

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, 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, Stanley Giles, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Chris and Sister Bookout, 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.

Let us Bow to our Great God.

"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker. For he is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. To day if ye will hear his voice,"

Psalms 95:6 - 7

God, He is the King of kings, He is the Lord of lords, God is the creator of all things in existence. The Hebrew word for God here is ('ĕlôhîym, pronounced el-o-heem') here it is used in a plural form that includes the Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is the name of the Supreme God; it also refers to His Deity. God's name no matter what form it is used in is Holy, thus it the name points to any of the Trinity that name should only be used in a complete Holy and Reverence way. The word Reverend belongs to God not to Ministers, Pastors, or any other created creature. The word Reverend is used once in the entire scriptures, "*He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: **holy and reverend is his name.***" Psalms 111:9 however the Hebrew word (yârê', pronounced yaw-ray') is used more than 300 times in the Old Testament where these words are used, (fear, afraid, dreadful, affright, and it means a terrible thing or act). The word is referred to el-o-heem' or the Triune God, not to ministers and Pastors, the word is meant to strike fear into our hearts. Why would the Bible refer to the Triune God as one who should be feared or looked at as dreadful? Why should our loving God be one we fear, He is loving, merciful, gracious, longsuffering, so why should anyone have reason to fear Him? God said, "*For the LORD is great, and greatly to be praised: he is to be feared above all gods.*" Psalms 96:4 It is because He is GREAT and One that should be feared as the Psalmist wrote. God should be feared more than any creature in all creation, even Satan should not be feared. God is Sovereign and it is He who created everything outside of Himself, and it is He that has power and authority of all creation. He should be not only revered or feared but He is also to be treated like the Sovereign Creator that He is. God should be highly feared by everyone in creation, but He is not. Even a lot of Christians that do not fear God, but our genuine fear of Him is what causes us to walk upright. The Psalmist wrote these words, "*The LORD taketh pleasure in them that fear him, in those that hope in his mercy.*" Psalms 147:11 that word (fear) is the same Hebrew word as "Reverend" in Psalms 111:9 We also see it in the New Testament, "And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation." Luke 1:50 here the word fear means reverend even in the Greek it is the same as the Hebrew word. So as Christians if we reverence God, He will take pleasure in us and have mercy on us. God is not a man, He is not our buddy, He is not one we negotiate with, and

therefore He should be treated and respected as the Great God that He is. He is the King of all kings and Lord of all lords, people and even some Christians bow to earthly kings but not the Great King. They fear government, rulers, bosses, authoritative people, but not God as though God is irrelevant. As Christians we should truly worship God, church is not an option it is a command. Living in righteousness is not an option but a command, our lives are not ours, they belong to God. As Christians we are to “bow down to God” is also not an option it is a command just as “worship” is a command, and as Christians we are to Reverence or fear God enough to rightly worship Him. The Psalmist wrote, *“The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: a good understanding have all they that do his commandments: his praise endureth for ever.”* Psalms 111:10 If one fails to Reverence God then they will not obey God because mankind obeys what they fear, we fear powerful authority therefore we obey powerful authority. Disobedience is human nature, therefore without fear people will be disobedient to laws and rules. We only obey God because we fear God, therefore we bow to His authority which is the word of God. The world does not fear God therefore they are disobedient and will not bow to or obey God, but the time is coming when they will. *“Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, That unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear. Surely, shall one say, in the LORD have I righteousness and strength: even to him shall men come; and all that are incensed against him shall be ashamed.”* Isaiah 45:22 – 24 This warning to every believer, we must reverence God in fear, we must bow to His authority, because He is a Great and powerful God that requires it, all one day will bow before Him and fear before Him without question.

“When grace is not grace.”

By Elder Curtis Pugh (1944 – 2018)

Most religious folk think that there are certain things that you must do to qualify for God's grace. In other words, they say, God saves by grace but in order to get God to be gracious to you you must be do this or that or the other thing. The popular idea is that there is some religious exercise or work that a sinner must do in order to please God and get Him to dispense saving grace.

At least four things are wrong with that approach. First of all, if there is anything a person must do in order to obtain God's grace then grace is not grace. We know that because God's Word says, “And if by grace, then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace. But if it be of works, then is it no more grace: otherwise work is no more work,” (Romans 11:6). The context of this verse has to do with God's election (choice) of whom He will save, but the principle extends to all matters of grace. What the verse says is that grace and works cannot be mixed. Either a thing is a matter of grace or a matter of works. Obtaining salvation is either a matter of works or a matter of grace. It cannot be a matter of both works and grace. If you have done something in order to be saved, you have changed grace into works. You have earned God's favor. Grace means unearned favor.

The second thing wrong with the idea that a sinner can do something to qualify for grace is this: there is absolutely nothing that a lost person can do to please God. Proof: “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,” (Romans 8:7-8). Lost sinners are so bad off because of their fleshly minds – their corrupt sinful minds – that they cannot do anything pleasing to God. Selfishness and greed enter into their motives and are unacceptable to God. Plain words from God's Word, these: and true ones.

The third and fourth things wrong with this approach is that no one naturally understands his lost condition and no one seeks after God. “There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God,” (Romans 3:11). The Holy Spirit must first regenerate the sinner before he or she can understand his or her hopeless and helpless condition. Only in a regenerate condition will a sinner seek after God. That is why the Lord Jesus told Nicodemus “...Ye must be born again,” (John 3:7). Being born spiritually has absolutely nothing to do with a human act of the will. It is “...not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God,” (John 1:13). Remember: “...Ye must be born again.”

Church News:

Sister Velma Hammond, Happy Birthday Tuesday October 12th

Brother Justin Bookout, Happy Birthday Saturday October 16th