

Sovereign Grace Missionary Baptist Church

"Where the Truths Of God's Word Have Been Taught For Sixty-One Years" Since October 21, 1961

1217 Dillon Texarkana, Texas 75501

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Please Join Us As We Pray For:

Sister 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, Tyler Castle, 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, Jim and Linda Meier, Keith Johnson, Vickie Adkins, Shirly King - Son David - and family, Elder Robert and Sister Jennifer Keller, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Roselyn Pardillo and Family and those that work with her, Hailey Beaver, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Dakota Sutton, Sister Velma Hammond, Adrienne Lavina, Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan the work in Thailand, Elder Raul and the work in Romania.

Thoughts from our Pastor:

Salvation by works voids God.

"For if they which are of the law be heirs, faith is made void, and the promise made of none effect:"

Romans 4:14

This has been an ugly debate since time has been, the Jews were convinced that their works would save them. The debate continued through the bible days, even when Jesus was on earth He was rejected as the Redeemer of mankind. And today the debate rages on, associations that call themselves "churches" preach and teach that works is a part of salvation. Works for salvation is Satan's lie, Satan wants this debate to continue because it is a challenge to true salvation in Jesus Christ. Works for salvation renders Jesus Christ useless in salvation, works make's salvation through the person not through Jesus. Faith is in Jesus Christ as Saviour; faith renders work's useless because all the work for salvation was done in Jesus Christ. God has made it crystal clear in the scriptures that salvation is not of both, works and faith. *"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 If salvation is of faith, then it's of grace and if it's of works then it is not of faith or grace. The two do not mix because our faith is in Jesus Christ as our Saviour, He cannot be our Saviour if we involve works in salvation. Works for salvation renders the entire Trinity useless in salvation. God is the giver and supplier of our salvation, faith is our believing and trusting God to save us, the Father gave grace, the Son paid the price and bought us, and the Holy Spirit delivers the quickening and faith to believe. *"But after that the kindness and love of God our Saviour toward man appeared, Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour; That being justified by his grace, we should be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life."* Titus 3:4 - 7 If you can read that passage of scripture and still believe in works for salvation you are as spiritually dead as a corpse in a grave and so blinded by Satan you cannot see. Works is a slap at God, denying Him the ability to save sinners, it's a slap at Jesus, making His earthly works, His death, and His blood useless, and it is a slap at the Holy Spirit as being useless in His works to save a sinner. Works for salvation is taking the power to save from God and putting it into the hands of sinful people. I would rather to have faith in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit rather in

my sinful self. I have one question for people who believe in works for salvation, what makes you just and righteous, what keeps you pure in your sinful living, and how many times have you been saved? See people who believe in works believe themselves to be perfect, part of their satanic blinding is believing that they are more righteous than another sinner. They believe that they are above sin, because according to their own teachings a person that "falls from grace" needs to be re-saved but they do not really believe that because they never fall from their salvation. They believe their living good enough to remain saved, in the end they will find themselves in Hell. *"For I testify again to every man that is circumcised, that he is a debtor to do the whole law. Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace. For we through the Spirit wait for the hope of righteousness by faith. For in Jesus Christ neither circumcision availeth any thing, nor uncircumcision; but faith which worketh by love."* Galatians 5:3 - 6

SECRET SINS

by C. H. Spurgeon

"Cleanse me from secret faults." Psalm 19:12

This is an introduction to Brother Spurgeon sermon delivered on February 8, 1857, the sermon was called "Secret Sins" Sermon 116 if you would like to read the entire sermon.

Self-righteousness arises partly from pride, but mainly from ignorance of God's Law. It is because men know little or nothing concerning the solemn character of the Divine Law that they foolishly imagine themselves to be righteous. They are not aware of the deep spirituality and the stern severity of the Law or they would have other and wiser notions. Once let them know how strictly the Law deals with the thoughts—how it brings itself to bear upon every emotion of the inner man—and there is not one creature beneath God's Heaven who would dare to think himself self-righteous in God's sight in virtue of his own deeds and thoughts.

Only let the Law be truly revealed to a man. Let him know how strict the Law is and how infinitely just and his self-righteousness will shrivel into nothing—it will become a filthy rag in his sight—whereas before he thought it to be a goodly garment. David, having seen God's Law and having praised it in this Psalm, which I have read in your hearing, is brought by reflecting on its excellency, to utter this thought, "Who can understand his errors?" and then to offer this prayer, "Cleanse me from secret faults."

In the Lateran Council of the Church of Rome, a decree was passed that every true believer must confess his sins, all of them, once each year to a priest and they affixed to it this declaration—that there is no hope of pardon but in complying with that decree. What can equal the absurdity of such a decree as that? Do they suppose that they can tell their sins as easily as they can count their fingers? Why, if we could receive pardon for all our sins by telling every sin we have committed in one hour, there is not one of us who would be able to enter Heaven.

Besides the sins that are known to us and that we may be able to confess, there are a vast mass of sins which are as truly sins as those which we do observe but which are secret and come not beneath our eyes. Oh if we had eyes like those of God, we would think very differently of ourselves. The sins that we see and confess are but like the farmer's small samples which he brings to market when he has left his granary full at home. We have but a very few sins which we can observe and detect, compared with those which are hidden to ourselves and unseen by our fellow creatures.

I doubt not it is true of all of us who are here that in every hour of our existence in which we are active, we commit tens of thousands of sins for which conscience has never reproved us because we have never seen them to be wrong, seeing we have not studied God's Laws as we ought to have done. Now be it known to us all that sin is sin, whether we see it or not—that a sin secret to us is a sin as truly as if we knew it to be a sin, though not so great a sin in the sight of God as if it had been committed presumptuously, seeing that it lacks the aggravation of willfulness. Let all of us who know our sins offer this prayer after all our confessions—"Lord, I have confessed as many as I know but I must add an etcetera after them and say, 'Cleanse me from secret faults.' "