

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, Sister Ann McSwain, 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:

The Mysterious Holy Spirit.

"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

The wind blows and we have no idea from where it came or where it is going, you just feel the breeze of the air blowing. The same is with the Holy Spirit, He comes from somewhere, touches a lost soul and goes elsewhere. This is a glorious contrast by the Lord, salvation is of the Lord and comes from nowhere by the Holy Spirit. Look at Saul of Tarsus, one moment he is persecuting the church and the next as he was chasing them toward Damascus when Jesus stopped him and saved his wicked soul. This man Nicodemus who was a "ruler of the Jews" hated Jesus as much as Saul of Tarsus did. Nicodemus came to Jesus **by night** because he was ashamed to be seen with him. This hatred that these men had for Jesus was the "doctrine of the Jews" it is their own teaching not the Old Testament. God never teaches hate, God teaches love. *"And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."* 1 Corinthians 13:13 God also said there is not greater love than for a man to lay down his life for another Christian. *"This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. (13) Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."* John 15:12 – 13 God's love to us is shown by the very fact that God's own Son died for every believer. *"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren."* 1 John 3:16 It is this word "perceive" that means we "know" the love of God because Jesus Christ died for us by God own will. Therefore, hate is not Christian, it is not ever to be extended to those that hate us or despitefully use us. *"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"* Matthew 5:44 So the hate that the Jews had and have for Christians is not godly, it is evil and intolerance in their evil hearts. Both of these men, Saul of Tarsus and Nicodemus came to Jesus by the power of the Holy Spirit, neither ever thought they would ever be called Christians. When Jesus told Nicodemus *"...Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."* He meant he must be born of God from above, people are not born of their own free will or by choice or decision. In John 3:5 Jesus was saying you are born of God like your natural birth, God births by the power of the Holy Spirit. God gave the churches one order, to preach the gospel to the world, God never ordered the churches to bargain, plead, trick, or to beg people to come to Christ. We have

nothing to do with the birthing process, we are only to preach the gospel and the Holy Spirit does the rest. The Holy Spirit work in mysterious ways, we never know where He is working or where He will go next. He is compared to the unseeable wind that comes and goes as God ordained. Let us remember the story of the dry bones in Ezekiel 37:1-14 When the prophet saw a valley full of dead bones; he prophesied to the dry bones, but the Spirit came and gave the bones life. The gospel is just words, no power, and no saving ability without the power of the Holy Spirit, but we never know when He is going to save a lost soul, therefore we preach to the world. Nicodemus, Saul of Tarsus, and all other religious Jews believed the same Satanic produced doctrine, that hating and killing Christians was Godly. However, by the power of God and the workings of the mysterious Holy Spirit both Nicodemus, and Saul of Tarsus, were saved because Jesus spoke to them and the Holy Spirit saved them. We never know from where He will come, when He will come, but we do know if a lost sinner is saved then He has been here working His power of life giving.

Let me conclude with these words, *“But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. (11) For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God. (12) Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.”* 1 Corinthians 2:10 - 12

In The Sight Of God

By J.C. Ryle

“For we are not as many, which corrupt the word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.” 2 Corinthians 2:17

We should aim to speak as “IN THE SIGHT OF GOD.” We are not to ask ourselves, “What did the people think of me?” but, “What was I in the sight of God?” Latimer was once called upon to preach before Henry VIII, and he began his sermon in the following manner: “Latimer! Latimer! Do you remember that you are speaking before the high and mighty King Henry VIII, before the one who has power to command you to be sent to prison, before the one who can have your head chopped if it pleases him to do so? Won’t you be careful to say nothing that will offend the royal ear?” Then after a pause, he went on: “Latimer! Latimer” Don’t you remember that you are speaking before the KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, before the One at the bar of whose judgment HENRY VIII WILL STAND, before the One to whom one day you will have to give account yourself? Latimer! Latimer! Be faithful to your Master and declare God’s Word.” Oh that this may be the spirit in which we may always step down from our pulpits, not caring wither men are pleased or displeased, not caring whether men say we were eloquent or a poor speaker, BUT going away with a conscience which testifies that “I have spoken as in the sight of God” [2 Corinthians 2:17].

Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord.

By Charles H. Spurgeon

Christ will be master of the heart, and sin must be mortified.

If your life is unholy, then your heart is unchanged, and you are an unsaved person.

The Savior will sanctify His people, renew them, give them a hatred of sin, and a love of holiness.

The grace that does not make a man better than others is a worthless counterfeit.

Christ saves His people,

not IN their sins,

but FROM their sins.

Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord.

Church News:

Happy Birthday to Sister Dawana Reigel Monday February 15th