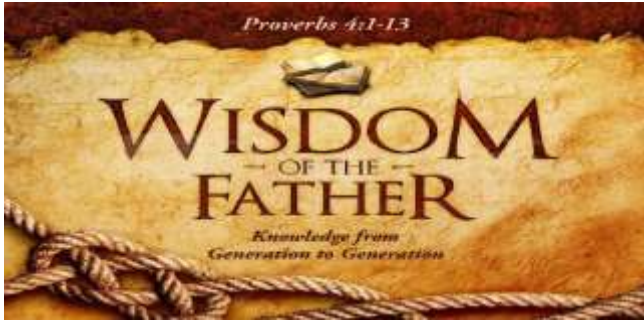


Today is June 18, 2023



### *Suitability Before God*

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

Being shut up to the Bible for the answer in this matter we discover that man will not choose God that he might have life (John 5:40). We also discover from the pages of Holy Writ that there was only ONE man who ever walked this earth with suitability, sufficient to attract God's loving attention and choosing favor. This ONE is Christ of whom we read, "Behold My servant, Whom I have chosen; My beloved, in Whom My soul is well pleased..." (Mt. 12:18).

All others chosen of God unto salvation were not only lacking in suitability, but were the exact opposite, and fully that which merited God's eternal wrath, "The wages of sin is death." According to the Word of God there are but two ways for a person to get out of this world: One way is to be chosen out by the grace of God as plainly stated in Gospel of John 15:19, and the other way out is to be chased out by the wrath of God. Speaking of the wicked Job says, "He shall be driven from light into darkness, and chased out of the world," (Job 18:18), (2 Pet. 2:9). Not once in all of Scripture is there the least inference that man in his native state can choose God in preference to anything else. This truth is made apparent when we consider that man loves darkness rather than light (John 3:19). And how can they choose that which they do not know anything as they ought to know it? (John 1:10), (II Cor. 2:14), (I Cor. 8:2). In view of the foregoing facts we hear the Psalmist say, "Blessed is the man whom Thou (God) chooseth," (Psa. 65:4). God looks to Christ for the suitability of all those included in the covenant of redemption, and God has condescended to let His chosen see the report the Holy Spirit has recorded, "According as He hath chosen us in Him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love," (Eph. 1:4). The saved love God in time, because God loved them in eternity, and their suitability in the presence of God is not merited by them, but by Him Who said, "I lay down My life for the Sheep," (John 10:15)

## 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, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Baby Titus Massey.

### *Prayers For Our Church Supported Mission Works*

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



## *God must give the increase.*

**By Pastor Randy Johnson**

*“For while one saith, I am of Paul; and another, I am of Apollos; are ye not carnal? Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.” 1*

*Corinthians 3:4 - 7*

God reminded us in Romans 12:3 *“For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.”* Paul reminded us *“but to think soberly”* and as we think soberly, we must often remind ourselves that all things are in the hands of our Sovereign God over all creation. God reminds us that while we are workers with Him by planting and watering the seed of the gospel that we can never give the increase to make the seed also called the gospel to grow. We are for all thought, instruments in God’s power to plant and water only. Saul of Tarsus whom we also know to be the Apostle Paul witnessing of his own salvation said that Jesus had, *“To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me.”* Acts 26:18 No person can quicken their own dead spirit or any dead spirit, only by the power of God can the quickening a spirit that is dead. You can plant a thousand seeds and if God does not give them life, then they will never have life. Human beings have no power to give life because life only comes for the original source of life, God. We must remember that the power of darkness over us is Satan, and only God’s power can defeat Satan. God said in 2 Corinthians 4:4 *“In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.”* *The lost will never believe on Jesus Christ with a dead spirit because they are blinded from it by Satan. God himself must quicken the dead spirit and then give sight so a lost soul*

## *From Our Pastor Continued:*

can see the gospel of Christ, ears must also be opened to hear. All of this is by God’s power through the workings of the Holy Spirit. People are born totally depraved with nothing good in them, they are also born at enmity with God and never having a desire to ever come to Christ. God must draw us to Him for us to come, He changes our whole thinking about Him when the Holy Spirit delivers life to our inner spirit. There is not change of heart on our part, no turning over a new leaf, no change of mind to repent nor coming to Jesus Christ, none. *“There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God.”* Romans 3:11 Not one single soul will ever come to Jesus Christ unless it is by God’s own power.



- Happy Birthday to Brother Larry Mollette Friday June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Memorial services for Sister Velma Hammond are Monday June 19<sup>th</sup> There will be a service at our church building 2:30 and 4:00 interment at the cemetery.
- Happy Father’s Day to all our dad’s

*“Church-goers today will not endure "sound doctrine." Those . . . who preach the total depravity of man, who insist upon the imperative necessity of the new birth, who set forth the inflexible righteousness and holiness of God, and who warn against the eternal and conscious torment awaiting every rejecter of Christ, find it almost impossible to obtain a hearing! Such preachers are regarded as puritanic pessimists, and are not wanted.”*

*-A.W. Pink*