

# 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, Gordon, 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:***

### **Choosing to serve God.**

*"Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth: and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the flood, and in Egypt; and serve ye the LORD. (15) And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD. (16) And the people answered and said, God forbid that we should forsake the LORD, to serve other gods; (17) For the LORD our God, he it is that brought us up and our fathers out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage, and which did those great signs in our sight, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went, and among all the people through whom we passed: (18) And the LORD drave out from before us all the people, even the Amorites which dwelt in the land: therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God." Joshua 24:14 - 18*

God demands to be served and worshiped, God is a jealous God, and He does not share His glory with any one or thing. If you are going to worship God then do not worship anything or anyone else, this includes self-worship. We see the Israelites throughout the Old Testament worshipping Idols as well as self. We see people and worship centers all over the world worshipping idols and self. As Christians the command is to worship and serve God, no other worship is acceptable to God.

Joshua tells us to "*fear the LORD*" and this means to "Reverence him as the sole object of your personal life and religious worship". Fearing God is accepting Him as the Sovereign of the universe with absolute power and authority. One cannot worship God if they do not first fear Him, fear is what keeps us in line with His commands. Without obeying God's commands there is no true and acceptable worship. Next "*serve him in sincerity and in truth*" The word "serve Him" means – completely and without blemish, or sound, without spot – that means to have your whole heart engaged in His worship. In total worship and service to God, not just on church day but everyday of your life. If you ever put ANYTHING before God or His service, ever, you are not sincere in your worship. Next is "*and in truth*" you cannot serve God any other way than "in truth". This means According to the directions he has given you in his infallible word. However, no one is perfect in anything in this flesh. The word of God must be Reverenced as He is to be Reverenced, if it is not absolute Truth then it is false. The bible is not of private interpretation therefore just because you believe it does not make it truth. God said, "*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a*

*workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.” 2 Timothy 2:15 Laziness, for Pastors or churches or Christians in general is a refusal to “rightly dividing the word of truth” and worship God in Truth. Next, “if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve;” Who would think it to be evil to serve the Lord? But this is those who refuse the truth of the word. If God says it, it matters little what you believe. Study the word without rejection and accept the truth of the word. Don’t lean upon mans wisdom, and a failure to lean upon the revelation and wisdom of the Holy Spirit. “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.” James 1:5 If you seem to differ with your Pastor and church on the scriptures, find another church that you agree with, do not forget, you are responsible for your error that is a burden you must account for yourself. “For every man shall bear his own burden.” Galatians 6:5 You cannot blame your Pastor and church for your wrong understanding. Choose to serve the Lord, just as the bible teaches of Him. Next, “but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.” The question here is, “are you and your house actually serving the Lord”? if your worship is not in absolute “in sincerity and in truth” then you are not serving the Lord. Refusing to believe in the Sovereignty of God of the bible is normally the first error of failure. The second is to refuse the saving power of the Holy Spirit, and the third is refusing to believing in Jesus Christ as the absolute Saviour of mankind. “For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:11 If you do not serve God rightly, then you do not serve God at all. In conclusion, you must in your own heart by the reading and studding of the scriptures and in prayer to God conclude that you are serving God in sincerity and truth. These folks concluded “therefore will we also serve the LORD; for he is our God.” Folks, the interpretation of the scriptures is everything, it matters not what people find right and popular, it only matters what God said. Seek the truth, find the truth, and believe the truth. Then find a church that teaches the truth and join them. Your rewards in eternity depends on biblical truth and following God’s commandments. Your sins are paid for, they have been pardoned by God through Jesus Christ’s blood. You need to choose to serve God in sincerity and in truth in a church that believes and serves the Sovereign God of the bible, seek and you shall find.*

“Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you. (13) And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.” Jeremiah 29:12 - 13

“And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. (10) For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.” Luke 11:9 - 10

***Surely it is better to go to Heaven with the few—than to Hell with the many!***

By J.C. Ryle

We have no reason to be discouraged and cast down, if the religion we profess is not popular and few agree with us.

We must remember the words of our Lord Jesus Christ, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." Matthew 7:13-14

Repentance, and commitment to Christ, and holiness of life have never been fashionable.

The true flock of Christ has always been small.

Surely it is better to go to Heaven with the few—than to Hell with the many!

***Some Quotes By John Flavel, 1628-1691***

“Christ is not sweet—until sin is made bitter to us!”

“Jesus is the fountain, ocean, and center of all delights and joys!”

***Church News:***

Happy Anniversary Brother Larry & Sister Martha Mollette Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup>