

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, 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 Sovereign God.

"Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth." Romans 9:18

There was a time some decades back when people in all denomination believed in God as a Sovereign Being in some way. Even the Arminian churches of that time did not believe the looseness of what they do today. Some assemblies that call themselves churches simply ignore the bible in order to satisfy the people. God warned of this, *"Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves: (24) Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen"* Romans 1:24 – 25 Therefore, the Sovereignty of God in their minds has no significance, so much so they don't believe God has the power to change peoples will. So, what exactly is the Sovereignty of God, it is God being a Supreme God, it is God controlling His own creation as He will's. It is God controlling by predestination and His ordained will. Look what God said about the powerful Pharaoh, *"For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, Even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee..."*. God raised him to power just to destroy him, that's right Pharaoh had no choice, he had no decision, he did not choose his evil heart, God just never changed his evil heart and made him good. Regardless of what the vast majority of the Christian religion wants you to think, God is the Sovereign creator not man. Man has no right to choose anything, there is no record in the bible of man choosing anything except evil over good, which is also their nature. God cause Pharaoh's heart to be hardened because God chose him for an evil life to show His (God's) power over Him. It is God Who molds the clay, some unto honor and some unto dishonor, it has nothing to do with mans choice. V.21 asks this question, *"Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?"* The question is, does the Potter (God) have the power over man to create one person honorable and another dishonorable? The answer is yes because it is God who has the mercy and grace, man only has evil in their heart, mercy and grace come from God. What about Esau, he had no choice in God loving him, *"As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated."* V. 13 God hated Esau because He never loved him. Esau had no choice to love God because in his very being God hated him. God said in V. 15 *"...I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion."* There is noting there about God giving a person a choice, it is all about what the

Sovereign God chooses to do. The Apostle Paul is another example, Saul of Tarsus did not choose to come to Christ, Jesus stopped him and changed him. He went on to be a mighty soldier for the Lord, and if Jesus had not stopped him, he would have arrested and killed more Christians. Paul said himself, "But by the grace of God I am what I am..." 1 Cor. 15:10 not by his own power of change. We looked at Esau whom God hated from eternity, let's look at the opposite, what about Jeremiah, God said "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." What choice did he have not to be what God made him, NONE! Jeremiah's life was predestinated and ordained of God before the world was created. God chose his life to be "sanctified and...a prophet unto the nations." See folks, it is easy to condemn the beautiful doctrine of God's sovereignty because in the Bible it cannot be unproven. There is nothing in the scriptures to refute the Sovereignty of God, NOTHING! Go ahead and find it, it is not there!

AN ALL IMPORTANT QUESTION FOR YOU

By Elder Don Fortner

There is one question that, above all others, is of greatest importance. Our Lord himself asked it, "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" The question is not, "Are you religious?" Most everyone is. In comparison with this question, all questions concerning denominational affiliations and theological opinions are insignificant. How can I put this question to you with due solemnity? "Dost thou believe on the Son of God?" Life and death, heaven and hell, eternal bliss and unutterable woe, depend upon your answer to this question. Perhaps there are some of you whose hearts are troubled by this question. You may be genuinely concerned about the state of your soul. You are wondering, what is it to believe on Christ. Let me try to help you. There are three things essential to what we call saving faith.

1. BEFORE ANY MAN CAN BELIEVE ON CHRIST, HE MUST HAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF HIM. This knowledge comes through the preaching of the gospel. When the Holy Spirit applies the preached Word, he makes us to know our need of Christ. He teaches us our guilt and our helplessness. And he makes us to know who Christ is, and what he has done. He shows us that the Son of God died in the place of sinners, satisfying divine justice; and that he has power to save sinners upon the merits of his substitutionary work.

2. THERE MUST BE AN ABSOLUTE AGREEMENT, TO THE TESTIMONY GOD HAS GIVEN CONCERNING HIS SON. True faith is more than simply agreeing with the facts and truths of the gospel. But, wherever there is true faith there is an agreement in heart with God's testimony in the gospel.

3. THE SINNER MUST TRUST CHRIST. Realizing his sinful and wretched condition, he simply casts himself upon the arms of mercy. You must commit your soul, and all your hopes of salvation and life to the Son of God, knowing that it is in his power alone to show you mercy and grant eternal life.

Scripture to think about:

"To every thing there is a season (an appointed time), and a time to every purpose under the heaven: (1) A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted"; Ecclesiastes 3:1 – 2

Church News

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