

SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Where The Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For More Than Sixty 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, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ronnie Henderson Jr. & Children, Ricky Henderson and Family, Velma Hammond, Don Hammond and Families, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Gina and Kirk, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Diane Thomas, Jace Fails, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Vickie Adkins, Shirley King - Son David – and family, Brother Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, David Henderson and Wife, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Roselyn Pardillo and Family and those that work with her, Hailey Beaver, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Brother Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergey Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

The battle is ours; we must be prepared.

"Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." Ephesians 6:13

As Christians we are much hated, hated by Satan, hated by Satan's servants called demons, and hated by Satan's children on the earth some even "called" Christian. However, it is not us they hate, it's Jesus Christ, they hate us because we are true Christians. *"The world cannot hate you; but me it hateth, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil."* John 7:7 However, the worst of their hatred is strongest with the men of Truth (Ministers), the people of truth (Christians), and churches of truth. The stronger the truth the stronger the hate, *"Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you."* 1 John 3:13 The Lord just told us not to wonder "why" or "if" they hate us, but just know they do hate us. People of this world have always hated God's people whether it was Adam and Eve who turned on God because they elected to disobey Him, or their son Cain who hated his brother and killed him because he was God's man. Throughout history Christians and churches of the Lord has been hated by Satan's children on the earth. Tens of millions of men, women, and children were martyred just because they were God's children. Most of them by people looking like and proclaiming to be Christians. *"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. (14) And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light."* 2 Corinthians 11:13, 14 These evil sons of Satan transforming themselves into "angels of light, or apostles of Christ" appearing as though they are Christians or churches for the Lord Jesus Christ all the time hating the real Christians and churches. They are deceivers, they belong to Satan and not Christ, they have many lost followers, and others that are deceived Christians. Satan has blessed them with money and earthly things like large Mega buildings and many worldly programs to make them look more desirable as a tool to deceive the very elect. Always remember that Satan is our adversary, *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour:"* 1 Peter 5:8 The word "adversary" means - an opponent but to the Christian it means the arch enemy – which means - a person who is extremely hostile or opposed to someone or something. – So, Satan and his workers are extremely hostile Christians because they hate God so much, as His Son, His Word, His people, and His churches. This is something we must be continually sober minded about and always thinking about. *"Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."* 1 Thessalonians 5:6 Most people

refer this word sleep to the lost, but Christians can also have a mind to sleep. It must mean Christians here because the Lord warned us as Christians not to sleep. The Lord said, *“Slothfulness casteth into a deep sleep; and an idle soul shall suffer hunger.”* Proverbs 19:15 The word “slothfulness” means – indolence, which means avoidance of activity or laziness – keeping our minds always awake and active to God’s word keeps us awake and active. It is the job of the Pastor to keep watch over the flock because they are the “overseers and under-shepherds” of the Lord’s flocks. They are the Lord’s watchmen, and when a watchman sleeps, the flock sleeps. Israel had this problem, *“His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber.”* Isaiah 56:10 Your Pastor is not being nose-into what you are doing in life, they are being watchful because you are a part of their flock. The truth is, we are all watchmen, the Pastor watches the flock, and the flock watches the Pastor, neither is above wondering! A Pastor must remember what God told Israel, *“Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and **give them warning from me.**”* Ezekiel 3:17 The word of God’s mouth is His word, from Genesis to Revelations, teaching the Truth no matter what. If a Pastor fails in teaching the all the truth, then the Truth will fall by the wayside and the church will fail in these areas.

Our life as Christians, churches, and warriors for the Lord is a constant battle, every day, there is never a day off. It requires our sober mind and full attention every moment of everyday. This is the only way we can be ready for battle with Satan, His army of so many, the Lord called it being *“strong in the Lord,”* but this strength comes only from the Lord, *“in the power of his might.”* The closer we are to the Lord, His Son, His word, and His church, the stronger we will be in this battle. Our weakness is failing in this area, it is like taking medicine, if you take it, you get better and then well, but if you fail you get weak and could fall asleep. Weak Christians, weak Pastors, and weak churches are very subject to Satan’s lies, he is watching and waiting for a chance to destroy everything he can that is the Lord’s. Don’t forget folks, what we are fighting is not human, it is not small, God said, *“For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”* Ephesians 6:12 The battle is Satan Vs God we are simply God’s personal property Satan uses against God. Our strongest weapon is our faith, *“Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.”* Ephesians 6:16 Keep your faith strong in the Lord, He will never fail you, His word is your sword, always be ready for battle and always depend on your sword to fight the battle. *“And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.”* Ephesians 6:17 and finally, don’t forget that prayer is a great necessity, *“Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit...”* V. 18a

Quotes for Thought:

By John Bunyan 1628 – 1688

“In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart...”

“He who bestows his goods upon the poor shall have as much again, and ten times more.”

“Prayer will make a man cease from sin, or sin will entice a man to cease from prayer.”

“He who runs from God in the morning will scarcely find Him the rest of the day”

“I will stay in prison till the moss grows on my eye lids rather than disobey God.”

“Pray often, for prayer is a shield to the soul, a sacrifice to God, and a scourge for Satan.”

“It is profitable for Christians to be often calling to mind the very beginnings of grace with their souls.”

Church News!

- Daylight savings time is next Sunday March 13th Clocks are set forward one hour.
- Happy Birthday to Sister Alice Hoskins Tuesday March 8th