

## 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, Shirly 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, Sharron and Husband, Little Weslynn McClelland, Sister Rebecca's 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 Porter and the Door.**

John 10:1 *"Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."*

I love this chapter of scripture because I love being part of the fold of God. I love being a child of God, I love that God gave me all of this. I am so thankful that before the foundation of the world God made a fold and filled it with sheep, and God chose me to be part of that fold as a sheep. I am thankful that before the world was created that God gave His flock His elected Shepherd, Jesus His own Son. Wow, just thinking about it all sends wonderful chills up and down my entire being. This chapter lays out God's full plan and fulfilment of salvation. It tells us so many beautiful things about what God has done for us in salvation. First it tells us that the fold has a "door", and this door is the one single way into the fold of God that houses the sheep. V. 2 "But he that entereth in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep." If you are going to be a sheep in the fold of God then the door is the way, you cannot enter another way. V. 1 "...He that entereth not by the door into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." There is one door, and that door is Jesus Christ, if you do not go thru Him to be saved then you are a "thief and a robber" and not a sheep. The door has a Porter, "To him the porter openeth" V. 3 the porter controls the entrance through the door, if the porter opens the door and when you hear the Shepherd call, then come inside. If the Porter never opens the door you will never hear the Shepherd's call because the Porter only opens to the Elect. "he calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out." V. 3 His own, is the elect. John 17:2 "As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him." It is only in the Shepherd that the sheep will find everything they need, "I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture. Good food for His sheep, fed to them by His under-shepherds in His churches. Jesus said, "The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy:" V. 10 the false churches and the false ministers in those false churches, they seek to steal from Jesus's churches and trying to destroy them. They are thieves and robbers trying to steel the name church and truth, trying to change it all into lies and deception. V. 12 "But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth

them, and scattereth the sheep.” He is not a true Pastor he is a “a wage worker” of Satan and only seeks to profit, he truly only cares about the money. The more sheep he can steal the more profit he can have. He will leave the flock for more money more prestige, he doesn’t care about the church. “The hireling fleeth, because he is an hireling, and careth not for the sheep.” V. 13 Jesus cares about the flock, because He died for them, His under-shepherds love and cares for the flock because they are Jesus flock. Money means nothing to them, while most are given love gifts it is not required. A true shepherd of the Lords flock never allows money to interfere with the care of the Lord’s flock. The Lord Jesus Christ is our Shepherd He is our caretaker, He will never leave us not ever forsake us, ever! Our Shepherd knows us, He has known us since before the foundation of the world. We know Him because God created us to love Him and to hear His voice when the Holy Spirit opens the door and we hear His sweet call. But until the door is opened and the Saviour calls no one will ever hear His voice. I thank God I had the ability to hear the sweet voice of my Saviour and when I did I answered the call because my Father made me to hear it. V.V. 28 “And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. (29) My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father’s hand.” Amen!

### ***Another Thought***

By Charles Spurgeon

There are murmurers amongst Christians now, as there were in the camp of Israel of old. There are those who, when the rod falls, cry out against the afflictive dispensation. They ask, "Why am I thus afflicted? What have I done to be chastened in this manner?" A word with thee, O murmurer! Why shouldst thou murmur against the dispensations of thy heavenly Father? Can he treat thee more hardly than thou deservest? Consider what a rebel thou wast once, but he has pardoned thee! Surely, if he in his wisdom sees fit now to chasten thee, thou shouldst not complain. After all, art thou smitten as hardly as thy sins deserve? Consider the corruption which is in thy breast, and then wilt thou wonder that there needs so much of the rod to fetch it out? Weigh thyself, and discern how much dross is mingled with thy gold; and dost thou think the fire too hot to purge away so much dross as thou hast? Does not that proud rebellious spirit of thine prove that thy heart is not thoroughly sanctified? Are not those murmuring words contrary to the holy submissive nature of God's children? Is not the correction needed? But if thou wilt murmur against the chastening, take heed, for it will go hard with murmurers. God always chastises his children twice, if they do not bear the first stroke patiently. But know one thing-"He doth not afflict willingly, nor grieve the children of men." All his corrections are sent in love, to purify thee, and to draw thee nearer to himself. Surely it must help thee to bear the chastening with resignation if thou art able to recognize thy Father's hand. For "whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons." "Murmur not as some of them also murmured and were destroyed of the destroyer."

### ***Our afflictions are light!***

By A.W. Pink

Our afflictions are light, when compared with what we really deserve.

They are light, when compared with the sufferings of the Lord Jesus.

But perhaps their real lightness is best seen, by comparing them with the eternal glory which is awaiting us!

"For our light and momentary afflictions are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all! So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal!" 2 Corinthians 4:17-18