

SOVEREIGN GRACE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Where The Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For More Than Fifty-Eight Years"

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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"A Church Seeking To Please God In Prayer, Song, Preaching, And Worship."

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, Frankie Baldrige and daughter, Buckie Thompson, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family, Lana Paul, Tyrell Loyd, Ted O'Bonion, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Poole, Danny & Nita Mollette, their cousin Kayla, The Muncy Family, Lee & Mary Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Matthew Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ronnie Henderson Jr. & Children, Ricky Henderson and Family, Velma Hammond, Don Hammond and Families, Donna Johnson, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Nathan Fails, Jacob Ramsey, Jerry Hughes, Pastor G. L. Burr, Gina, Brother Kelley and Sister Hinson, Patricia Hinson, Diane Thomas and grandson Jace Fails, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Carolyn Davis, Vickie Adkins, Shirley King, Brother Dan Sullivan the work in Thailand, Brother Raul and the work in Romania, Bro. Sergey Mochalov and the Churches in Russia.

The Pastors Message:

Are you carnal or spiritual?

"For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace. 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 8:6 – 8

God uses Romans chapter 8 for two reasons, (1.) to show His blessings to the redeemed or spiritual and (2.) to show His condemnation to the lost or carnal. God calls the saved spiritual and the condemned lost carnal and this is done for a pacific reason, to separate the sheep and the goats. The image here we need to see is the controlling factor of two sorts of people, the carnal is worldly controlled and the spiritual is Holy Spirit controlled. Paul, in speaking to the church at Corinth called the church membership because of their mind-set and actions "carnal minded", "*For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"* 1 Corinthians 3:3 But remember, this is a church therefore they are actually saved, but they were worldly in their thinking and acting as though they were lost. Therefore, Paul told them in verses 1 – 2 "*And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ. I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able.*" This is a sad place for a Christian, but even sadder for a church to be "carnal-like". This is what happens when you stop teaching the meat of the word, you become child-like and can only handle milk. I mostly preach the milk of the word when I'm among lost people with no ability to have spiritual understanding, but how horrible when a church has none, even a counterfeit church. Folks, please just teach the word, as it is, the Holy Spirit will lead and direct your services in the word. Every church needs to remember who controls their church, "*Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.*" Revelation 2:5 Whom do you seek to please, God or people? Paul said in Romans 8:5 a very profound fact for all believers and churches to remember, "*For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.*" Paul also wrote on this subject to the church at Galatia these facts, "*This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye*

would.” Galatians 5:16 – 17 Folks, please understand this, true churches and sound Christians are both spiritual in nature, we both seek to walk in the scriptures, not by man’s commentary of them, but the Holy Spirits teaching to them. The scriptures do not change because you change, they do not change because the world changes, they are eternal just as God is eternal, “*God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good? Behold, I have received commandment to bless: and he hath blessed; and I cannot reverse it.*” Numbers 23:19 – 20 There are four kinds of people in this world, (1.) those who are lost and carnal, (2.) those who are saved and spiritually minded, (3.) those who are saved and carnally minded, and (4.) those who are lost and act as though they are spiritually minded, what group do you and your church fit into? Paul also wrote these profound words, “*So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*”

Romans 8:8 Carnally minded people, whether saved or lost will never please God, even if they call themselves “a church”. The only way to please God is to be spiritually minded and walking in the Spirit which is after the truth of the word. “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. And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.*” Romans 8:9 - 10

“Light Affliction”

By Don Fortner

2 Corinthians 4:17

When you’re hurting, when your heart is broken, when you don’t know what to do or where to turn, and you read those words, “*our light affliction,*” you might be tempted to slam your Bible shut and throw it on the floor. — Before you do that, try to remember these five things.

1. **Our afflictions are light when compared with what we deserve** (Psalm 103:8-14). — We could be cast off in reprobation. God could have left us alone. We could be in heathen darkness. We could be in hell (1 Thessalonians 5:9-11)
2. **Our afflictions are light when compared to that which others have suffered before us.** — Men and women all over the world suffer the same things we do. Why should I be any different? Most people in this world suffer much, much more than I do. Why should I complain? God’s people in this world have always been a suffering people (Hebrews 11). — Shall I expect to live in ease?

*“Must I be carried to the skies
On flowery beds of ease,
While others fought to win the prize,
And sailed through bloody seas?”*

The most gracious, most thoughtful, most caring and tender people I’ve known in this world have been people who seemed never to live a day without great pain and heaviness.

3. **Truly, our afflictions are light when compared to that which our Lord Jesus Christ suffered for us** (Hebrews 12:3-4; Isaiah 53:6-11; Psalm 22:1-16; 40:12; 69:1-19; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13). When I know the agony of body and soul, the torments of heart, the bloody sweat which my Savior endured for me, how can I complain about my “*light affliction*”? I ought to be able, by the grace of God, to endure my “*light affliction*” with patience for the honor of my blessed Redeemer who suffered so much for me.

4. **Our afflictions are light when compared to the countless blessings of grace our God has bestowed upon us** (1 Corinthians 1:30; Ephesians 1:3-14; 1 John 3:1-3). — Eternal, Covenant Blessings! — Daily, Providential Blessings! — Saving, Gospel Blessings! — “*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake.*” (Philippians 1:29)

5. **Our afflictions are light when compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.** — This is exactly what Paul had in mind when he called our affliction in this world, “*our light affliction.*” Oh, how light my afflictions are when compared to that which I shall enjoy when the Lord calls me home!

Church Notices:

We had to say goodbye to Brother Wendell Henderson this last week, but look where he is at, “*Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord... We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.* 2 Corinthians 5:6,8 AMEN!!!