaketh lies shall perish."
Proverbs 19:9*

We all need to be very careful how we speak to others. We are responsible to God for how we conduct ourselves and that includes controlling our tongue. God never has lied, lying is from Satan and when Christians lie, they are disobeying God and doing the will of Satan. God said of Satan in John 8:44 *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it."* Now, while here God is speaking about lost people God never approves of His children lying. It is true that Jesus Christ died and shed His blood for all our sins, however, we do not have the freedom to sin. When Christians lie it is one of the worst sins that we can do because it shows us doing the will of Satan and not the will of God, and as God said, we cannot serve two masters. *"No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."* Luke 16:13 Therefore, while we are serving Satan in our disobedience to God, we are serving the will of Satan. God said that we are only in fellowship with Him while we are serving Him in spirit and truth. *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."* John 4:24 The truth here is in the truth of His word which boldly tells us not to lie. Because liars are what we were before God graciously saved us from. *"But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. (9) Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds;"* Colossians 3:8 Spreading rumors is the same a telling lie, because rumors are almost always lies. It has been said *"rumors are like ringing a bell, easy to start and hard to stop"*. God said in 1 Timothy 5:13 *"And without they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house; and not only idle, but tattlers also and busybodies, speaking things which they ought not."* A "tattler" is one who is always meddling in other people's business or affairs, never having all the facts, and are out telling rumors of misunderstanding which are classified as lies. A "busybodies" is one who has nothing to do but to busy themselves so they find their main employment by looking into the affairs of their neighbors and friends.

A Message from Pastor Johnson, Continued

God said these people are walking in a disorderly manner. *"For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies."* 2 Thessalonians 3:11

As Christians we need to be careful in our Christian walk and not to walk disorderly because that is what Jesus saved us from. Christians ought not never lie to anyone or talk about rumors or to be nosing around in other people's business. It is not true until we know the truth, and partial truths are not enough facts to tell it. As Christians the last thing we should ever do is to walk disorderly. When Christians walk disorderly, they are not in fellowship with God. *"But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin."* 1 John 1:7 Christians ought to never lie, not even if we think it is for the good. Repeating rumors is never a Christian walk because the very definition of rumor is telling uncertain facts.

Church Information and Happenings.

Happy Birthday to Sister Dawana Reigel Thursday September 15th

Prayer for Spiritual Strength

"For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named, That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man; That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, May be able to comprehend with all saints what is the breadth, and length, and depth, and height; And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God. Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen." Ephesians 3:14-21