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 February 26, 2023 Newsletter Number 901

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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, 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, Brother and Sister White in Silsbee, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

Godliness

"Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." 2 Timothy 3:12

When God saves a lost sinner, that person has a whole new life. They are "translated" or transferred from the power of darkness which had them spiritually blinded to Jesus, His light, and His power. Colossians 1:13 "Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:" The word "kingdom" here is not heaven itself but rather "the sovereignty, royal power, dominion of God or Christ" Vines goes on to say, "denoting the territory or people over whom a king rules". The transfer here is like unto Enoch who was taken from the earth and moved to where God moved him without death. While Enoch was transferred body, soul, and spirit, it is our spirit being quickened by God and us given a new nature allowing us to walk in a new nature by being born again, anew by God. It is our new ability to see those things of God, and our ability to walk to please God because now light has come and we are now responsible to walk in that light or in godliness. All things become new in our new birth; old things of that darkness are passed away. 2 Corinthians 5:17 "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." He is new because God has translated him in His light that enables him to see, and that carries the responsibility to walk anew. 2 Corinthians 5:15 "And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." You are not your own, but you have been bought by the death, burial, resurrection, and blood of Jesus, or you have been redeemed. Jesus now owns you and you belong to Him, to live, walk, and have your whole being of life living for Him, walking godly in this world. Our new goal in life is to walk in our new life not pleasing ourselves, family, or worldliness, but God. "That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;" Colossians 1:10 While none of us are ever going to accomplish a full and perfect walk, it is our goal as being God's children. We have no excuse not to fully walk in full godliness in this world. When we are judged by Jesus Christ, our judgment will not be for our sins, because Jesus has paid them in full. Our judgment will be for our walk of godliness, our understanding and walk in the scriptures. If we are walking correctly by the scriptures, we will not be walking in wordlessness as those who cannot see. They (the lost) have no responsibility to walk in

godliness because they are dead to godliness. God said of the believer, "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 You cannot serve God and Satan, you cannot live in the new light and old darkness, because they do not mix and one will cause you to hate the other. There is no compromise, one (the world) is darkness and the other (light) is godliness, and (darkness) hates the light of righteousness. Don't mistake worldly moral goodness with godliness, they are as different and light and darkness. Moral values on this earth are not godliness, while moral values can be linked to godliness the moral values of this world differs from godliness. Today good moral values in this world are to accept abortion as a good moral valve, homosexuality as good, among other things that are ungodly. None of these are acceptable as godliness no matter what the world believes. As Christians we must separate the two, because accepting worldly goodness is to deny godliness. This is what God means when He said, "... Ye cannot serve God and mammon." One will cause you to deny and even hate the other. Jesus went on to say if you "...will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." If we walk in godliness, we will suffer persecution for our spiritual walk. Because we will not agree with worldly morals but walk in godliness. We are not to hate those that oppresses us for being Christians, but we are not to give into their sinfulness, understanding that God opposes their sinfulness, and our agreeing with them appears that God aproves. The Lord reminds us, "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 Living in the Spirit is living in the Truth of the scriptures, and if we do our walk in this world will be in the Spirit.

When we eat an apple

By John Newton

Acts 17:11, "Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true."

Brethren, remember your exalted privilege—you have the Bible in your hands, and are not bound to follow books or preachers any farther than what they teach agrees with the Oracles of Truth. We have great reason to be thankful for the instructions and writings of spiritual men—but they are all fallible, even as ourselves. One is our master, even Christ—what He says, we are to receive implicitly. We do not owe implicit subjection to the best of our fellow-creatures. The Bereans were commended because they would not implicitly believe even the Apostle Paul—but searched the Scriptures to see whether the things which he taught were true. May the Lord give us a spirit of humility and discernment in all things.

When we eat an apple—we usually first cut out the blemishes, then eat what is good, and lastly throw the core away. Such a rule I would observe in reading human authors—the best may be defective, and the wisest may be mistaken. We are not only permitted, but enjoined, to call no man master!

2 Timothy 3:16-17, "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Church News!

- Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 12 Do not forget to Spring your clocks forward one hour.
- The church will observe the Lord's Supper next Sunday Morning after the service.

Galatians 5:1

"Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage."