

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

April 16, 2023 Newsletter Number 908
Elder Randy Johnson, Pastor

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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, 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, Shirley 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, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

Who is right and who is wrong.

John 3:3, 5 "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (5) Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

Salvation has been a subject of debate for as long as sin has been with man. It has been studied and debated by some of the most intelligent people on the earth and thousands of years later, it's still being debated by the brightest people in the world. The Jews, God's chosen nation to do God's work on the earth, most didn't even understand God or salvation. Here we have a man named Nicodemus who was a Ruler of the Jews. This means that Nicodemus was (or was recognized as) a biblical scholar. In today's education system he would be recognized as a PhD Scholar in biblical education. But this man had no idea what salvation was, because he did not know who Jesus Christ was. He thought the rebirth was being born a second time in his mother womb. "*Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?*" John 3:4 It was later that Nicodemus who was already a ruler of the Jews and a biblical Scholar of His time was actually born again and saved. Nicodemus no longer recognized Jesus simply as a "*Rabbi...a teacher come from God*" but truly recognized Him as Saviour. The Jewish leaders themselves did not recognize Jesus as Saviour but as a fraud and a devil. John 1:11 says "*He came unto his own, and his own received him not.*" At the time there were no more biblical smart people than these very Jews, who rejected Jesus. And in time it was these same biblical scholars that led the way and demanded this devil named Jesus must be crucified, and released a murder so that He could be crucified. This brings us to Saul of Tarsus, this man talked about his credentials in Philippians 3:5 - 6 "*Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; (6) Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.*" In other words, as a Jew he was a biblical Scholar of his time. But he hated Jesus, he hated Christians, and he hated the Lord's church in Jerusalem. This is until he met Jesus, Acts 9:4 - 5 "*And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me? (5) And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest: it is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.*" The Apostle Paul soon becomes

a true biblical scholar and wrote at least 13 books of the New Testament after Jesus saved his soul. The point here is that intelligence, even biblical scholars who hold PhD's are not always biblically correct, nor are they actual biblical scholars. The difference between those with true biblical knowledge and those pretenders is the doctrine of salvation. If you look at history, those that were wrong always taught that works were a part of salvation. Judaism, Gnosticism, Catholicism, and today, Arminianism. When people cannot understand who Jesus was/is and what His purpose was in His crucifixion, then they will never understand salvation. If people refuse to accept that salvation is exactly the way God described it in Ephesians 2:8 – 9 and the life of a Christian is the way God described it in verse 10 then they will never understand God and salvation no matter who they are, or what education level they hold. Imagine, all those who were supposed to be biblically intelligent people, the chosen nation of God, failed in recognizing who Jesus was. The people today who have their PhD in theology, and have no idea who Jesus is, and have no idea who God is and how He saves sinners. And people flock to hear them preach about free will and humanism. They teach a doctrine that God has taught against from Abraham thru our time, "*Not of works, lest any man should boast.*" Ephesians 2:9 we also see in Titus 3:5 "*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;*" Paul wrote in Acts 16:30 - 31 "*And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved? (31) And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.*" If you go through the scriptures, it never changes, circumcision (which is considered a work), baptism and works for salvation have been falsely taught by some of the most educated biblical scholars and all have been wrong. Paul even said of Israel, "*Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. (2) For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.*" Romans 10:1 - 2 Knowledge of the scripture does not come from earthly education, it comes from the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus told Nicodemus, "*That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.*" John 3:15 Nicodemus was later born of God. He came to understand that salvation was in Jesus Christ and not in works.

Thoughts for Your Heart!

If I am seeking everything that can delight my senses

By William Law

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Matthew 7:13 - 14

If I am seeking everything that can delight my senses, and regale my appetites; spending my time and fortune in pleasures, in diversions, and worldly enjoyments — then how can it be said that I am working out my salvation with fear and trembling?

If there is nothing in my life and conversation that shows me to be different from the heathen; if I use the world, and worldly enjoyments, as the generality of people now do, and in all ages have done — then why should I think that I am among those few who are walking in the narrow way to Heaven?

Church News:

Happy Birthday to Sister Martha Mollette Wednesday April 19th

Prayer Update.

Pastor Hille Update: Brother Hille is doing better, he has wakened and understands all that he has been through. He still has surgeries to do, in fact he was supposed to have had another one this morning. Much prayer is still needed for him but also those around him, his wife, children, family, and church.