

Today is June 11, 2023



- Remember our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Friday Night September 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> Please remember to pray about it.
- Memorial services for Sister Velma Hammond are being arranged. There will be a service at our church building and an interment at the cemetery. This will be in June or that is what is being talked about. Pastor Johnson will keep the church updated.

### *Chosen To Salvation and Service*

by Elder Oscar B. Mink Former Pastor of our church.  
From his article titled "choice" 1976

"... I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit.. ." (John 15:16). "For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them," (Eph. 2:10).

God chose Isaiah and Jeremiah to be Prophets before they were born (Isa. 49:1, Jere. 1:5). And He says of Paul, "He is a chosen vessel unto Me, to bear My name before Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel," (Acts 9:15). Paul exhorts Timothy to faithfulness, so as to please God Who had "chosen him to be a soldier," (II Tim. 2:3).

Someone may object, and say, "But, all this has to do with vocation and not with salvation." God's choice of a man to be a prophet or preacher is co-eternal with God's choice of him unto salvation. None can gainfully argue against the fact that John the Baptist was a preacher sent from God (John 1:6). And, surely none are so naive as to dispute the fact that God chose John prior to his miraculous entrance into this world to be a preacher (Isa. 40:3, Mt. 3:3). And, would any be so daring as to say, God chooses a man to be a preacher or prophet before He chooses him unto salvation? God forbid!

I would urge all who read these lines to bow to the authority of God's Word, "Lest haply ye be found to fight against God," and God in His sore displeasure say to you as he said to Israel of old, "Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation," (Judges 10:14)

"... Brethren beloved of the Lord... God hath from the beginning chose you to salvation.. ." (2 Thes. 2:13).

## Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church

*"Where the Truths of God's Word Have Been Taught  
for Sixty-One Years" Since October 21, 1961*

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Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son's Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Daughter Shannon, 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, 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, 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, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Baby Titus Massey.

### *Our Church Supports These Mission Works*

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.



## *Righteousness is the blessing of God.*

**By Pastor Randy Johnson**

4:6 - 8 *“Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, (7) Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. (8) Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”*

The word “righteousness” means – justification – Vines defines the word this way, "the character or quality of being right or just" then God says, “the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness”. So now let us understand the word “imputeth”, -"to reckon, take into account," or, metaphorically, "to put down to a person's account," according to Vines. Now to get the full explanation and a full understanding we must understand what words mean. We can see verse 6 is a quote from David in his writings from the Psalms, “...Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man unto whom the LORD imputeth not iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no guile.” Psalms 32:1 – 2. So, we see here that a person is blessed of God, if God “imputeth righteousness” meaning He has put righteousness down on our account. Exactly how did God do that, He done it by the blood of Jesus Christ. God goes on to say in verse 6 “without works,” or without merit on the part of the person that God imputed the righteousness. Since our righteousness was imputed by God and it was without works on our part then we are blessed because it was a gift and a blessing from God. David also said “Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered” how many sins, all our sins are covered by God washing our sins in the blood of Jesus Christ. “And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us and washed us from our sins in his own blood,” Revelation 1:5 The blessing to us who are saved is that God redeemed us through the blood of His own Son, Jesus the Christ. Then God makes sure we understand this is His blessing on us and not because of any deed on our own. It is so sad when people attempt to make the blessings of God, gifts of God to us as merit based. Words like mercy, grace, gifts, and blessing are from God and cannot be bought with merit or even money. We must also recognize that the Old Testament Jews were under the same blessings we are.

## *From Our Pastor Continued*

God said David was, He said Abraham was, so were all Old Testament saints. All throughout the scriptures, Old and New Testaments alike people were blessed by God with righteousness by faith and not merit. Therefore, it was by this blessed gift of righteousness that David said, “Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, ye righteous: and shout for joy, all ye that are upright in heart.” Psalms 32:11 This scripture should be in the heart of everyone who God has blessed when He “imputeth righteousness without works”. This wonderful gift of our blessing was by God the Father sacrificing His own Son. Not by our merit, not with works which we have done, but by the choosing of the Father to bless us with His grace to forgive our filthy transgressions, in which He was pleased to give. “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief: when thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin, he shall see his seed, he shall prolong his days, and the pleasure of the LORD shall prosper in his hand. He shall see of the travail of his soul and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities. Therefore, will I divide him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.” Isaiah 53:10 – 12 No, God did not just impute His righteousness to us, oh no, it was God putting our sins on the Son as He was brutally beaten beyond recognition, humiliated, spit on, called names like “the devil”, stripped naked, a crown of thorns was put on His head, and He was crucified on that cursed cross between two thieves. This is the merit that Jesus did so that our God could “imputeth righteousness without works” to us who should never have been righteous in any way. This is the blessing of God to every believer from the Old Testament thru the New Testament times and to the coming of the Lord Jesus, and even to a remnant in the Tribulation period. So, you can understand what a disgrace it is when some attempt to make our gift of righteousness merit based on our part, it devalues the merit of our Saviour and takes His glory and gives it to man. Rom. 1:25 Therefore, let me leave this thought in your heart exactly the way God left it, “Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin.”

