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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Newsletter Number 742

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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 Baldridge 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, Shirly 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:

Be a good Soldier for Jesus Christ.

"Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ." 2 Timothy 2:3

A Pastor is a warrior for Jesus Christ, Pastors are examples just like Jesus was when He had His earthly ministry. The Local New Testament Church is the only institution on earth that is set to bring glory to God because Jesus her founder. As Pastors, Jesus called us names like "under-shepherds, and overseers" and it is our responsibility to fill those shoes. We all need to be as Christ-like as much we can no matter what happens in the world or the churches. Any Pastor who does not love his flock above everything else on earth is not a good Pastor. There is no question that we were chosen above all other men to Pastor the church where we are at, and we need to honor our calling as though it is an honor to have been called. We must understand as "under-shepherds, and overseers" we are likened to a manager of a business, caring for the owner's commodities, which happen to be the children of God. We cannot allow ourselves to be sidetracked by worldly affairs, Christ Jesus has appointed us to oversee His beloved flock. It is true that hard times will come, God promised that they would. And hard times will come the more as a Pastor is more a stronger soldier for the Lord and His church. Pastors, God has promised hard times in the last days, churches will shrink, money will shrink, and many more things will cause hardships for Pastors. The world will hate you, people in the world will despise you because of who you are, and you will be refused and rejected many times over, even by others that call themselves Christians. The Lord reminded us in verse 4 "No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier." In this world Pastors and all Christians must not engage themselves so much in worldly affairs that it affects their churches. As a Pastor, we are only good as we are as under-shepherds, and overseers, for it is the Lord's work that was entrusted into our care. A good Pastor never lets worldly things to come between him and his church, ever! Not even the hardness's we endure. As a Pastor I must work a secular job and I must fight the world every day, keeping in sight my true responsibility to Jesus and His church. Trusting that vengeance belongs to the Lord and not to me, because what I do in the world reflects on the Lord's church. We must all endure hardships for the Lord, being a good example to those who serve with us in the churches. Our reward is not here, it is not on this earth, it is laid-up for us in heaven, awaiting us if we continue as the Lord has commanded. Paul gave us the very reason to work and

strive so hard in verse 4 "...that he may <u>please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier</u>." Pleasing Him who elected us to be under-shepherds, and overseers, where in the end He will say Job well done, "His lord said unto him, <u>Well done, good and faithful servant</u>; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord." Matthew 25:23 As Pastors and Churches let us pray for one another, we are all in this fight for the Lord's work together.

"The Babylonian books of the present day!"

Charles Spurgeon, "The Greatest Fight in the World"

The history of that *human ignorance* which calls itself "philosophy", is absolutely identical with the *history of fools!* If ones were to write the *history of folly*, he would have to give several chapters to *philosophy*, and those chapters would be more revealing than any others.

Beware of **the Babylonian books of the present day!** The *truth of God* is the only *treasure* for which we seek, and the Scripture is the only *field* in which we dig for it! If you keep close to the inspired book, you can suffer no harm; you are at the fountain-head of all moral and spiritual good. This is fit *food* for the people of God—this is the *bread* which nourishes the highest life.

The prayerful study of the Word is not only a means of *instruction*—but an act of *devotion* wherein the transforming power of grace is often exercised, changing us into the image of Christ, of whom the Word is a mirror.

Within the Scripture, there is a balm for every wound, a salve for every sore. Oh, the wondrous power in the Scripture to create a *heart of hope*, within the *ribs of despair!* Amidst sharp and strong *temptations*, and fierce and bitter trials, the Word of the Lord has preserved us. Amidst *discouragements* which damped our hopes, and *disappointments* which wounded our hearts, our Bibles have brought us a secret, unconquerable consolation.

There is no true doctrine which has not been *fruitful in good works*. Payson wisely said, "If there is one fact, one doctrine, or promise in the Bible, which has produced no practical effect upon your temper or conduct—be assured that you do not truly believe it."

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The "doctrines of grace" produce . . .

a fine morality,
a stern integrity,
a delicate purity,
a devout holiness,
consecration in life,
calm resignation in the hour of suffering,
joyful confidence in the article of death.
This must be a true gospel—which can produce such lives as these!
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Christ is our Jonah!

By: William Dyer, "Christ's Famous Titles"

"Then they picked up Jonah and threw him into the sea—and the sea stopped its raging!" Jonah 1:15

Christ is our Jonah, who threw Himself into the *sea of His Father's wrath*—to save us from everlasting perdition!

Church Notices:

Happy Birthday to Brother Frank Reigel Wednesday November 13th