### The Need and Blessing of Church Attendance

By Elder O. B. Mink (Now with The Lord) https://www.pbcofdecaturalabama.org/OBMink/blessing.htm

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." (Hebrews 10:24)

- 1.) You cannot have the proper consideration for your brothers and sisters in Christ, and be unfaithful to the church where they meet.
- 2.) You cannot provoke your brothers and sisters in Christ unto love, unless you are faithful to the church that Christ loved and died for.
- 3.) You cannot provoke good works unless your church work is good. When the super structure of your Christian life is flimsy, people will be suspicious of the foundation upon which it is built. The church is the pillar and ground of the truth. (I Timothy 3:15)

"Love and good works" are the fruit of faithfulness to the Lord's house, and apart from his path of obedience to Christ, love wanes and good works go wanting.

Every part of the body is given to complement every other part of the body, and to become a hindrance rather than a help is to impair the efficiency of the whole body. The Lord's church is His executive body on earth, and careless disregard of duty thereto creates an additional burden upon the already struggling brothers and sisters of the church.

Every member is either a blessing or a burden to the church, and one sure way to be a blessing and have loving concern for our fellow pilgrims is to meet constantly with them at the Lord's house. Then, shall the world around us know that we have been with one another, and that we all have been with Jesus. To habitually miss the services of the church is to abuse one of the greatest privileges we have, and it is to shirk in a shameful way our responsibility to Christ and His church which He so lovingly considered, worked and died for. Can we, or will we be so ungrateful as to reproach Him by failing to meet with Him and His faithful people at the appointed time? God forbid!

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." (Hebrews 10: 25)



## Today is September 24, 2023

## Welcome

# 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, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, 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, Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family and church, Baby Titus Massey Kathy Johnson.

#### **Pray 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.



### "Is Time closing for salvation."

By Pastor Randy Johnson

"(For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)" 2 Corinthians 6:2

People today are getting worse and worse, time is closing in on us, and people are distancing themselves from God more and more. Just before God flooded the earth and killed every living soul, God gave this warning, "And the LORD said, My spirit shall not always strive with man, for that he also is flesh: yet his days shall be an hundred and twenty years." Genesis 6:3 The warning today is "...now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." I am fearful that the people of this world are ignoring God's warning as they did before the flood, God is angry and wrath is coming, why, "And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5 If God looked upon the earth and saw the greatness of human wickedness thousands of years ago, just imagen what is seen of God on this earth today. As Christians and churches, we are supposed to be working in a partnership with God, "We then, as workers together with him..." 6:1 This does not mean that God has a need of human help, because God is eternally self-contained and needs nothing from no one. But one of God's blessings to us is that He chose to give us the grace to work with Him, in salvation, teaching His word, and working with other believers in many ways. God said in 1 Corinthians 3:9 "For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building." This is God's grace to us, and if we fail to do our part then God will do it a separate way and use someone else. However, we need to understand that God using us is also a gift of grace. The blessing of planting and watering is God's grace to us, but also God's commandment to us. The Great Commission to the churches is clear, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Matthew 28:19 – 20. The first message the world needs to hear from us is simple, "...now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)"

### "Is Time closing for salvation." Continued

Salvation of the lost is getting lost and most of it is our fault. We are, as both churches and Believers losing our fire to preach the gospel to the world, and this is the time it is most urgent. I understand that we live in a time of few salvations, we are simply not seeing many saved. However, this should strengthen our urgency, not make it dwindle. God said, "...I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation...". I believe, as most believers and churches do also believe, that we are living in the last days. It does not matter what God is doing, God has a right to do as He chooses because He is God. However, God gave us a work to do and for us to do that work is a gift of His grace, but are we failing to be receptive of God's kindness to us and failing in our commission from Jesus Christ? Jesus told us to "go", and He never told us to stop or even slowdown. The measuring stick of our goal, is not only getting the gospel to the world, but to every lost soul. "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15 Are we wasting God's grace and our opportunity for souls to be saved? Can we all, as individual believers and even as churches say what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 15:10 "But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." Are we truly laboring more abundantly than they all?



- Happy Birthday to Sister Rebecca Johnson, Monday Sept. 25<sup>th</sup>
- We are planning to observe the Lord's Supper on Oct. 22, if you are planning to be away, please advise the Pastor. This is one day after our churches 62<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary.

