

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

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Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

Pastor E-Mail: pastor@sgmbaptist.com **Pastors Blog:** sgmbcpastor.blogspot.com
Church Web Site: www.sgmbaptist.com Church Facebook: www.facebook.com/sgmbcpastor

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:

"God is manifest in them"

"Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse."

Romans 1:19 – 20

One of the hardest things for people to understand is the workings of God. Election is one of the largest stumbling-blocks of people, and it covers more than we think. Some people find the election of God as an unthinkable, unbelievable teaching, and believe that God could never be exclusive. However, what people fail to understand is that if God did not elect some, none would ever be saved, none would ever understand God's word, no churches would exist, and God would not have one single worker on earth. This is because every human born is born in sin and their mind are at enmity of God. *"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God."* Romans 8:7 – 8. The word carnal means flesh, without Christ and salvation, unless the scripture refers to a very weak believer. In either case neither do anything pleasing to God. We are all born with dead spirits which makes us incapable to love God or do anything to please God. God said of the natural man, *"As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God."* Romans 3:10 – 11 Therefore, people are born in a total depraved body, soul, mind, and with a dead spirit. No one, not one single soul understands God or seeks God for anything and are born a natural enemy of God. Paul went on to write, speaking of both Jews and Gentiles, *"They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one."* Romans 3:12. The Psalmist David wrote these words, *"The LORD looked down from heaven upon the children of men, to see if there were any that did understand, and seek God. They are all gone aside, they are all together become filthy: there is none that doeth good, no, not one."* Psalms 14:2 – 3 Just as God looked down and saw only evil before the flood, He still only sees evil in totally depraved people. It is this very act of totally depravity nature that keeps people from seeking God and from understanding God. And very weak Christians as Paul described in 1 Cor. 3:1 – 7 speaks of these weak Christians inability to understand God or even serve God. So, we must ask ourselves why

are some able to be saved and others not, why are some church members and some are not, why do some understand the bible and others are ignorant to it. We could also ask why some Pastor's or Ministers are, and others are not. Everything involving God, is a work of grace on God's part, it has nothing to do with their better or worse than others. God, before the foundation of the world elected what He wanted, and everyone's salvation, deeds, and understanding, was an election of God. Two things' people hate to hear, (1) that people are born totally depraved, and (2) that God elects those He wants. People are different, some are saved, and some are lost, those that are saved some are biblically smart and some are biblically ignorant. Some are Pastors, Missionaries, Ministers, hard workers for the Lord, and some are weak and basically ignorant and lazy concerning the Lord. The Lord told the Prophet Jeremiah "*Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*" Jeremiah 1:5 None of this was Jeremiah's choice, none was because of him, it was all the work and election of God. Listen to the words of the Psalmist, "*For thou art my hope, O Lord GOD: thou art my trust from my youth. By thee have I been holden up from the womb: thou art he that took me out of my mother's bowels: my praise shall be continually of thee.*" Psalms 71:5 We are not alone, even the Arminian's teach and agree that God call's ministers, that accomplishments in the church are by God's works, they even pray that God will save a lost soul but deny the power that accomplished it. Romans 1:25 "*Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator...*" Just as God chose Moses, Abraham, Isaac, and His Apostles, He has chosen all that received His grace and mercy. God is not in debt to save anyone nor to educate them, it is all by His mercy and grace. In 1 Cor. 12 we see two main points, (1) in verses 1-11 we are taught that spiritual gifts are by the power of the Holy Spirit, "*Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.*" 1 Corinthians 12:4 The diversities are as God elected to give us, and (2) our place in the Lords churches are by God's appointment also. "*But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.*" 1 Corinthians 12:18 The Apostle Paul understood this, because after about 40 years or so of being a great servant of God he said, "*But by the grace of God I am what I am...*" 1 Cor. 15:10. Paul also wrote this question, "*For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?*" 1 Corinthians 4:7 If you are lost or you are not biblically educated in the scriptures or you are not a church member, do not blame God. While it is true that God graciously does these things for us, because He elected too. God said, "*being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse.*" God's work does not excuse people, even Christians from our human responsibility to God. It is sin that holds us back, and sin is human responsibility.

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 on Sunday Morning March 19 after the service.
- Happy Anniversary to Brother Larry and Sister Martha Mollette Saturday March 4th
- Happy Birthday to Brother Ronnie Henderson Jr. Sunday March 5th
- Happy Birthday to Sister Alice Hoskins Wednesday March 8th

Quotes by Daniel March (1870)

"The Bible gives us the most reliable record of what has been--and it affords us our only means of knowing what is yet to be."

"The Bible is the plainest of books--and yet it has depths of wisdom which no created mind can fathom."