

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

July 04, 2021

Newsletter Number 827

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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, David Henderson and Wife, Hailey Renee McManus, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Susan McCool Swiggart, Brother Medic and Sister Marilyn, Mark Johnson, Roselyn Pardillo and 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.

Thought from our Pastor

The scripture not of private interpretation.

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation." 2 Peter 1:20

Please understand the scriptures are God's, they were written on tables and scrolls by God's chosen people, but every single letter of every word is God's. The scriptures were most carefully translated into the English language by the King James translators into what is known as the King James Version. They carefully used older versions very carefully over several years to make sure we have the most accurate version, and among most Christians it is most used. I personally believe the KJV is the most accurate version the world has, and most trusted. The bible is God's word, it does not belong to the writers it belongs to God, these people wrote the scriptures as the Holy Spirit instructed their hearts. *"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; (14) And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. (15) **All scripture is given by inspiration of God,** and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: (16) That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Timothy 3:14 – 17* The bible is not a book written to lost people; it is written to the believers in Jesus Christ because God said lost people are **"spiritually discerned"** 1Cor. 2:14. That means they do not have the ability to understand God or His word. The bible is a spiritual revelation from the Holy Spirit, while it is a labor on our part it is still a revelation from God. Not only were holy men moved of God to write the scriptures, but holy people are also moved by the Holy Spirit to understand the bible. We are not able to contain the truths of the scriptures without the gift of God through the Holy Spirit. *"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. (7) For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; (8.) To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;" 1 Cor. 12:7 - 9* Therefore, it must be concluded that the only private interpretation of the scriptures is God's, and it belongs to no man, denomination, group, or even scholars. No one is infallible in the scriptures except the Author which is God. To understand one letter of the scripture is a blessing and to understand much is a much larger blessing. People argue and debate the scriptures all the time now and in history, many have been killed in horrible ways because of their belief in the scriptures. Today Christians still argue the scriptures and fight in disagreement and even end friendships over the scriptures. I understand a strong

scriptural stand, but if we do not allow for error then we are and intolerable people which is not Christian. If your attitude is that it's your belief of nothing, you are in violation of the very scripture you profess to believe. God told Christians to love one another because we are Christian brothers and sisters not because we all agree with you. Even the smartest among us are wrong on the scriptures. We might ought to spend more time praying to God that we are correct ourselves than damning as wrong. One day we will all stand before Jesus Christ for our judgment, and this will be our judgment. The bible is not our interpretation but what God has written, therefore we as Christians must consistently search for the truth which only comes as a gift of God.

A FALSE PREMISE

By Curtis Pugh (1944 - 2018)

Most ideas about salvation are based upon a false premise. That false idea is this: that sinners can do this or that and by doing so please God and obtain salvation. This popular idea is not taught in God's Word.

Consider this passage: "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his," (Romans 8:7-9).

Two kinds of people are presented to us in this text: some are identified as "they that are in the flesh," in contrast to the "ye" who are "not in the flesh, but in the Spirit." Humans are either "in the flesh" or "in the Spirit" depending on whether or not the Holy Spirit dwells in them.

Not only do we see two kinds of people in this passage, but we are informed that each kind has differing abilities. Those "in the flesh cannot please God." This is a clear statement which is contrasted with those "in the Spirit" - those who have the Spirit dwelling in them.

Those only born naturally cannot please God. Those who have experienced a second birth by the Holy Spirit can please God. In spite of human reasoning there is absolutely nothing - no act, no prayer, no repentance - no work whatsoever that a natural man can do to please God: not even the so-called "sinner's prayer" whatever that is. Regarding this inability Jesus said, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day," (John 6:44). Spiritually dead men can do nothing spiritual!

To the man "in the flesh," the Lord Jesus said, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again," (John 3:6-7). It is only after a spiritually dead sinner is "born again" that he, because of the indwelling Spirit, can pray, experience godly sorrow, repent and believe to the saving of his soul. Paul wrote of this in Ephesians 2:5 saying: "Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;). It is this quickening or being born again that God accomplishes independent of any act by the sinner. The fact that God alone accomplishes the new birth is hated by the natural man. It robs him of his pride. He has nothing to do with causing his new birth. But if sinners are to be saved, they must first be born again by God's Spirit whom no man can influence or control. "Ye must be born again!"

Church News

- Do not forget our Bible Conference is Friday September 17 and Saturday September 18 We need to select speakers next Sunday Please consider who you want.