

## SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

*"Where The Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For More Than Fifty-Nine 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, Carolyn Davis, Vickie Adkins, Shirly King - Son David – and family, Brother Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, Christel and her daughter, David Henderson and Wife, Hailey Renee McManus, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Gordon, Brother Dan Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergej Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

### *Pastors Thoughts:*

#### **God is Sovereign in salvation.**

*"For I know that the LORD is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. (6) Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places."* Psalms 135:5 – 6

It matters not what man may believe, think, or say, God is Sovereign in all His knowledge, words, and ways. People that have a hard time believing that God is absolute in His Sovereign Being have never been blessed by the Holy Spirit with this understanding. Most pastors will tell you that "God cannot change mans will, man is free to choose their own destination" and this sounds good to the millions upon millions that pack their assemblies every Sunday, **but it could not be farther from the biblical facts.** Saving faith comes from God thru the Holy Spirit, *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,"* Galatians 5:22 Now some will say this is the ability to be faithful to God, but our faithfulness to God starts with saving faith because we do not have one faith without the other. The truth is that mankind has no desire nor ability to be saved, mankind is born as an enemy of God. **"Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be."** Romans 8:7 The word "enmity" means – hatred – therefore the carnal soul will never choose to come to Christ, it would violate their natural hatred for God. Jesus Christ is the only one who can breakdown that wall that separates us from our enmity with God. *"For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us; (15) **Having abolished in his flesh the enmity, even the law of commandments contained in ordinances; for to make in himself of twain one new man, so making peace;** (16) **And that he might reconcile both unto God in one body by the cross, having slain the enmity thereby:"*** Ephesians 2:14 – 16. This is all accomplished by the power of the Holy Spirit, man has no ability to change their natural being. The spirit in all mankind is dead at birth **preventing a relationship with God of any sort.** This is that *"middle wall of partition between us"* that separates God and man, all that is saved must be saved by and thru Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is God that make the vessels, both honorable and dis-honorable we are not self-made children of God. God proves this in Ephesians 1:11 when He states this fact, **"In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:"** We cannot obtain this eternal inheritance any other way, especially by self-will. Only God by the powerful work of the Holy Spirit can save a lost soul, **"For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."** Romans 8:14 Two facts are found in this scripture, all that are led by the Holy Spirit are

**children of God**, and no one can be a child of God **without being led by the Holy Spirit**. God never depends on man for anything, God works through man as He (God) chooses. Therefore, every time you hear a preacher make a statement that “God cannot change your will”, believe him not, because if God does not change a person’s will then that person will never be saved. “*For it is **God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.***” Philippians 2:13 This is why we are to always thank God for our salvation. God is Sovereign in everything, not just in salvation but in every area of creation. No one has a right to question God’s power and Sovereign Authority, especially because they refuse to believe the truth about God. “*Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? **Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus?***” Romans 9:20 God will do as He pleases, and nothing God does relies on human will, NOTHING! If it did then that would violate the entire writings of the scriptures. “*Whatsoever the LORD pleased, that did he in heaven, and in earth, in the seas, and all deep places.*” Psalms 135:6 Therefore, it must be concluded that if God elects to save one soul and not another, **He has that right**. God has no obligation to save anyone, nor is God under any obligation to make salvation an equal opportunity for everyone. **Not one single person deserves to have God’s salvation** therefore it is by mercy and grace. “*So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy.*” Romans 9:16

***The mirth of unregenerate men!***

By John Flavel

How groundless is the mirth of unregenerate men!  
They feast in their prison and dance in their fetters. O the madness that is in their hearts! If men did but realize that they are condemned already, it would be impossible for them to live in vanity as they do. And is their condition less dangerous because it is not understood?  
Surely not, but much more so! O poor sinners, perhaps you have found out a way to prevent your present troubles. It would be infinitely better if you could find out how to prevent eternal misery! But it is easier for a man to stifle conviction, than to prevent damnation. Your mirth prevents repentance and increases your future torment. O what a hell will theirs be—who drop into it out of all the sinful pleasures of this world!

"In hell, where he was in torment." Luke 16:23

***Some Quotes***

By Arthur W. Pink

*“The sovereignty of God may be defined as the exercise of His supremacy. Being infinitely elevated above the highest creature—He is the Most High, Lord of heaven and earth. Subject to none, influenced by none—He is absolutely independent. God does as He pleases, only as He pleases, and always as He pleases. None can thwart Him, none can hinder Him.”*

*“No sinner was ever saved by giving his heart to God. We are not saved by our giving—we are saved by God’s giving.”*

*“The Bible is no lazy man’s book! Much of its treasure, like the valuable minerals stored in the recesses of the earth, only yield up themselves to the diligent seeker. No verse of Scripture yields its meaning to lazy people.”*

***Church News:***

Pastor Johnson will be speaking at a Bible Conference at the Grace Bible Baptist Church in Denham Springs, La. on May 28, 29, 30 This will include him being gone on Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be his last Sunday scheduled conference this year.