

## 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, Roselyn Pardillo and Family and those that work with her, Hailey Beaver, Brother Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergey Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

### *Pastor's thought for the week.*

#### **Waiting With Patience on the Lord.**

*"And not only they, but ourselves also, which have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our body. For we are saved by hope: but hope that is seen is not hope: for what a man seeth, why doth he yet hope for? But if we hope for that we see not, then do we with patience wait for it." Romans 8:23 – 25*

God has given every believer something special in our salvation, HOPE, and as Christians we need to keep that hope in our hearts. God said about hope, *"Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* Hebrews 11:1 Hope is in our Father and His blessed Son Jesus Christ, that one day we will be in heaven and enjoy our new home with our Father and our Saviour for all eternity. As believers we cannot see this hope, we do not see God, Jesus, or heaven, therefore it's called Hope because God said, *"...things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."* If you want to see these things then they are not hope, because hope comes from faith, Hope is not seen, *"but hope that is seen is not hope."* This is why we have faith, we believe in God who we cannot see, Jesus who we cannot see, we have hope of being in heaven which we cannot see. Remember, *"...faith is the substance of things hoped for..."* therefore our hope is powered by our faith. Our faith in God and His word builds up hope in where our future is, our faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour builds our hope for a heavenly future. God said we are, *"Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;"* Titus 2:13 Our hope is in the glorious coming of Jesus Christ, it is in God, it is in being in heaven soon. Our hope is not in this world or the things or people of it. The second coming of Jesus Christ has been talked about since Jesus ascended into the heavens after His resurrection. Today, more than two-thousand years later we still have faith in His coming which gives us hope. The lost world has no faith and therefore they have no hope. No hope in Jesus as Saviour, no hope in God, no hope of heaven, their only hope is in this wicked world. Since faith gives the believer hope in things not seen, we may KNOW that we shall have something much greater after this life, something much greater than all things this world can offer. It is a blessing from God to know, *"And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him. For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart, and knoweth all things. Beloved, if our heart condemn us not, then have we confidence toward God. And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight."* 1 John 3:19 – 22 Our faith in our Great God and our Glorious Saviour gives us all this hope. That we may know, yes that we may know, that even if our own hearts fail us, God is keeping our hope alive, we know that the work we do for the Lord is not in

vain, and to know that God hears and answers all our prayers as He graciously wills. Knowing this is a blessing, a gift from God, therefore we are to wait on the Lord patiently, for God's glorious gifts. We are not to lose faith in God or the things that are to be, patience is a must. We must work hard to keep our lamps trimmed and ready because we never know in a second, we might see Jesus face to face. Please keep these scriptures in your heart at all times, "*My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*" James 1:2 - 4 No matter what life brings, trust the Lord in all things and "*let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*"

### ***Abusing The Bible:***

By Elder Curtis Pugh

There are a number of reasons for the disagreements among professing Christians. Traditional teachings are sometimes believed instead of the Bible. Not knowing Bible customs, not knowing the meaning of words both English and in the original Bible languages also contribute to these differences. Not considering all that the Bible has to say on a subject may also contribute. Of course those who somehow claim to be followers of the Lamb but who do not believe the Bible will put forth their own ideas.

There is a warning in the Bible regarding our mistreatment of the Scriptures. It is possible to abuse God's Book. It is possible to twist and torture it so as to make it say what it does not really say. Let us begin in the middle of one of Peter's statements about Paul: "...our beloved brother Paul also according to the wisdom given unto him hath written unto you; As also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction," (2 Peter 3:15-16).

Peter admits that Paul wrote some things hard to be understood, but that he had been given the wisdom by which he wrote: given it from God, of course. He also wrote that Paul wrote of such things in all his letters so we conclude they must have been of major importance. Peter also equated Paul's writings with "the other scriptures" meaning Paul's letters were the Word of God just like the Old Testament and other New Testament writings. He also named two kinds of people who abuse all the Scriptures: those who are "unlearned" and those who are "unstable."

Peter said these people "wrest" the Scriptures "unto their own destruction." By twisting or torturing the meaning of words and terms it is possible to make the Bible say most anything. But putting Scriptures together that are unrelated it is possible to do the same thing. For instance: the Bible says Judas "went and hanged himself." And in another place Jesus said, "Go, and do thou likewise." Of course these two quotations are totally unrelated, but in a ridiculous way they illustrate one way the Bible can be twisted. So also many people take Old Testament promises made to National Israel and claim they are true for Christians or for Christ's congregations today. But National Israel is one thing and Christians and congregations of them are completely different and not to be confused. Old Testament promises made to Israel cannot rightly be claimed by citizens of the United States or any other people except those addressed.

In abusing the Bible there is a danger: a danger of personal "destruction:" a danger of perishing, of ruin, of perdition! Oh how important it is that we study the Scriptures carefully and without prejudice allowing them to say what they say. Do not "wrest" the Bible to your "destruction!"

### ***Church News***

Our Bible Conference is Friday September 17 and Saturday September 18 they are:

- **Elder Joey Newell** Pastor at Sovereign Grace Baptist Church in Silsbee, Texas
- **Elder Kelley Hinson** Pastor at Landmark Sovereign Grace Baptist Church in Ft. Worth, Texas
- **Elder Larry Wilson** Pastor at Northside Baptist Church in Oakdale, Louisiana
- **Elder Jimmy Nelson** Pastor at Landmark Baptist Church in Haltom City, Texas
- **Elder Ronnie Miller** Pastor at Divide Baptist Church in Divide, Texas
- Thank you all for coming and sharing God's word with us once again!
- Please pray for our conference and our guest Speakers.

Our speakers will be staying at the Country Inn & Suites 1918 University Avenue Texarkana, Texas 75503 855-516-1090 Tell them you are here for our Bible Conference, and you will get our rate