

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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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:

Everything is in God's hand.

"To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" Ecclesiastes 3:1

I am primarily speaking to Christians, because the lost has no spiritual understanding of God and His works. "But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." 1 Corinthians 2:14. The lost soul has no idea who God is or how God does things. God said, lost people are "...spiritually discerned." meaning God's work is like an unsolvable puzzle and lost people cannot fit the pieces because they are spiritually dead and cannot understand scripture. The things of God are unrealistic to them, they do not fit their human logic. However, Christians are without excuse not to study, pray, and accept the teachings of the bible. Most Christians just attend church and accept what the teachers and Pastor teach without any study time of the scriptures, this is a grave mistake. The Lord in speaking highly of the church at Berea said this, "These (the church at Berea) were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Acts 17:11 This is where a lot of Christians fail to understand God, they believe their teachers, but never study what they are taught. Every real Christian that studies their bible on regular basis and ask God for the commentary of the Word, the Holy Spirit will teach the Truth. It is here that you will learn of God's Sovereignty and just how much God has ordained in our life. God said, "To every thing there is a season..." God said, not to some things, not to a few things, but to **all things** there is a season. The word "season" means - an appointed occasion: - season, time – meaning that God has appointed everything in your life as it has pleased Him. However, God did not stop there, He went on to say, "...and a time to every purpose under the heaven:" So, God appointed, predetermined, or ordained, a time and purpose to everything "under the heaven:". Meaning nothing in existence functions or exist on chance, but by the purpose, predetermined, will of God. From the salvation of your soul to the fullness of your life. Also, from the beginning to the end of the world are all ordained and predetermined by God's choosing. If you are the most powerful Christian in the world or the weakest, you are what you are by God's grace. Paul wrote, "But by the grace of God I am what I am: - and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; - but I laboured more abundantly than they all: - yet not I, - but the grace of God which

was with me.” 1 Corinthians 15:10 (The dashes were added to show the different study points in this verse so you can see the work of God in Paul’s life and ministry, Paul was not to be credited, God was.) Paul wrote in Ephesians 3:7 “*Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.*” Just as Jeremiah was ordained, called, and served by God’s predetermined will, so is Paul and so are we. The more we learn and serve as Christians the more God has blessed us to do His will. In Eph. 2:8 God said, “*For by grace are ye saved - through faith; - and that not of yourselves: - it is the gift of God:*” (again the dashes is to separate the different study points.) This is to make us understand that God is Sovereign in gifting us with salvation. However, God does not stop there read verse 10, “*For we are his workmanship, - created in Christ Jesus - unto good works, - which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.*” Here we see that God not only saved our souls by His Sovereign ordained will and grace, but our entire life as Christians are by His work of grace. Therefore, we must all conclude just as the Apostle Paul did, “*But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace...*” However, everything in existence, has it’s being, functions, even lives and dies, by God’s appointed time. Ecclesiastes 3:1. From the beginning of time to the end of time, everything is by God’s pre-ordained, His appointed time and His will. People are not living by chance, luck, or “things just happen”, The Sovereign God of creation ordained and controls everything. Therefore, we must conclude that nothing has to make sense to you, nothing has to be proven to you, the puzzle of life does not have to fit your thinking, God just has to say it and it’s so. The natural person is “*spiritually discerned.*” and will never understand God, therefore, God is the only one teaching absolute truth, “...*yea, let God be true, but every man a liar...*” Romans 3:4 **Read** - God’s word, **Study** – God’s word – **Pray** – for guidance from the Holy Spirit – and **Believe** – what God says. We have a lot of wonderful teachers and Pastors teaching the scriptures in this world, but not one is infallible, only God is, therefore above all God is always to be believed.

The utter ruin and spiritual death of your children

By Charles H. Spurgeon

Parents! **Your children** are as surely as grown-up people, "**dead** in trespasses and sins!" May no parent fail fully to realize the spiritual state in which **all** human beings are naturally found. Unless you have a very clear sense of **the utter ruin and spiritual death of your children**, you will be incapable of being made a blessing to them. Go to them, I beg you, not as to 'sleepers' whom you can by your own power awaken from their slumber—but as to 'spiritual corpses' who can only be quickened by a divine power!

If you think that your child is 'not really depraved', if you indulge foolish notions about the 'innocence of childhood', it should not surprise you if you remain barren and unfruitful.

If you would bring spiritual life to your child—you must most vividly realize that child's state. It is dead, dead! God will have you feel that your child is dead in trespasses and sins—as you once were. God would have you come into contact with that death by painful, crushing, humbling sympathy. If you would raise **your dead child** to spiritual life—you must feel the chill and horror of your child's death yourself. You must have, more or less, a distinct sense of the dreadful wrath of God, and of the terrors of the judgment to come. Depend upon it, when the spiritual death of your children alarms and overwhelms you—then it is that God is about to bless you!

Deuteronomy 6:4 – 7

“Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.”