

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, 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, Gina, 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, Christel and her daughter, James Jackson and wife, Hailey Renee McManus, Little Cam Works, 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:

The Church is the Pillar and Ground of Truth.

1 Timothy 3:15 "But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth."

This world is full of special places to visit, see, and enjoy, God has indeed made a beautiful earth. But the most outstanding and most meaningful place for a Christian should be the local churches. The church was established by Jesus Christ during His earthly Ministry and continues to exist even today. Every church is different, their pastors are different, their song services are different, the people are different, and even their services are conducted differently. But if that church is a church of Jesus Christ a church of the living God should be the same in Truth, while some may differ in the definition of truth, the Bible is the end result of truth. Truth is not what someone wants it to be, not what people interpret it to be, but what the Bible says to be. Truth is being as closely aligned with the scriptures as possible, understanding no church is without error or perfect. The truth of the Bible is given to churches as their scriptural guideline in their worship service. In other words, biblical truth has never changed, people and churches have changed, and the truth has suffered weakening in the world, but biblical truth is absolute through all generations until Jesus returns. Some Pastors and churches have realized over the years in order to remain earthly strong, that is in size and money, you must evolve with the world over time. This has been the error of many churches through time, causing churches to fall from church status in the Lord. The Lord Jesus Christ warned the churches that expanding in error for any reason is reason for expulsion for the entire church, all members are responsible. *"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 The churches greatest challenge is to remain solid in biblical truth, and it is the Pastors responsibility not to allow the church to wander or stray from biblical truth. The church is God's, it is the Son's body, and God called it the Pillar and Ground of truth but let us not forget it is called the "church of the living God". This is important, it must remain God's house and she must conduct herself as God's house, and eventually Christ's Bride. The church has the right to expulsion of her membership for not remaining in the truth, keeping out the leaven, but only Jesus Christ has the authority of an entire churches' expulsion. Christians and churches must remain aware of our responsibility to God, Jesus, and the Holy Scriptures. As the Pillar and Ground of truth on this earth, Church members must be aware of our status in the churches, being a member is important and how we conduct ourselves as members is important. As

members we all should examine ourselves to make sure we are the pillar and ground of truth that keeps the church in unity together, wearing our scriptural armor as churches just as Christians are to wear them. Every member has a great responsibility to be a part of the pillar and ground of truth, the church is the people and the people are responsible.

Regeneration, repentance, faith, conversion

By Thomas Moor, "Counsels and Thoughts for the Spiritual Life of Believers" 1882

The Holy Spirit *quickens* the sinner with new spiritual life. He is thus born again. It is a work complete at once, and one in which the sinner is completely passive.

This is **regeneration**.

The sinner knows not that he is born again, but by the *results* which are manifested in the mind, heart and life.

His MIND is enlightened. He becomes deeply conscious of his personal relationship to God's holiness, to eternity, and to the judgment to come. These are to him realities such as they had never been before. He sees himself to be guilty before God, and deserving of eternal condemnation.

This is **repentance**.

His HEART becomes restless in consequence of his change of mind. He is weary and burdened under a consciousness of guilt. He looks to Jesus dying on the cross as the sinner's substitute. He trusts in Him as his only hope of salvation, and thus with the heart he believes and is saved.

This is **faith**.

His LIFE is now changed. The mind and heart being thus affected, the whole current of his outer life is altered. The man turns from the ways of sin and turns to God. He becomes a true disciple and follower of the Lord Jesus.

This is **conversion**.

In other words:

I. REGENERATION is the impartation of a new nature, and is in Scripture termed "being born again." It is an instantaneous work of the Holy Spirit, complete at once, though capable of increase in vigor and manifestation.

II. REPENTANCE is a change of mind about our relationship to God, whereby we become conscious that however moral or religious we may have been—we are really without God, and without hope in the world. We deeply sense that we are guilty before God and deserving eternal condemnation.

III. FAITH is the trust of the heart in Christ crucified, as the way of deliverance from guilt and deserved condemnation.

IV. CONVERSION is the change of the outward life. Having received Christ as his Savior, the believer now serves and follows Him as his Lord and Master.

Quotes for Pastors:

"A man cannot be a faithful minister, until he preaches Christ for Christ's sake—until he gives up striving to attract people to himself, and seeks only to attract them to Christ!" - Robert Murray M'Cheyne

"Sound doctrine and holy living are the marks of true pastors." - J.C. Ryle

"Preaching that costs nothing, accomplishes nothing." J.H. Jowett