

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, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Vickie Adkins, Shirley King - Son David – and family, Brother 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, 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 Churches Authority.

"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. (19) Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: (20) Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." Matthew 28:18 – 20

The first thing one must see here is the word "power" it means – privilege but it also means authority or a token of control – and most times in the scriptures the translators use this Greek word "exousia" to mean "authority". Therefore, we must conclude that the definition of the word carries the definition "authority". In this passage Jesus met with the leadership of the first church, started by Him, and He gave them this power or authority. Jesus did not give this authority to the world, secular organizations, or to just anyone who wanted it, He gave it to the local New Testament Church. I'm not going to debate the church existence because that is settled doctrine in my heart. The church without question was started in Jerusalem and Jesus was the founder, through mission works out of that church other churches were started. Churches are the corners stone of doctrine and truth, therefore if an assembly is not doctrinally sound they are not a church by definition. Churches are Sovereign Independent Bodies of Born Again, Baptized believers. Verse 16 tells us *"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them."* Only the 11 Apostles that were the leadership of the church was present with Jesus at the time of this giving of commission. This authority or power was given to them on behalf of the church, therefore only the church has this authority to preach the gospel. You will find that only true Sovereign Grace Bodies have the true gospel and the true doctrine to carry out this authority. No other assemblies, not even counterfeit Baptist carry the true gospel and true doctrine to the world. Just being like or similar is not being true. Jesus, Who had all power and authority gave this power to the local church.

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations" **this is an absolute command.** Some say it is not, I guess that's maybe the way the church at Jerusalem because the Lord scattered them, then they would go and after they did look at the explosion of Christians and churches. I am a firm believer that a church must, it is not an option but a command to support mission work in the world. I also believe a church should use every tool at her disposal to preach the gospel and doctrine of the scriptures as far in the world as they can.

Next the Lord commanded, *“baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.”* Again this authority or power is not given to just anyone but the local church. It also is a command with authority. Baptism is the second most important thing a new born again believer can do. Baptism is not an option it is a command both of the church and the born again Christian. Baptism unifies us with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus, but it is also a must to be a unified member of a local church. Acts 2:41 *“Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”* Look, Three Thousand souls were born again, baptized, and added to the church at Jerusalem, what a blessed day. The little church Jesus started just started growing into that super church Jesus promised. Matthew 16:18 *“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*

Next the Lord commanded, *“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...”* Once they are a believer, been baptized, and part of the church, then as Pastors, Ministers, and Elders in the church we are commanded to teach them to be part of the pillar and ground of truth or the church. Church membership is a blessing from God, because He sets the members in the church as it pleased Him. 1 Corinthians 12:24 *“For our comely parts have no need: **but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that part which lacked:**”* It should be treated like a blessing and if people cannot consider it a blessing and honor it, they ought to be excluded. The church MUST be in unity. It is the churches duty not to please people but to teach them.

And Jesus ends with the Great Promise, *“...and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen.”* A church that is faithful to Jesus then He will be faithful to her. This promise is our strength and power to always walk in the truth and keep the church as the Pillar and Ground of truth, *“...But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, **which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.**”* 1 Timothy 3:15 The church honors the truth of the bible and as long as we do, we have nothing to fear. The world hates the truth, some believers do not stand on the truth, but the church must stand on the truth no matter what always know, she is what Jesus has made her. Being worldly will only destroy the church, secularism has never helped a church. Churches belong to Jesus not us; we are the church that belongs to Jesus, we are what we are by God's grace.

God bless the churches and their works!

The Word of Grace

By A. W. Pink

The Word and the Spirit are so intimately conjoined, that we are scarcely warranted in thinking of the one without the other. The Word does not operate without the Spirit's agency; and the Spirit does not work apart from the Word.

It was by the Spirit's inspiration that the Word was first given, for "holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21).

It is by the Spirit that we are enlightened (Ephesians 1:17, 18), yet the Word is the means He employs.

It is by the Spirit that we are sanctified (Romans 15:16), yet not apart from the Truth (John 17:17).

It is by the Spirit, that we are strengthened (Ephesians 3:16) as He causes the Word to dwell in us richly (Colossians 3:16).

It is by the Spirit, that we are comforted (Acts 9:31) as He applies the Divine promises to our hearts.

How appropriate, then, that the grand instrument employed by the Spirit of grace, should be termed "the Word of His grace."

The "Word of His grace" proclaims . . .

rest for the weary,

pardon to the guilty,

justification to the ungodly,

adoption to the outcast,

eternal heavenly treasures for spiritual paupers!

Church News:

Happy Birthday Sister Diane Thomas Thursday June 9th