

# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 1 December 30, 1986

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
WATCHNIGHT SERVICE.....7:30pm

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The Miracles just keep on coming. Our White Christmas Offering goal was \$3000 and we received over \$4500!!! (We were well over this with more coming in so I don't know the exact figure). What a privilege it is to Pastor people who are willing to sacrifice in order to advance the cause of Christ.

The Christmas Play was very good and I appreciate all the work that numerous people put into decorating the Church for the Play and for the Christmas season. It was a good Christmas season.

1987 is going to begin on a good note also. We will join with the Scranton Baptist Church Wednesday Night (Dec 31) beginning at 7:30pm for a special WATCHNIGHT SERVICE. We will have a time for songs, a time for testimonies, a message from the Word of God, and then join in a time of fellowship. I'm looking for a good representation from our Church.

Sunday Night (Jan 4) will begin the first of numerous Special Sunday Night Services. Theresa Coker and Nancy Wallace will be our special guest and show us slides from their recent mission work in Jamaica. What a joy it is to see one of our "children", raised in our Church, now using her talents for the Lord in other areas. In the weeks ahead we will see many of the members of our Church as well as special guest using their talents for the Lord during our Sunday Night Services. (I've found people learn 4 times as much from a sermon they preach as from one I preach!!!).

During the Christmas holidays I copied 180 tapes for distribution plus worked on several booklets. I was able to do this because of support from numerous people including L H Carter, Jr; Mr and Mrs John Carnell; Mr and Mrs Roy Ward; Rev Larry McAlister; Jack B Hanna; Mr and Mrs Wayne Mixon; Mrs Gail Jones; and Mr and Mrs Bill McBride (Sunday was really a "down" day for me. Sickness and Christmas Vacations had our attendance way down, the heat in the parsonage tore up, and I felt bad-- until I opened an offering for the Outreach ministry Sunday night and found \$103 in the envelope!!!! It seems that every time I start looking at the "circumstances" God tell me to leave those to Him and just do my job. Pray with me that I'll be faithful to use every opportunity God gives to get the Gospel out to a lost and dying world.)

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Because Men would not listen to God they had gotten themselves into trouble. A storm had tossed them and now they were in danger. They found they needed to cast out 4 anchors to hold them. As we face a new year we may find ourselves in some storms also. These 4 "anchors" will help hold us when it seems our "ship will sink".

I. KNOW YOU'RE SAVED- II Tim 1:12 For which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.

A) Positive Assurance: "I Know"

1. Certainty based on the Word of God- not on expert opinion.

2. Certainty based on the witness of the Spirit- The spirit bears witness with our spirit that we are the children of God. (Not a "funny" feeling but an abiding joy. He will show you the sign post along the way, as you grow in the Lord. Fruit, answered prayer, Word of God explained, etc.)

B) Personal Relationship- "Whom I have believed". Not saved because of what I do but because of Who I trust!! Not my goodness but His grace. Jesus said, "I know my sheep and am known of mine" (Jn 10:14)

C) Persuaded about Future- "Able to keep that which I have committed". Not Eternal Security but Eternal Assurance. I know He will never leave me nor forsake me. Job could say, "I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though after my skin worms destroy my body, yet in my flesh shall I see God." (Job 19:25)

II. KNOW GOD LOVES YOU- I John 4:16 And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him.

A) The Example of that Love- I John 4:10 Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

B) The Experience of that Love- Rom 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are the called according to his purpose. When we are completely confident that God REALLY Loves us then we can rest in that love NO MATTER WHAT COMES OUR WAY!!!

III. KNOW THERE IS A JUDGMENT- Ecc 11:9 Rejoice, O young man; in thy youth; and let thy heart cheer thee in the days of thy youth, and walk in the ways of thine heart, and in the sight of thine eyes: but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment.

A) Sinners will be "payed" for Sin

B) Righteous will be rewarded

4. KNOW HEAVEN IS REAL II Cor 5:1 For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

A) This world is not our home. The storms of life may buffet us but we have a Harbor of Refuge!!

B) Death is a gateway to Glory- Heb 6:19 Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...

When you find yourself in the midst of the storm anchor yourself in: The PEACE of God (know you're saved), The LOVE of God (know God Loves You), The FEAR of God (Know there is a Judgment to come), and the HOPE of God (Heaven is in the Future for Child of God).

# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 2 January 8, 1987

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm

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If the rest of 1987 turns out as well as the first week then the Lord may have to go ahead and rapture me and be done with it!!! The Watch Nite Service with the Scranton Baptist Church was very good- They're fine folk and we really enjoyed our service together. One of the highlights of the service was when Brother Marion Coker shared a special Blessing from the Lord- While we were VERY excited about our White Christmas Offering of \$4666.92 (!) it meant that our regular offering missed a week and we had to really watch our expenses. I had prayed for God to specially show His provision in meeting our need and Brother Marion shared how someone had come to his office to pay a gas bill and then returned later to give him \$100 for the Church !! (Ain't God Good !!).

There's more ! Today I got up to a very cold house and found that the heat had torn up again in the Parsonage. I determined the fan motor was bad so I took it to a place here in town to have it repaired. The repairman said it would cost more to repair it than it was worth so HE GAVE ME A BRAND NEW ONE !!! That's not all either- For several years the fan in the parsonage has made a very loud noise that would many times waken us from a sound sleep. We had tried to oil everything we knew and still the problem remained. When I replaced the motor I found that the problem was not in the fan but in the Motor !! I just spent 5 minutes walking around in my house Praising the Lord for the quiet !!

But that's just money, let's talk about important things. We had the best Sunday Morning and Sunday Evening Attendance Sunday we've had in 6 months with a very real moving of the Holy Spirit. I really believe that we're going to double our attendance this year as we see people saved and lives changed through the power of God.

As we saw through the slide presentation by Theresa Coker and Nancy Wallace Sunday night, there is always a "field" of service for a person if they looking to do something for the Lord. We reach hundreds of people thru our Outreach ministry and now we hope to find ways to minister to many more in person.

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The outreach work continues to bloom. (Thanks to Mrs. Linda Goforth and Mr and Mrs Samuel Evans for gifts and a very special Thanks to Rev. Ned Pattillo for the gift of a case of paper-- something I use a lot of). I have been spending a lot of time lately preparing the notes from the "Eschatology" study I did for the Bethel Bible Institute and now have them all compiled in booklet form. (44 pages of notes on the "End Time" and "Satan"). I have also been copying tapes of these sessions (12 tapes of 24 sessions in a nice plastic binder).

Here is the "difficulty". One of the primary rules of this outreach ministry is that we NEVER EVER sell anything. The Bible Institute wants (and needs) to sell these tapes and notes to help support itself. So I am preparing them but our State Promotional Secretary, Rev. Norwood Gibson, will handle their sale. The Bible Institute will reimburse this work for actual expenses and then use all profit to help run the Institute.

The Cost of the 12 tapes and a booklet of notes will be \$30. The booklet alone will be \$5 and if you want to receive credit for the course it will cost you \$5 to register, receive tests on the material, and then receive a certificate upon completion of the tests. This cost is very good when you consider the fact that this is two semesters of classes at the Institute (Which would cost \$50) and you get to listen to the tapes over and over. We're also hoping that some churches will be able to purchase a set of tapes and as many booklets as needed so their members can have the benefit of the Institute even if they are not able to attend.

If you would like more information on the tapes or booklet write to:  
BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE  
P O BOX 13266  
FLORENCE, S C 29504

THE SPRING SESSION OF BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE will begin at Grace Free Will Baptist Church on Tuesday, Jan 13 at 7:00pm. (The Darlington Branch will meet on Monday, Jan 12 at Southside FWB Church in Darlington). This session we will offer here at Grace-  
7:00-7:50pm Bible Characters by Rev. Joe McKnight  
7:50-8:10pm Devotion/Break  
8:10-9:00pm Bible Survey : Rev Mike Jones

The cost will be \$25 and will cover BOTH Classes as well as ALL notes.

As great as it is to serve the Lord, did you know that many people still aren't saved !! Why would anyone face life and all it's problems without the Lord?? Why would anyone face death and all it's torments without the Lord?? ARE YOU SAVED???

Write me and I'll be glad to show you how to have Abundant Life with Christ now and Eternal Life with Christ forever.

Until next time. May the Lord Bless you.

Preacher Mike Ps. 16:11

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 3 January 22, 1987

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Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm

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## GREAT SERVICE

We had a wonderful service Sunday night with Rev. Earl Hanna, our missionary to Orangeburg. We enjoyed meeting him; and his message was an inspiration; but the high light of the Evening was the Salvation decision by Brother Russel Lowder. We're praying for him and trusting that this is just the first of many many decisions for Christ this year.

The decision Brother Russel made is one that everyone can and should make. He turned from Sin and Self to the Saviour. He turned from being a Slave of Satan to become a Son of God. He traded the Misery of Hell for a Mansion in Heaven. No wonder he got up from the altar with a big smile on his face.

Would YOU like to find new Life in Christ? Here's how:

1. Realize you're a sinner. Sin is not some great crime you committed, it's "missing God's mark" for your life. "All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God."

2. Repent of your sin. Turn from sin and sinning. As long as you're content to be lost you'll never come to Christ.

3. Receive Christ as Saviour. In simple Faith ask God to forgive your sins and come into your heart. DO IT TODAY.

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Lake City, S C 29560

## THANKS

To Althea Coker, Billie Ard, Miriam McAllister, and Elise McBride for their gift of RUBBER BANDS to use in the newsletter ministry. (I use them to bundle the newsletters when I mail them).

To Mr and Mrs Olee Elmore, Mrs. Billie Ard, Marion Coker, Mr and Mrs Bill McBride, and Rev. Larry McAllister for gifts to this work. Your gifts not only helped publish the newsletter and distribute many tapes but they also enabled me to purchase some Christian books for several teens, and help several families in need. The harvest truly is plenteous if we can just get the laborers into the field.

## MEMORIAL

Mr and Mrs Bill McBride have given a gift to this work in Memory of Mrs. Linda McBride. A living Memorial to spread the Gospel. "by it she being dead yet speaketh" (Heb 11:4).

Aren't you glad Jesus died for YOUR sins. Let's tell everyone in the whole world the Good News.

Preacher Mike Ps. 16:11

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This Psalm was written by David after he had sinned with Bathsheba and Nathan the Prophet had come to him exposing his sin. It shows us several important Principles:

1. Preachers need to expose sin so men will repent of it; for, although David knew his sin, he did not repent of it until the Prophet of God brought him face to face with it.

2. Men need to realize they sin because they are SINNERS. Most people try to blame circumstances or other people but we, like David, need to "acknowledge our transgression and sin" (vs 3) and realize we did so because we were "shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me" (vs 5). The Heart of the problem is the Problem of the Heart. The Source of Sin is our Souls, not our surroundings.

3. We need to realize WHO we sinned against- "Against thee (God), thee only have I sinned, and done this evil in thy sight;" (vs 4). Many people try to justify their sin by pointing to the sins or short comings of the person they sinned against or with. [Many a husband has blamed his affair on his wife. Many people excuse their stealing from their employer as simply "getting what's owed me."] We must face up to the fact that we are accountable to God and HE WILL DO THE JUDGING.

4. Sin in the life of a Christian not only affects his relationship with God but also hampers his ability to win souls to Christ. David lists 4 basic needs in the Soul winners life in vs 10-14:

1. **RENEWAL OF RIGHTEOUSNESS**- vs 10 "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me". You must get the "beam" out of your eye before you can see to get the "mote" out of your Brother's eye. Is there sin in your life you need to confess??

2. **RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD**- vs 11 "Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me". How can you invite others to enjoy fellowship you don't have???

3. **RESTORATION OF JOY**- vs 12 "Restore unto me the joy of thy Salvation; and uphold me with thy free (willing) Spirit". Exposing Sin shows the sinner his need of leaving Satan but the Joy of Christian living causes him to want to come to God. That's the vital element missing in many people's testimony.

4. **REALIZATION OF RESPONSIBILITY**- vs 14 "Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God,...". God has said that if man die in their sins because I refuse to sound the warning that their blood will be on my hands!! (Ez 33:7-9). Witnessing for Christ is not an option we think about but an order we obey.

**RESULTS**- vs 13 "Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee."

a. Teach Transgressors- Restore the backslidden

b. Sinners converted- Lost saved from a devil's hell.

**We know what to do—now let's do it**

# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725

"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 4 February 5, 1987

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Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)

Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm

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## PRIORITIES

Everyone has their own set of priorities in life- The baby thinks food is more important than mother's sleep, teens think the opposite sex is much more important than any old history test, and, sadly, many adults feel an extra hour of sleep on Sunday Morning is more important than study of Scripture in Sunday School.

Preachers sometimes have problems with Priorities also. I don't think I have seen that more vividly illustrated than at our recent Annual conference. The conference glibly and gladly voted to spend \$1500 for an annual "Evangelism Conference" that will last 1 and 1/2 days and give people a good case of enthusiasm that sometimes last for as much as 2 weeks.

These same men then voted to give a grand total of \$50 to the Conference's Bible Institute. The Institute meets 26 times a year and has proved of inestimable value to Preachers and members who have not been able to attend Bible College.

Both of these institutes are needful and have a place. The sadness is in the fact that the one with the most "flash" is the one that receives the greatest Priority.

I realize that writing this will not change the situation or the minds of the Preachers (I'm not that Popular nor do I have any "Pull", so I'm easy to ignore) but I do hope it will point out to you readers the importance of recognizing where you put your priorities.

I determined several years ago to build a work for God that would not depend solely on "prizes and promotions" to impress people with a large number of bodies in Sunday School. I believe the Gospel of Christ can save men's souls and change their character. I believe the example of Jesus of constantly preaching and teaching and spreading the Gospel is one we must follow. I have dedicated my life and energy to doing just this.

Have my Priorities been in the proper place?? Our average attendance last year in Sunday School was 46- failure, you say. If you count the people who listen to our service on Radio each week, who read the messages in this newsletter, & who listen to tapes of the messages; we probably have the largest congregation of any Free Will Baptist Church in S.C.!!! [But I don't go around bragging "We're number 1". I'm much more interested in reaching EVERY ONE]

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How about results? We baptized 6 people last year- more than all but 6 of the 42 churches in our Conference (All but one of which have over twice as many members as we have). And I wish I knew how many people have started attending Church in other towns or states since they began receiving our newsletter or tapes. (I know of 3 families but I believe there are more.)

And how do you measure the number of people who have begun studying the Bible since notes are available to them-- or the number of times Pastors or lay speakers have been helped. Every person they touch for Christ we get to "share" in.

Are you beginning to see what I'm talking about?? We could have made it our Priority here at Grace to build our own little kingdom or we can do what we're doing- trying to reach as many people as possible with the Gospel. I believe that's what Jesus wants.

WHAT ABOUT YOU?? What are your Priorities in Life? Do you want to just exist for 75 years and then spend eternity in Hell?? Do you want your children or your family to have no foundation when life's storms batter them? Are you more concerned with today's news than tomorrow's judgment. Are you more interested in what People say about you than about what God knows about you??

WHATEVER OCCUPIES FIRST PLACE IN YOUR LIFE IS YOUR GOD !! When you have to account to God for what you have done with your life what will He say about the first commandment- "Thou shalt have no other gods before me"??

We want to help you find real meaning and purpose to life- Let us.

## PRAISE ITEMS

I appreciate Gifts from the Bill McBrides, Mrs Pauline Evans, and Mrs Billie Ard in recent days. I'm also very thankful for a special Gift from Mr Ronald Knight. I have been praying for some more equipment recently and I believe it won't be long before I'll be able to get it.

People like these, that have caught the vision, make it possible for me to do much of the work I do. I realize how much faith it takes for them to invest in a work that's more Faith than "Flash" and I sometimes can hardly believe that anyone would be willing to do so. Thank you for helping me do what my heart tells me I must do.

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VALENTINE BANQUET- Wednesday, February 11. 7:30pm - 9:00pm. We'll let you be "Sweet" to your Sweetheart while we learn more about the Love of God (with some food and fun and fellowship thrown in on the side).

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THINK ABOUT THIS- If ONE MAN won one soul to the Lord each year; and each man he won won one; and each one that was won won one; in 32 years they would have won 4 billion, 294 million, 967 thousand, and 296 people!!

In case you're wondering why I stopped at 32 years- THERE WOULD BE NO ONE LEFT TO WIN.

If everyone in the Church could get a vision of reaching one person for Christ each year we could change our Church, our city, and our Country for Christ.



## LOOKING IN THE WRONG PLACE

Ecclesiastes 1:1-3; 12:13-14

Have you ever looked and looked for something and could not find it because you knew it could not be where it was!! [Brother Norwood looking for lens cap. "You can look for it at the front of the Church but I know it's not there" (Guess where it was!!!)]. Sometimes this is just aggravating [Ladies who gave a tirade about people stealing her pens but she had put it in her hair.]; but sometimes it can be dangerous [Ronnie looked for a snake on the diving board but found it under his hand on the ladder!!!].

Our text today tells about a man who was looking in the wrong place for meaning to life- and we know the tragic consequences. He (Solomon) ended up with 1000 wives, tremendous wisdom, a kingdom in which silver and gold were as common as clay---and an outlook on life that proclaimed, "All is Vanity. Life has no meaning or hope." Finally, in the end, he found life's real meaning, but O how much suffering and sadness he had to go thru before he did so--and what a crop he reaped from his "wild oats".

I want us to see some of the Wrong Places people look and then find where they ought to look.

### I. LOOKING FOR PEACE IN THE WORLD INSTEAD OF WITH GOD.

A) We're in a real war!!

1. We're at war with self- Rom 7:23-24 But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the Law of sin which is in my members, O wretched man that I am! Who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. A man who is not at peace with himself will be at war with everyone else. You can give him some things to PACIFY him but it won't bring Peace.

2. At war with others- James 4:1 From whence come wars and fightings among you? come they not hence, even of your lusts that war in your members. Children want their way, Parents must lead. Bosses want a profit; you want a raise! Is. 3:12 As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths. (You can't walk the "path of peace" on road of war!)

3. We're either at war with God or Satan- James 4:4 Know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God. Ep 6:12 For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.

B) We look for Peace where there is no peace.

Solomon, in the book of Ecclesiastes, tells us how he sought meaning to life in Education, in culture, in Pleasures and Passions (2:10 And whatsoever mine eyes desired I kept not from them, I withheld not my heart from any joy;), in buildings and monuments, and proclaimed each time, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity."

We seek peace in this world but we must realize that we're not citizens of earth seeking to go to Heaven; we're citizens of Heaven making our way thru this earth. We can never "feel at home" in this world.

## II. WE LOOK TO EXCUSE OUR ACTIONS INSTEAD OF CORRECT OUR CHARACTER.

Every since Adam blamed Eve, and Eve blamed the Serpent, mankind has tried to excuse his mistakes instead of correct them.

A) We blame Satan instead of Self- James 1:14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Satan gets a lot of "credit" that he doesn't deserve. (Many times Satan provides the matches but we set the fires!!!) Satan is not able to MAKE a Christian do wrong- Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.

B) We turn over new "leafs" of concern instead of the new life of Commitment. Ep 4:28 Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth. We think it's good enough to just stop stealing--but we end up with a vacuum that eventually will be filled with something; either the original sin or "Seven worst ones" (Matt 12:43).

I hope we have begun to see that we're looking in the wrong places for answers. But most of us will admit there is a problem. What we want are real Answers. WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO LOOK??? Is 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth; for I am God, and there is none else.

What you are really looking for is an answer to the eternal question- **WHAT IS MY PURPOSE IN LIFE?** How can I find motivation and meaning in a world full of problems, payments, and pressures?

The answer to that is found when you finally find out why you were created: **To Glorify God**- Rev 4:11 Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created. (Sin is simply failing to Glorify God: All have sinned and come short of the Glory of God. Rom 3:23.)

And of course, your next question is "How do we Glorify God??"

### 1. WITH WHAT WE DO (Works)-

A) Christian Works- Matt 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. They'll know we are Christians by our Love.

B) Common Works (life style)- I Pet 2:12 Having your conversation (Manner of living) honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by your good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.

### 2. WITH WHAT WE SAY- Rom 15:6 That ye may with one mind and one voice glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

A) One Mind- Unity of thought

B) One Voice- Harmony of presentation

Songs, Sermons, Teaching, Witnessing- Rom 10:13-14 For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. How then shall they call on him whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher?

3. WITH WHAT WE ARE- I Cor 6:19-20 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

A) Body- Temple of Holy Spirit

B) Spirit- Personality

How can how body and personality dishonor God?-- Anger, immodesty...

ARE YOU IN YOUR PLACE TODAY?? Have you trusted Christ as Saviour and are you working to glorify God in your life and actions

## GOOD NEWS ABOUT THE "BAD MAN"

Job 1:6-12 2:1-8

One of my favorite stories about the West is about an old man and his daughter who were being harassed by a "villain". The Bad guy had hired a "gunslinger" to kill the old man so the villain could claim his land and marry the daughter. An out of work actor arrived in town and heard about the situation. He volunteered to help the old man. The way he did so was to pretend to be Wild Bill Hickock. The gunslinger believed his bluff and left town on the run.

Sadly, that is the same way Satan works today. He runs a bluff on people and causes them to live a life of fear instead of the abundant life God intended.

People today believe that Satan is all powerful, everywhere present, and unable to be defeated. They languish in his prisons, or submit to his power; unaware that their bonds are broken and victory is available thru Christ. We need to learn to pray with David: (Psalm 27:1-3) "The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? When the wicked, even mine enemies and my foes, came upon me to eat my flesh, they stumbled and fell. Though an host should encamp against me, my heart shall not fear: though war should rise against me, in this will I be confident."

Let's look at the story of Job (where Satan did his worst) and find out the "good news about the "bad man"".

### 1. THE "BAD NEWS" IS SATAN'S PLAN:

A) To get men to worship him instead of God: Satan wants your worship and he has a progressive plan to get that worship:

(Note temptation of Jesus. Matt 4:1-10)

Self Rule- Turn stones into Bread. (Make "Self" most important)

Soul Rule- Cast self off temple and prove God. (Make God serve U)

Satan Rule- Worship me and I'll give you everything.

B) To Cause all the damage he can: SATAN IS BEHIND THE EARTH'S ILLS-

"Whence cometh thou? Then Satan answered the Lord, and said, From going to and fro in the earth, and from walking up and down in it." Satan always looks for trouble. (Hate and destruction are part of his nature now. He looks for trouble just to cause trouble!!) [The Lord does the same thing for Good- II Chron 16:9 For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him.]

1. He's the Accuser of the Brethern- Rev 12:10

2. He's the instigator of sin and trouble- Garden of Eden

The Reason for this is that Satan knows he's going to Hell and his hate wants to carry as many others with him as possible. If he can either get you to worship him or get so busy with troubles until you fail to worship God then he has accomplished his purpose.

## 11. THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT THIS "BAD MAN":

A) He is accountable to God- "The sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan came also among them." There is only ONE GOD and every creature is accountable to Him.

Everyone is accountable- Payday, someday!!!

Satan will be cast out of Heaven and then cast into lake of Fire.

B) His mind is open to God- "Hast thou considered (set thy mind on) my servant Job." Satan does not know what God is doing- I Cor 2:8 which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of Glory.-- but God knows everything that Satan is doing and planning.

Satan can't fool or hide from God- neither can you.

C) Satan can do nothing without divine permission- "Hast thou not made a hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side?"---"Behold, all that he hath is in thy power; only upon himself put not forth thine hand." 2:6 "Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life."

GOD STILL HEDGES HIS PEOPLE- I Cor 10: 13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

"Peculiar people" (I Pet 2:9) means a "surrounded" (Hedged) people.

### WHAT DOES THIS MEAN TO CHRISTIANS??:

1. We're on the "Victory" Side- John 4:4 Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world. What we need to do, is (James 4:7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the Devil, and he will flee from you. (Be careful that you don't think it's your ABILITY instead of your STANDING in Christ- Jude 9 Yet Michael the archangel, when contending with the devil he disputed about the body of Moses, durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, the Lord rebuke thee.)

2. We're saved and on the way to Heaven- Luke 10:19-20 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

### BUT THIS IS FOR CHRISTIANS- LOOK WHAT HE CAN DO TO SINNERS.

1. He can Trap you- II Tim 2:25-26 In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; And that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will.

2. He can Control you- John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

The Good News of the Gospel is that you can escape Satan's Power and Sin's Penalty by trusting Christ as your Saviour. Do so today.

## TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

### I. WHAT BOOK DOES IT COME FROM? (Circle correct answer)

1. The Burning Bush: A) Genesis B) Exodus C) Leviticus  
D) Numbers
2. "Blessed are the Meek; for they shall inherit the earth"  
A) Mark B) Revelation C) Matthew
3. The Ten Commandments: A) Genesis B) Exodus C) Numbers
4. A Description of the "Virtuous Woman whose price is above rubies": A) Esther B) Ruth C) Psalms D) Proverbs
5. "For God so loved the world He gave his only begotten son"  
A) Titus B) Jude C) John D) II Peter

### II. OCCUPATION (Put Correct letter in Blank)

1. Gehazi \_\_\_\_\_ A) Hunter
2. Cain \_\_\_\_\_ B) Harlot
3. Esau \_\_\_\_\_ C) Handmaid to Sara
4. Rahab \_\_\_\_\_ D) Servant to Elisha
5. Hagar \_\_\_\_\_ E) Tiller of the Ground

### III. BIBLICAL NAMES AND WORDS: (Underline the correct explanation)

1. Dorcas: A Woman or a City that applies to the word listed)
2. Festus: A Weed or a Governor
3. Hermon: A Man or a Mountain
4. Shekel: A Dish or a Coin
5. Tarsus: A City or a Spice

### IV. FOUR LETTER NAMES (Fill in correct answer)

1. The Beloved Physician: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Israel's first king: \_\_\_\_\_
3. The man Ruth married: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Writer of next to last New Testament book: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Killed his brother: \_\_\_\_\_

### V. PARABLE POINTERS: (connect the Parable to something in it)

1. The Rich Fool Neighbor
2. The Prodigal Son Word
3. The Good Samaritan Bigger Barns
4. The Sower Hog Pen
5. The House built on Rock Storm

---

### A PRAYER FOR TODAY

What God Claims	I Yield
What I Yield	God Accepts
What God Accepts	He Fills
What God Fills	He Uses

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO YIELD TO GOD TODAY??

## UNUSUAL MEN IN THE BIBLE

(Put the letter of the person described in the blank)

1. Who was the man who lived to be 969 years old? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Who used stones for a pillow? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who was the baby who had a scarlet thread tied around it's hand before it was born? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Who won a battle by stretching out his arms? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Whose ass spoke to him? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Who had a bed 13 1/2 feet long and 6 feet wide? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Who killed a man by driving a stake thru his head? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Whose army lapped water like dogs? \_\_\_\_\_
9. Who had an army of 700 left handed men? \_\_\_\_\_
10. Who made an axe float on the water? \_\_\_\_\_
11. What man had 88 children? \_\_\_\_\_
12. Who lived longer because the sun traveled backward? \_\_\_\_\_
13. Who preached naked for 3 years? \_\_\_\_\_
14. Who had a king try to destroy his writing with a penknife? \_\_\_\_\_
15. Who ate locust for food? \_\_\_\_\_

- |    |                    |                 |
|----|--------------------|-----------------|
| A. | TRIBE OF BENJAMIN  | Judge 20:16     |
| B. | ISAIAH             | Is 20:2-3       |
| C. | BALAAM             | Num 22:28-30    |
| D. | METHUSELAH         | Gen 5:27        |
| E. | JOHN THE BAPTIST   | Matt 3:4        |
| F. | ZARAH              | Gen 38:28-29    |
| G. | GIDEON             | Judge 7:5       |
| H. | MOSES (Joshua)     | Ex 17:11        |
| I. | OG, KING OF BASHAN | Deut 3:11       |
| J. | JAEL (Sisera)      | Judge 4:17-21   |
| K. | ELISHA             | II Kings 6: 1-6 |
| L. | HEZEKIAH           | Is 38:8         |
| M. | JEREMIAH           | Jer 36:20-23    |
| N. | JACOB              | Gen 28:11       |
| O. | REHOBOAM           | II Chron 11:21  |

# GRACE And GLORY



## Grace Free Will Baptist Church "To Know and To Show Christ"

BIBLE STUDY HOUR 10:00AM  
MORNING EVANGELISTIC  
SERVICE (LIVE OVER WJOT) 11:00AM  
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE 6:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE 7:30 PM

MIRCHEAL JONES, PASTOR  
(803) 394-3725

VOL. V NUM 5 02/16/87 LAWRENCE STREET • PO BOX 1003 • LAKE CITY, S.C. • 29560

[Brother Arnold Lowder shared the following during testimony time in church recently and I thought I would share it with you].

### RESULTS OF BEING CLOSE TO CHRIST

Your own soul will be enriched  
People will be saved  
The Word of God will be honored  
Jesus Christ will be glorified  
The Holy Ghost will not be grieved  
You will be ready for any work  
The Bible will be studied more diligently  
Your influence will be more telling  
Your life will be less selfish  
Your expectations will be more Heavenly  
Your Joy will be more abiding  
Your hope will be brighter  
Your courage will become undaunted  
Your service will be more acceptable to God  
In Life you will be active  
In Death you will be ready  
In Heaven you will shine!

MEMORIAL - We are pleased to acknowledge a Memorial Gift to this work from Mrs. Eris Jones in memory of Mr. Charlie Wise and Mrs. Eaye Ard. "By it these being dead yet speaketh" (Heb 11:4).

THANKS also to Rev. Larry McAllister, W C Sauls, Marion Coker, and Mrs Lucile Stuckey for recent gifts to our outreach work. Because they shared we were able to reach many people with the Word of God. [Last week was one of those "Good" weeks when someone contacted us every day and expressed their appreciation for the material we make available. Not all weeks are like that but it's good to have one every now and then].

I am enclosing the "Wedding Vows" in today's newsletter. When I marry a couple I try to give them a copy of the vows, encased in plastic, so they can look them over in the years to come. Several people indicated they would like to have a copy for themselves, so I decided to let everyone have a copy. [This is the "Main" service I use. There are a number of variations and I many times adapt the ceremony to the couple.]

\*\*\*\*\*  
GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
Lake City, S C 29560

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# THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

Matt 28:16-20

We are in the process of beginning some new work in and around the Church to make it look even better- new lights, Sunday School rooms painted, trees planted, etc-; and I'm excited about it. These are needful things from time to time because they allow us to "See" what we're accomplishing. But they aren't our main purpose, and we don't want to allow them to sidetrack us from the goal of our Church (and every Church). That Goal, of course, is to get people to KNOW Christ as their personal Saviour and then to SHOW Him in their lives as Christians.

This goal is not something "made up" by the preacher to excite or enslave you. It comes from the "Final Marching Orders" of the Lord and as such MUST be obeyed and applied.

## I. WHAT WE ARE TO DO:

### A) Evangelize

- a. Show men their GUILT- Tell men about Sin's Slavery and Punishment so they will want to forsake it.
- b. Present them with the GOSPEL- Jesus Christ died to pay their Sin Debt and they can accept His pardon by Faith.
- c. GUIDE them to Repent and Receive Christ as Saviour- Beyond Presentation to Evangelization! (We cannot "Make" anyone be saved and I seldom "Push a man into a corner" but we must let them know that simply knowing about their Sin and learning about the Saviour is not enough. They must "Confess with their mouth the Lord Jesus Christ."

Jesus said it this way:

1. Go- Not just sit. The reason we don't go is because we're satisfied to sit! There is no Burden to reach people.
2. Teach (Make disciples)- Lift up Jesus and He will draw all men unto Himself. We do this with our Lips, with our Lives, & with our Love.
3. Baptize - Beyond Teaching to Commitment. This is the Public Proclamation of what has transpired in your heart- By being placed beneath the water you show that you believe in the Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ.

### B) Edify (Build up the person in the Faith. Develop the Disciple)

1. Teach them to observe ALL THINGS that were commanded.  
Including:
  - a. Church attendance
  - b. Changes in Character & Conduct
  - c. Commitment to share the Gospel with others.
2. Teach them to depend on Lord's Presence- With us always.  
Christianity is not a Religion you have but a Relationship you enjoy.

## II. HOW WE ARE TO DO IT:

A) Place: Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, the World. Everywhere- your Family, City, County, State. Use Every means God gives us to reach Every person we can. (Church, Tapes, Newsletters, Radio, etc)

B) Power: Comes from the Lord. Can't do it in our own strength

C) Performance: We know what we are supposed to do. What will we say to the Lord if we fail to do it???



# The WEDDING VOWS of

and

Given on

Saturday February 14, 1987

We are met together on this occasion to join and in the bonds of Holy Matrimony. This is a holy and honorable estate according to the Word of God and the practice of the Christian fellowship of believers. The Scriptures call for a Separation to begin the marriage- leaving father and mother and cleaving unto one another to begin a new household.

## WHO GIVES THIS WOMAN IN MARRIAGE?

God inaugurated the union between man and woman in Eden when He made woman out of man, in order that she might be a help appropriate for him. The Lord Jesus Christ honored the institution of matrimony when He performed His first miracle at the wedding in Cana of Galilee. The Holy Spirit also taught the glory of marriage, when He inspired Paul to write the beautiful comparison of the union between the man and the woman and between Christ and the Church. No one should enter this estate without full consideration of it's spiritual requirements and possible blessings.

## JOIN RIGHT HANDS

Now that you have joined your right hands as a token of your mutual love, you should be mindful that you make these vows before almighty God. He is the one that instituted Holy Matrimony, He Blessed it, and He requires that the promises you make at the altar of marriage shall be kept sacred and made real by actual living.

As the union now formed is to be sundered only by death, it becomes you to consider the duties you solemnly assume. If these be remembered and faithfully discharged, they will add to the happiness of this life; they will lighten by division life's sorrows; and they will heighten by doubling life's blessings. But if these obligations be neglected and violated, you cannot escape the keenest misery, as well as the darkest guilt.

It is the duty of the Husband to provide for the support of his wife, to shelter her from danger, and to cherish for her a manly and unalterable affection; it being the command of God's word, that Husbands love their wives, even as Christ loved the Church, and gave His own life for her.

It is the duty of the Wife to reverence and obey her Husband, and to put on the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit which is in the sight of God of great price. God's word commands that wives be subject unto their own husbands even as the Church is subject unto Christ.

It is the duty of both to delight each in the fellowship of the other; to remember that, in interest and in reputation as in affection, you are henceforth one and undivided. You are to preserve yourselves each for the other; and see to it that, what God has joined together, man never puts asunder.

## THE VOWS:

As Ruth promised Naomi so I ask you to promise one another- Intreat me not to leave thee, or to return from following thee: for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge: thy people shall be my people, and thy God my God: Where thou diest, will I die, and there will I be buried: the Lord do so to me, and more also, if ought but death part thee and me

Do you accept the love of and take her to be thy wedded wife?

Do you promise to keep her from this day forward, for better or for worse, in joy or in sorrow, for richer or poorer; and to love and cherish her til death do you part, according to God's holy word. If so answer I DO.

Do you accept the love of and take him to be thy wedded husband?

Do you promise to keep him from this day forward, for better or for worse, in joy or in sorrow, for richer or poorer; and to love, Obey, and cherish him til death do you part, according to God's holy word. If so answer I DO.

## MAY I HAVE THE RINGS?

Your rings are a symbol of the love you have for each other. It's unending circle represents the eternal quality of that love and the gold represents the purity of that love. As a ceaseless reminder of this hour and as a seal of the vows you have taken, you will now give and receive rings.

Do you give this ring to as a token of your love for her? If so answer I DO and place the ring on her finger.

Do you give this ring to as a token of your love for him? If so answer I DO and place the ring on his finger.

## PRAYER

These final commands I give you.

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might.

The word of God shall not depart from thy house; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Having pledged your faith in, and love to each other, and having sealed your solemn marital vows by giving and receiving your rings, acting in the authority vested in me by the laws of this state, and looking to heaven for divine sanction, I pronounce you husband and wife in the presence of God and these assembled witnesses. What therefore God hath joined together, let not man put asunder.

## YOU MAY KISS YOUR WIFE

I am happy to present to you Mr and Mrs

## TYPES OF FAITH

Matt 14:22-33

The Just shall live by his faith (Rom 1:17) and without faith it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6). You cannot be a Christian without Faith (I don't think you can even live without some type of Faith- even if it's nothing else but in the sun rise!) but we need to realize that there are different types of Faith. We need to understand what they are, which types we have, and which types we need to have.

I. SAVING FAITH- Acts 16:30-31 Sirs, what must I do to be saved? And they said, Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, and thy house.

Rom 10:8-9 But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. [Realize you're lost and doomed. Recognize your inability to save yourself. Receive Christ as your Saviour.]  
HAVE YOU EXERCISED FAITH IN CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOUR??

II. LITTLE FAITH- Matt 14:31 "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" Peter started by faith and did the impossible (walk on water). Then he saw the storm (Circumstances) and doubted- producing fear; which caused failure. In his distress he called on the Lord and received the help he needed.

His Faith was little and he allowed himself to lose even that but even Little Faith can accomplish much if it's used. (Note this: Peter started and failed; the other disciples didn't get out of the boat!!!) - Matt 17:20-21 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Many times we must start with the Faith we have and allow it to develop as we work for the Lord.

DO YOU HAVE ENOUGH FAITH TO START???

III. LIMITED FAITH- John 11:23-24 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again. Martha saith unto him, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day. Martha believed that Lazarus would be resurrected but her faith was limited. She did not believe that he could or would be resurrected NOW. Her faith was in the Future. She believed in the DOCTRINE of resurrection but not the DEMONSTRATION. James 2:19 Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

Many people believe that God delivered men in the Bible but they won't trust Him for Their situation in this life. I sometimes call this "Head Faith" as opposed to "Heart Faith".

The Sad fact about Limited Faith is that It can Limit God!! (Ps. 78:41). God can't do what He wants to do and needs to do because our Faith hinders His work (Matt 13:58).

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT FAITH? OR DO YOU EXERCISE FAITH???

IV. LIVING FAITH- Heb 11:4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

A) Living Faith accepts God at His word. (Faith is produced by the Word of God Rom 10:17). When God says something it is acted upon without reservations or reasonings. You don't discover God's will to Decide if you will do it; you determine God's will and then act.

B) Living Faith produces works- James 2:17 Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.

There is the proper "mixture" of Faith and Works- Heb 4:2 For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.

James 2:22 Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?

C) Living Faith Pleases God- "God testifying of his gifts". This is the kind of Faith God is looking to produce in your life. (For by [Faith] the elders obtained a good report. Heb 11:2).

V. VICTORIOUS FAITH- I John 5:4 For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

A) Faith is our Defense against Satan's attacks- Eph 6:16 The Shield of Faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked.

B) Faith is our means of victory in all of life's circumstances- Heb 11:33-34 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

#### ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS:

Do you have Faith in "Faith" or in God??

Are you willing to use the Faith you have??

Are you hindering God's Work and Will by not exercising your Faith??

Does your Faith move you to action?

Do you realize the Power and Privileges available to you thru Faith?

## PENTATEUCH PUZZLERS

MATCHING (Place the letter that describes the word beside the word)

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| _____ "TYPE"       | A. The Book of Redemption                      |
| _____ PENTATEUCH   | B. The Book of "Beginnings"                    |
| _____ GENESIS      | C. The Book about the things of the Priests    |
| _____ EXODUS       | D. The Book containing the "Second Law"        |
| _____ LEVITICUS    | E. A Representation of a Biblical Truth/Person |
| _____ NUMBERS      | F. First item seen upon entering Tabernacle    |
| _____ DEUTERONOMY  | G. The Book where Israel is counted twice      |
| _____ INSPIRATION  | H. First 5 books of the Bible                  |
| _____ BRAZEN ALTAR | I. "God Breathed"                              |

TRUE OR FALSE:

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. The Old Testament was written in Greek
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Satan sought to destroy the line of Christ while Israel was in Egypt by killing the boy babies.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. The last plague Egypt suffered before Israel was set free was the Nile River turning to blood.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. God was not concerned with the details of the building of the Tabernacle as long as the People did the best they could.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Leviticus shows us that God is not really concerned if our everyday life is Holy as long as we offer the right sacrifices.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. The Children of Israel were not allowed to enter the promised land because they worshipped a golden calf.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. The History of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is found in Genesis.

The first 5 books of the Bible were written by:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Abraham
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Moses
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. David

We believe the Bible:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Contains the Word of God
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Is inspired as it speaks to you
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Is the Word of God written by Holy men moved by Holy Ghost.

The Ultimate Goal of God is:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. To make a great Nation.
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. To Fellowship with men.
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. To destroy everyone who opposes Him.

Moses could not enter the Promised Land because:

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. He did not believe God could conquer the enemies in Canaan
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. He disobeyed God by smiting the Rock twice
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. He killed an Egyptian and married an Ethiopian woman

When Satan tempted Christ, Christ quoted from what Book?

- \_\_\_\_\_ A. Genesis
- \_\_\_\_\_ B. Leviticus
- \_\_\_\_\_ C. Deuteronomy

## LESSONS FROM "LOVERS"

1. Whose Bride was chosen for him by his father's servant and he did not see her until the wedding night? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Whose Wife was so pretty until he had to claim she was his sister to keep from being killed for her? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Who worked 7 years for his wife and ended up with her sister on his wedding night? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Whose first husband, brother-in-law, and father-in-law all died before she found a new husband in her mother-in-law's home country? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What two positions require that a man be the husband of one wife? \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_

### MATCHING

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. Lot's wife     | "Curse God and Die"                        |
| 2. Job's Wife     | An Ethiopian woman                         |
| 3. Pilate's Wife  | "Let your 700 concubines wash the dishes!" |
| 4. Moses's Wife   | "Have nothing to do with that just man"    |
| 5. Solomon's Wife | Pillar of Salt                             |

1. Told his lover his secret and ended up a slave: \_\_\_\_\_
2. His lover said, "His banner over me is Love" : \_\_\_\_\_
3. A queen who faced death to talk with her husband: \_\_\_\_\_

-----

NAME 3 THINGS YOU WANT IN YOUR MATE:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

The Strength of Love- "Love is strong as Death"  
Even when it is misdirected- "Jealousy is cruel as the grave"

The Endurance of Love- "Many waters cannot quench love"

The Value of Love- "If a man would give all the substance of his  
house for love, it would be utterly contemned."  
Song of Solomon 8:6-7

# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 6 March 11, 1987

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

[Mrs. Billie Ard shared this poem with me and I'd like to share it with you].

## IF GOD SHOULD GO ON STRIKE

How good it is that God above  
has never gone on strike,  
Because he was not treated fair  
in things he didn't like.

If only once he'd given up and  
said, "That's it, I'm through!"

"I've had enough of those on  
earth, so this is what I'll do.

"I'll give orders to the sun-  
cut off the heat supply!

"And to the moon- give no more  
light, and run the oceans dry.

Then just to make things really  
tough and put the pressure on,

"Turn off the vital oxygen till  
every breath is gone!"

You know he would be justified,  
if fairness was the game,

For no one has been more abused  
or met with more disdain

Than God, and yet he carries  
on, supplying you and me

With all the favors of his  
grace, and everything for free.

Men say they want a better  
deal, and so on strike they go,

But what a deal we've given God  
to whom all things we owe.

We don't care whom we hurt to  
gain the things we like;

But what a mess we'd all be in,  
if God should go on strike!!

Walt Huntley

I am happy to acknowledge a  
MEMORIAL Gift to our outreach work  
given in memory of Mr. "Pete"  
Thompson by his family. Mrs. Betty  
Lou has been a faithful member of  
our church since it's beginning  
and we appreciate her, and her  
gift, very much.

Thanks also for gifts from W C  
Sauls, Beth Broach, Bill Evans,  
Billie Ard, Marion Coker, and the  
Bill McBrides. Because of their  
help I have been able to purchase  
a program that enabled my printer  
to print in many "types" of print.  
This will improve the look  
of the newsletter and enable  
me to highlight scripture-as  
I have always wanted to.

We've also given out numerous  
tapes of sermons and devotional  
messages in the past weeks- that  
the Lord has really used. More  
people have testified about the  
benefits they received from these  
recent tapes than from any we've  
given out before. [If you would  
like a tape of any of our services  
let me know and I'll be glad to  
send you one.]

What a great privilege it is to  
be able to do a job that I like  
doing and that God is blessing.

+++++  
A man's heart deviseth his way;  
but the Lord directeth his steps.  
Prov 16:9

\*\*\*\*\*  
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[Mrs Sylvia Gowdy shared the following with me. I hope it will help you recognize your place in God's work]

## OTHERS MAY- YOU CANNOT

Are you living in the vestibule of heaven? Do you really want to be like Jesus?

If God has called you to be really like Jesus in all your spirit He will draw you into a life of crucifixion and humility and put on you such demands of obedience that He will not allow you to even follow other Christians; and in many ways He will seem to let other good people do things which He will not let you do.

Others can brag on themselves and their work, on their success or on their writings, but the Holy Spirit will not allow you to do any such thing, and if you begin it, He will lead you into such deep mortification that will make you despise yourself and all your good works.

Others will be allowed to succeed in making money, but it is likely God will keep you poor because He wants you to have something far better than gold, and that is a helpless dependence on Him so that He may have the privilege of supplying your needs day by day out of an unseen treasury.

The Lord will let others be honored and put forward, and keep you hid away in obscurity, because He wants to produce some choice fragrant fruit for His glory which can be produced only in the shade.

God will let others be great but will keep you small. He will let others do a work for Him and get credit for it, but He will make you work and toil on without knowing how much you are doing; and then to make your work still more precious, He will let others get the credit for the work you have done and this will make your reward ten times greater when He comes.

The Holy Spirit will put a strict watch over you, with a jealous love, and will rebuke you for little words and feelings or for wasting your time, which other Christians never seem distressed over.

So make up your mind that God is an Infinite Sovereign and has a right to do as He pleases with His own, and He will not explain to you a thousand things which may puzzle your reason in His dealings with you.

He will wrap you up in a jealous love, and let other people say and do many things that you cannot do or say. Settle it forever, that you are to deal directly with the Holy Spirit and that He is to have the privilege of tying your tongue, or chaining your hand, or closing your eyes, in ways that others are not dealt with.

Now when you are so possessed with the living God that you are, in your secret heart, pleased and delighted over this peculiar personal, private, jealous guardianship and management of the Holy Spirit over your life, you will have found the way to the surrendered life.

Selected.

*Jeremiah 9:23-24 Thus saith the Lord, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the Lord which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the Lord.*



>>>>>>>>>>>><<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

This was an unusual "Lesson" but I believe the Lord led in it and I appreciate everyone's input.

Then on Easter Sunday Morning we will have our annual SUNRISE SERVICE, only this year with a difference. The Sunrise Service



This is one of our greatest series of services of the year as we celebrate the greatest event in the history of the world- the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

We are a Church that not only tries to reach out to as many people as possible with the Gospel but also seeks to involve them in active Service for the Lord within our Church.

## HOW TO BE TEN TIMES BETTER

Daniel 1:

**1. THE CAPTIVES-** 1-7 God's Judgment was finally going to fall on His beloved people. Their sin and rebellion had finally reached the place that God could no longer allow them to go unpunished. [There are 5 basic reasons given in "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire" for why great Civilizations wither and die:

1. The undermining of the dignity and sanctity of the home.
2. Higher and higher taxes; the spending of public money for free bread and circuses for the people
3. The mad craze for pleasure; sports becoming every year more exciting, more brutal, and more immoral.
4. The building of great armaments when the real enemy is the decay of individual responsibility.
5. The decay of religion, faith fading into mere form and losing touch with life, losing power to guide people.

Let us be aware of the fact that America is heading down this same path also. And God's wrath will some day fall on us also!!]

Yet even in wrath, God remembered mercy and prepared Himself a witness in one of the greatest men of all of history- Daniel. Here is one of the great examples in the Bible of a person who decided to break away from the ordinary and do something special for God. And because of his Faith God made him 10 times better than the worldly wise and gave him glory and honor before 4 different kings. God is looking for men today that can be like a Daniel and bring honor to him before a world of unbelief. Let's see what made Daniel such a great man of God and apply the principles to our own life. (If you're tired of defeat, discouragement, and doubt then there's a lesson for you here. See how God takes problems and turns them into Pluses- how He snatches victory out of the jaws of defeat.)

Why was Daniel such a great man of God? Let's look at what happened Around Him (His Childhood and Captivity), In Him (His Conscience), and For Him (His Commendations) and find answers that will also help us today as we face life's difficult circumstances.

What happened AROUND Daniel to prepare him? His Formative Years: He was born about 625BC (The year the Assyrian Empire began to crumble as Babylon revolted from Assyria and the Babylonian empire was born ). In his 13th year, the mighty capital of Nineveh was finally conquered and Babylon became the dominate power in all the world. Daniel was probably of the Royal seed (vs 3) and as such received the teaching and cultural training of a Prince.

The great Revival- Daniel was raised during the reign of one of the greatest and Godliest of Judah's Kings, King Josiah. King Josiah came to the kingship at the age of 8 when the Palace guards killed his wicked father. (His grandfather was King Manasseh- one of the most wicked men who ever ruled Judah. He reigned 55 years, was captured by the Assyrian, repented of his sins and returned as king for a short time). At the age of 16, Josiah was converted and began one of the greatest Revivals in the history of Judah.

The King began the repair of the Temple in his 18th year and in the process of doing so found a copy of the scripture (Possibly put in the cornerstone by Solomon when the Temple was being built). Upon hearing it read Josiah called for a national repentance and sweeping changes were made in the nation's attitude. Daniel was probably in his early teens when this Revival was at it's peak. (Josiah was the last "Good" king Judah had. He tried to fight the king of Egypt and was slain. Following his death, the next kings went into sin and God's judgment fell on the nation).

Daniel was raised in this atmosphere of Revival (He possibly also came under the influence of Jeremiah as he taught in the palace). This early Spiritual Training provided a teen age boy in far away Babylon with the spiritual strength that gave him the Faith and purpose to carry him through the following years of tragedy and captivity.

**HOW DOES THIS RELATE TO US TODAY??** Do our children receive their standards and moral strength from the world and it's Philosophy- thru TV, Rock Music, Peer Pressure, etc- or do you try to have them in Church EVERY week learning about the Word of God and establishing them in a living Faith. If the bottom does drop out, and your standard of living drops dramatically; if everyone else at School is taking drugs, or engaging in premarital sex, and the pressure mounts every day for them to "join the crowd; where will your children get the strength to make the right decisions? Does our Church teach and train our Young People so that they can withstand the Pressures that are sure to come their way?? Are you giving your children the inner moral strength that they will surely need in the days ahead or are you allowing someone or something else to mold their purpose.

{Daniel means= "God is my Judge"; Hananiah= "Gracious is the Lord"; Michael= "Who is he that is God?"; Azariah= "God has helped". Their parents wanted even their names to testify of God}.

**His Capture- The Captivities-** The fall of Jerusalem was in 3 stages: 1) in 605BC Nebuchadnezzar captured the city (Beginning the 70 year period of Jeremiah) but as he did he learned of his father's death. In his haste to return to Babylon he simply took some of the Temple vessels and a few of the choice men of Israel (Among whom were Daniel and his friends- Dan 1:1-4). 2) in 597BC, after Jehoiakim and Jehoiachin rebelled, Nebuchadnezzar again conquered the city and carried off 10,000 captives. (Among them King Jehoiachin and Ezekiel- Ez 1:1-3). 3) Finally, in 587BC, after a long siege, Nebuchadnezzar destroyed the city and the Temple and carried most of the people into captivity. (Although Jeremiah and some poorer people were left- Jer 40)

The Reason he was taken captive- Nebuchadnezzar wanted the best men of a captured country to educate and bring into the ranks of his country. In order to do this he tried to give them the learning of the Chaldeans- (See vs 4 & 17) The language of Babylonia (Captives from many countries were housed there), knowledge of Astronomy and astrology; mathematics, natural history, architecture, agriculture, and mythological learning in the religion of the Babylonians

II. THE CONSCIENCE- 8-16 Daniel and his friend learned the education of the Babylonians (as Moses learned the wisdom of Egypt) but knew how to consider it in the context of Godly wisdom. But they could not eat of the King's meat because it had been offered in sacrifice to false gods. (Paul's admonition to the Corinthians.) The education could be controlled and used for God- The eating of the meat would destroy their testimony. (Many young men were captured along with Daniel and his 3 friends but only these 4 stood for God and accomplished His will.)

He determined in his heart- Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. His determination was to be separate- Christians are to be separate from the world- II Cor 6:14-18, keep unspotted from the world- James 1:27, realize that the friend of the world is the enemy of God- James 4:4. (The World is the Lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the pride of life- I John 2:16) The test of his determination- requested that he might abstain. Given a trial time (10 days = 10 times better.)

### III. THE COMMENDATIONS- 17-21

A) From God- vs 17 gave them knowledge and skill (Gave Daniel "Special" Wisdom. Because he was the Leader???)

B) From Nebuchadnezzar- vs 18-20 Nebuchadnezzar found them 10 times better than anyone else

(vs 21 Daniel lived as a Witness for God among the Gentile nations for the entire Captivity- Who knows if thou art come to the kingdom for such an hour as this? [Esther 4:14]).

Is God training any Daniels here today? You may not have to stand during a "Captivity" but you will have to stand during life's Circumstances. If you were suddenly thrust into a prisoner of war camp in Viet Nam would you be a "Whiner" or a Witness?? If you were elected to Congress in the next 10 years would you be a "Compromiser" or a Christian???

Would you dare to be a Daniel? It all must start with giving your heart and life to God. A commitment that's more than a future hope of Salvation; it's a daily taking up of your Cross and following Christ Today! Can God count on you??



## THE PEOPLE GOD USES

Daniel 2:30

BACKGROUND- King Nebuchadnezzar had been wondering what the future held for him and for his kingdom (2:29). During his sleep he dreamed a dream and could only remember that the dream was very important. He called his advisers to tell him what he had dreamed and then to tell him what it meant; and, of course, they could not do so. The king, in a fit of anger, ordered them all killed. [2 important notes here- (1) If Nebuchadnezzar could have remembered the dream then it would have probably received numerous explanations; all of which would have been wrong since Daniel was not called at this time. (2) This may have been another scheme by Satan to destroy these witnesses for God (as the fiery furnace and den of lions were)].

Upon hearing of the king's decree, Daniel requested time to pray and seek God and then report back to the king. He gathered his friends together and held a "prayer meeting". That night God revealed the dream and the interpretation to Daniel. When Daniel came to the king to give the interpretation he made sure the king knew that **THE ANSWER CAME FROM GOD** and not from his own wisdom. In doing so he gave us a glimpse of the kind of People that God uses:

1. **Not the Worldly Wise**- This secret is not revealed to me for any wisdom that I have more than any living, ... (2:30). Daniel was an intellectual man (1:4) who had been trained in all the wisdom of the Chaldeans and was found by the King to be "10 times better" than anyone else in his realm (1:20) but he realized that God hath made foolish the wisdom of this world (1 Cor 1:20) and the foolishness of God is wiser than men; (1 Cor 1:25)

2. **Not the "Naturally Endowed"**- Daniel was in his early twenties when this took place. The older and more prestigious men were called in before the king while this young "up-start" was left to "Clean the office". But look who God uses- 1 Cor 1:26-29 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

3. **Not even the "Perfect"**- We are not told of Daniel's "Faults" but we know that he, like Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, ... (James 5:17). Over and over in Daniel's speeches he makes the same point that Peter made when he healed the lame man And when Peter saw it, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk? (Acts 3:12). Daniel was aware of who he represented and where his power came from.

## WHY THEN DOES GOD USE CERTAIN PEOPLE?

I think the answer is threefold:

1. You must be **WILLING TO SERVE**- God can give you the ability if you will give Him You. *whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all.* Mark 10:43-44. **GOD IS LOOKING FOR YIELDED VESSELS.** God never Forces anyone to accept His offer of Salvation and He never forces anyone to enlist in His Service. The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him. (II Chron 16:9) and He longs to use those who want to be used of Him.

2. You must be **FAITHFUL in STRESS**- Daniel maintained his testimony even if it meant missing the kings' meat (and possibly losing his head!!). He prayed even if it meant the Lion's den. Now the just shall live by Faith; but if any man draw back, my soul shall have no pleasure in him. Heb 10:38. When your Faith is put on trial (AND IT WILL BE!!!) you must be willing to trust in God when it makes no sense, when it involves suffering, and even when it brings you to the point of being slain. Many Christians today are "wandering in the Wilderness" waiting to die because they would not trust God to give them victory over some "giant" or "Fenced city".

3. You must **DEPEND ON GOD FOR STRENGTH**- God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God, Ps 62:11 God is a jealous God and He will not give His glory to another. You must learn that what things were gain to me, those I count loss for Christ. (Phil 3:7) so that Pride in your Power or Performance will not cripple your service for God.

You must learn that you can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth you (Phil 4:13) and therefore nothing is impossible for you if God desires you to do it.

Are you a vessel God can use?? If so He will use you- not necessarily in ways you desire; but always in ways that are best.

Is there some Sin or Disobedience in your life that will not allow God to work thru you?? Confess and forsake it today.



# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 7 March 19, 1987

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

Did you know that I Prayed for YOU today?? It is such a Privilege (and Responsibility) to be able to minister to so many people each week through our Church and it's outreach. I'm glad you allow us to share God's Word with you and I Prayed that God would use it to help you KNOW Christ as your Saviour, if you're lost; or to SHOW Christ in your life, if you're saved.

What a great God we serve. Last week there were several times that I would buy something for our outreach work by Faith and each time the Lord would send in the needed supply THAT DAY. [People that don't believe that God works miracles and supplies needs today need to follow me for 1 week].

Because of contributions from Mrs. Bessie Grooms, Mrs Lucile Stuckey, Mrs. Eulalia Jordan, Mrs. Addie Kennedy, Rev. Larry McAlister, and Mr W C Sauls I was able to purchase an electric stapler to help in putting the newsletter together, send out many tapes of sermons and devotions, purchase and distribute several books, and buy the "every day" items such as Paper, Ink, blank tapes, etc. Thank God for his supply.

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The Puzzles I put in the newsletters from time to time or puzzles I make up in my "spare" time to encourage my people to learn more about the Bible. If you need the answers just let me know and I'll be glad to get them to you. Our Church normally completes them during Prayer Meeting on Wednesday Night.

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Bethel Bible Institute has been great this year. Our final Session for the Spring Semester will be Tuesday March 31 beginning at 7pm. EVERYONE is invited to attend this session. We will have a short class time, distribute diplomas, and enjoy a covered dish supper. Tentative plans have already been made for the Fall Semester- 3 classes each night. 1 on Bible Characters, 1 on an indepth study of Ephesians, and, finally, a "Discussion" class on various subjects- What the Bible says about Divorce, tithing, etc. What should you do if one of your teachers catches Aids, should a Christian own a VCR? a Satellite dish?

I'll let you know more as the date approaches.

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I'm always looking for new ways to help people find out about Christ. Let me know if I can help you.

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## SAVED, SATISFIED, AND SERVING

Ps 107:2 Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy;

Thursday, March 19 is my 25th Birthday!! I was born again on Monday Night March 19, 1962 at New Prospect FWB Church in "Shinbone Alley", S C. It was the greatest thing to happen in my life and I want to share some of the details with you today.

The first thing I think of about my Salvation is **CONCERN**. I grew up in a home where we very seldom attended Church. My parents taught us good moral principles but we had little to do with the Bible and Church. My next door neighbor was Mr. Buster Poston, a deacon in New Prospect Church. As a young boy growing up I watched Mr. Buster and realized that he had "something" that made his life different- and he kept trying to share it with me!! Even though I was "one of those Jones boys" he loved me and kept inviting me to attend Church with his family so I could learn about the Person who made such a difference in his life. He made a special effort to invite me to the Revival being held in March of 1962.

That brings us to my **CONVERSION**. On the Friday night of the Revival I felt God dealing with my heart about my sin and realized that I was lost and doomed for Hell without God. I passed it off that night by saying that I would get saved on Saturday night. Saturday night I did not feel God's Spirit at all- and I was one more scared 14 year old boy (First lesson God taught me was that HE is God and you come on HIS terms!!). I determined in my bed on Saturday night that I would go to the Altar Sunday and beg God to accept me; but my dad decided to go on a Picnic Sunday Morning and I had to go with the rest of the family. I thought I had missed my chance until I learned the next day at School that they had decided to continue the Revival another week. Monday night I could hardly wait for the Evangelist to finish speaking so I could go forward to accept Christ. When the invitation was given I started forward and felt a tug on my coat; one of my friends was trying to encourage me, but I thought he was trying to stop me, so I left my coat with him and went to the Altar!!

I didn't know much "Theology" but I knew I was lost and wanted to have my sins forgiven. As I knelt at the Altar someone leaned over and told me to "Trust Jesus". I did- and have been doing so ever since. He forgave my sins, came into my heart through the Spirit, and made me (yes, ME) a son of God. I still can't get over the fact that God Could, and Would, and Did Save me.

And, finally, because of that night 25 years ago, my life has been **CHANGED**. My body became the temple of the Holy Spirit and He has been conforming me to the image of Jesus Christ. I've had ups and downs, made mistakes (and felt the chastening hand of God!), and found that the greatest part of Salvation is not it's beginning but the fact that it just keeps getting better and better.

I'm glad God loved me enough to let Jesus die for me. I'm glad someone shared the Good News of the Gospel with me. And I'm very glad that God now allows me to spend my life and energy sharing the Gospel with others.

Let me share it with you right now: ALL have sinned. Sin brings Death and Destruction, but if you're willing to turn from sin and Trust Jesus Christ as your Saviour you too can be born again and begin a new life in Christ. **DO IT TODAY**. Let me know if I can help.

*Preacher Mike*



[Brother Wyman Lowder shared these poems with me and I want to share them with you. Brother Wyman is a young Christian that God has His hand on. These poems were written during his devotion time and when I read them it seemed the Holy Spirit swept over me. They're not necessarily the work of a "Poet" but they are the cry of a Christian].

Daily getting closer to the Lord  
Loving Him, Praying, & Reading  
His word  
O Lord, give me the wisdom to understand  
When God is talking to the heart  
of this man.

When my life for thee, O Lord  
Is living what is in my Heart  
Guided by you each day in prayer  
I know you will never depart

When the hours grow late  
And my eyes begin to dim  
Let all that I am  
Still belong to Him.

May I always find the Peace  
I find in the 23rd Psalm,  
That we the sheep are weak but  
That our Lord, the Shepherd, is strong.

Wyman Lowder

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(Mrs. Billie Ard keeps passing me items she finds that speak to her and I share them with you from time to time).

More like the Master I would  
ever be  
More of His meekness, more  
humility;  
More zeal to labor, more courage  
to be true,  
More consecration for work He  
bids me do.

Gabriel

[These are some Odd Notes that I continually Collect. I don't know where most of them came from. I write down things all the time from books and sermons, etc and keep them in a file. If you deserve credit for any of these I hope you get it!!]

Faith: the Learning of the entire human personality on Him in absolute trust and confidence in His power, wisdom, and goodness

Get your facts straight, give them away, give them a chance.

The purpose of the church is to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable

Marriage is not a Contract but a Commitment

Go to Church to Worship, not  
Whisper- To Commune, not Criticize

Many Fathers are willing to give their children everything- except themselves.

Backslidden Believers break: 1)  
Fellowship with other Believers,  
and 2) the Heart of God.

John Wesley averaged 3 sermons a day for 54 years preaching a total of more than 44,000 times. In doing this he traveled by horseback and carriage more than 200,000 miles, or about 5,000 miles a year.

An average 70 year old spends: 20 years sleeping, 20 years working, 6 years eating, 7 years playing, 5 years dressing, 1 year on the telephone, 2 1/2 years smoking, 2 1/2 years in bed, 3 years waiting for someone, 5 months tying shoes, 2 1/2 years doing other things (including 1 1/2 year in church).

Sin is like a Banana- the older it gets the worse it gets!

Christianity doesn't win by Praying hands on billboards but by Praying hearts in Homes.

## GOD'S SALVATION

Zephaniah 3:17 The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing.

Zephaniah was a prophet to the Nation of Judah during a time of great "Revival". There were many outward signs that the nation was attempting to do right but God knew that the people had gotten rid of the idols in their HOUSE but not the idols in their HEART. He used Zephaniah to tell them of His coming Judgment on them because they would not really repent but He also gave them a clear picture of His Great Salvation. I think we need to re-examine that Salvation today.

### SALVATION IS:

I. BASED ON STRENGTH The Lord thy God in the Midst of thee is mighty;

- A) God is able to save the Chiefest of Sinners- Paul (I Tim 1:15)
- B) God is Able to save them to the uttermost that come to Him thru Christ. (Heb 7:25)

II. BECAUSE GOD WANTS TO SAVE He will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy

- A) What good is power if it is not used. God not only CAN Save but it is not the will of God that any perish but that all come to live
- B) God wants to save from SIN, From SELF, and From SATAN
- C) It makes God GLAD to save US- And they shall be mine, saith the Lord of Hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; Mal 3:17

III. STABILIZED IN GOD'S LOVE He will rest in His love.

- A) His Love brought Salvation John 3:16
- B) His Love continually brings us mercy and forgiveness

IV. CAUSES GOD TO SING FOR JOY He will joy over thee with singing

- A) There is joy in Heaven over one sinner that gets saved Lu 15:7
- B) I can hardly wait to hear God Sing!!!

Isaiah 26:13-14 O Lord our God, other lords beside thee have had dominion over us; but by thee only will we make mention of thy name. They are dead, they shall not live; they are deceased, they shall not rise: therefore hast thou visited and destroyed them, and made all their memory to perish.

God's Salvation can be YOURS Today. Come to Him and find life instead of Death, Peace instead of Problems, and the meaning of real JOY.

## PRIDE

Daniel 4:37

4:17 This matter is by the decree of the watchers, and the demand by the word of the holy ones: to the intent that the living may know that the most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever he will, and setteth up over it the basest of men.

4:27 Wherefore, O King, let my counsel be acceptable unto thee, and break off thy sins by righteousness, and thine iniquities by shewing mercy to the poor: if it may be a lengthening of thy tranquillity.

4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

4:37 Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.

There are 3 things that every man wants from life: Significance (Meaning to life), Satisfaction, and Security. The good thing about these is that they all are found in Christ. The Bad thing about these is that they can lead us away from coming to Christ or depending on Christ. (An airplane was about to crash. The passengers were in a panic. A famous movie actor realized that his fame would not help him now. The man with a two car garage and two cars in it realized that that didn't mean anything now. The man who had been bragging about the million dollar deal he just completed would have willingly given it all for a parachute. Meanwhile, the dedicated Christian bowed his heart in prayer and committed his soul to the God he had served and loved during his life).

Three important Principles that will help you keep your priorities in order:

1. People are more important than things
2. Time is more important than \$\$\$
3. What God thinks is more important than what people think

Let's look at a case today of a man who "had it all" (vs 22) thou art grown and become strong: for thy greatness is grown, and reacheth unto heaven, and thy dominion to the end of the earth. Yet Pride came along and caused him to lose it all. That same thing can, and does, happen today. Let's look at the Background and then draw some Principles to apply to our life.

Nebuchadnezzar the King was again troubled by a dream. Previously he had wondered what the future held and God had revealed it to him in the dream of the great image. Now he had a dream that troubled him and so he called for Daniel. Daniel told him that his pride had come before God and now God was going to show him who really ruled. He would do so by causing Nebuchadnezzar to "lose his mind" and be driven from his position where he would live the life of a beast until he realized that God was God. (The mental disease is called "Lycanthropy" in which a man regards himself as a wolf or some other beast or creature. He then begins to behave as such an animal would behave). (vs 28) All this came upon the king Nebuchadnezzar!!

**I. WHAT BROUGHT THIS UPON NEBUCHADNEZZAR?** (And will bring punishment upon us!!) **PRIDE** Prov 16:18 Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.

A) It brought about Satan's Downfall- Isaiah 14:12-15 How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High. Yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the pit.

B) It "Made God Sick about His Church"- REV 3:15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

REV 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

REV 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

C) It's the "Preacher's Problem"- 1TI 3:6 Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.

D) It destroys our Love for God- I John 2:15-16 Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

(NOTE- Consecrated Conviction is not Pride. I KNOW whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. II Tim 1:12. YOU Need Assurance; you don't need Conceitedness)

TODAY the Problem is that people take over much Pride in their Beauty, in their Brains, and in their Bounty; not seeming to realize that God gave them all of these and GOD CAN TAKE THEM AWAY.

**II. WHAT RESULTED FROM HIS PRIDE??** (Why do some men act as "Beast"?)

ROM 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

ROM 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

ROM 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

ROM 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

The Prodigal Son "received" a Hog pen; Nebuchadnezzar lived like an animal, and, today, Men abuse themselves and their families, live in poverty instead of plenty; and die and go to Hell because their Pride will not allow them to submit to God.

**III. HOW COULD HE HAVE ADVERTED THE DISASTER?** vs 27 He could have submitted to God's Will and found abundant Life. Instead He chose to ignore God and lose it all. **HAVE YOU SUBMITTED TO GOD**, or are you living as if you never had to answer to anyone for your life?

God sent a Preacher to warn Nebuchadnezzar, and he still wouldn't listen. Don't you be that hard headed and hard hearted.

Rev Mirchedl Jones

1. Who was saved on the Road to Damascus \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 9)
2. Who met Jesus beside the road collecting taxes \_\_\_\_\_ (Mk 2:14)
3. \_\_\_\_\_ sat beside the road and called Jesus until he got an answer. (Mark 10:46-52)
4. Faith without Works is \_\_\_\_\_ (James 2:17)
5. Faith comes by hearing the \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom 10:17)
6. The \_\_\_\_\_ shall live by Faith (Rom 1:17)
7. Faith is the \_\_\_\_\_ of things hoped for, the \_\_\_\_\_ of things not seen. (Heb 11:1)
8. Faith caused: (Heb 11:-)
  - Abraham to Offer \_\_\_\_\_ for a Sacrifice
  - Noah to build an \_\_\_\_\_ to save his house
  - Moses to give up \_\_\_\_\_ to save his people
  - The elders to receive a \_\_\_\_\_
9. Faith can be small as a grain of \_\_\_\_\_ and still move a \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt 17:20)
10. Jesus said unto his disciples, If any man come after me, let him \_\_\_\_\_ himself, and take up his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ me. Matt 16:24
11. For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole \_\_\_\_\_ and lose his own \_\_\_\_\_? Matt 16:26
12. When God called Moses to serve Him he used a \_\_\_\_\_ in the desert. When He called Peter He used a great catch of \_\_\_\_\_. Nathanael was called while he was \_\_\_\_\_ under a fig tree. The Samaritan Woman met Jesus at a \_\_\_\_\_ while the "Mad Man of Gadara" met him among the \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Exodus 3:2; Luke 5:8-9; John 1:48; John 4:7; Mark 5:2)
13. All have \_\_\_\_\_ and came short of the Glory of God (Rom 3:23)
14. God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet \_\_\_\_\_, Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8)
15. The \_\_\_\_\_ of sin is Death; but the \_\_\_\_\_ of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Rom 6:23)
16. That if thou shalt \_\_\_\_\_ with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt \_\_\_\_\_ in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. (Rom 10:9)
17. \_\_\_\_\_ helped Paul find Christ. (Acts 9:17)
18. \_\_\_\_\_ brought Peter to the Lord (John 1:41)
19. \_\_\_\_\_ brought the palsy man to Christ thru the roof (Mk 2:4)
20. A \_\_\_\_\_ saved Rahab (Joshua 2:18) when Jericho fell.  
A \_\_\_\_\_ saved the Children of Israel when they were bitten by snakes (Num 21:8).

Are YOU Searching for Salvation?? Jesus is the DOOR to Heaven, The WAY to Abundant Life, and The ONLY NAME under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

I John 5:11-12 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.

# SCRIPTURE SCAVENGER HUNT

Rev Mincheal Jones

List the Scripture where the item is found.

Find a Bass Laver (Bowl) made from Mirrors \_\_\_\_\_

Find a man who put 3 in and saw 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Find a boy who picked up 5 stones on his way to battle \_\_\_\_\_

Find an underwater Altar \_\_\_\_\_

Find the name of the man who "Loaned" his tomb to Jesus \_\_\_\_\_

Find the "Sons of Thunder" \_\_\_\_\_

Find the names of two of the Temple Pillars- \_\_\_\_\_

Find the location of Aaron's Rod that budded \_\_\_\_\_

Find 12 baskets full of bread fragments \_\_\_\_\_

Find "Clouds without water" and "Trees without fruit" \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Shepherd \_\_\_\_\_

Find a "Stairway to Heaven" \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Brass Serpent \_\_\_\_\_

Find an Ark \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Garden \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Street made of Gold \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Blind Man \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Cross \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Tomb \_\_\_\_\_

Find a Verse that tells someone how to be saved \_\_\_\_\_

Bonus?? Items-

Find in your Bible- (1) A Recipe (2) An Obituary (3) A Bulletin (4) A Birth or Wedding Announcement (5) A sermon text marked and dated.

# GRACE AND GLORY NEWSLETTER

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Michael Jones 294-3725  
"Go KNOW and to KNOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 8 April 9, 1987

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WBOC 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wednesday Prayer Meet....7:30pm

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I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO PUBLISH IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS BUT SEVERAL THINGS HAVE KEPT ME VERY BUSY. WE HAD OUR FINAL SESSION OF BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE ON TUESDAY, MARCH 31 AND I WAS TRYING TO COMPLETE ALL THE NOTES, CERTIFICATES, AND PAPERWORK FOR THAT. [WE HAD A GREAT INSTITUTE THIS SESSION AND I'M REALLY LOOKING FORWARD TO SEPTEMBER WHEN THE NEXT SESSION BEGINS]. I'VE ALSO BEEN IN THE PROCESS OF TRYING TO COMPLETE THE TAPES OF THIS PAST SEMESTER AS WELL AS PUBLISH THE NOTES OF THE CLASSES. IT'S A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF WORK BUT I BELIEVE THE RESULTS WILL BE WELL WORTH ALL THE EFFORT.

ONE OF THE "BY-PRODUCTS" OF THIS WORK IS THAT I NOW HAVE ALL OF THE BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT IN OUTLINE FORM. I HAVE SEVERAL BOOKS ALREADY PUT TOGETHER AND I HOPE TO GET SOME MORE COMPLETED IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE. (I HAVE THE NOTES TYPED AND RUN OFF BUT I DON'T HAVE A MACHINE TO BIND THEM TOGETHER. SULLY SULLIVAN HAS HELPED ME GET SOME TOGETHER BUT I REALLY NEED A MACHINE- IF YOUR CHURCH OR BUSINESS HAS A MACHINE THAT WILL BIND PAPERS WITH PLASTIC SPIRAL BINDERS [OR IF YOU HAVE A BETTER METHOD] THAT THEY ARE WILLING TO SELL (OR DONATE!!!!) TO THIS WORK THEN I WOULD APPRECIATE HEARING FROM YOU. [I HAVE A COMPLETE HEAVY DUTY ADDRESS MACHINE THAT USES METAL PLATES, THE MACHINE TO CUT THE METAL PLATES, AND A FILING CABINET FOR THE PLATES AVAILABLE TO ANYONE DESIRING IT. I USED IT TO ADDRESS ALL MY NEWSLETTERS BEFORE I HAD TO MOVE TO THE PARSONAGE BUT IT'S TOO BIG TO MOVE OVER HERE. CONTACT ME IF YOU CAN USE IT IN YOUR MINISTRY].

THANKS TO DAVID AND TERESA BROWN, LIZZIE MAE ELMORE, OLEE ELMORE, BILLIE ARD, B M CANTEY, LOIS MIXON, MARION COKER, REV JOHN BURNHAM, JACK B HANNA, MERTIE MCBRIDE AND THE BILL MCBRIDES FOR THEIR RECENT GIFTS TO THE OUTREACH WORK (THESE FOLKS ARE FROM MISSISSIPPI, FLORIDA, TEXAS, AND SOUTH CAROLINA. ISN'T THAT GREAT?). IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR MAILING OF NOTES AND TAPES AND NEWSLETTERS THEIR GIFTS ALLOWED ME TO PURCHASE THE MATERIALS NEEDED TO COMPILE THE OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY NOTES, THE TAPES AND ALBUMS FOR THE BIBLE TEACHING TAPES, AND HELP SEVERAL PEOPLE IN NEED. THANK GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED CONSISTENT SUPPLY. I HOPE THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS WILL ALLOW ME TO COMPLETE THE "QUIZ BOOK" (WITH ANSWERS!) THAT SEVERAL PASTORS HAVE REQUESTED AS WELL AS RE-PUBLISH AN UPDATED "PRAYER BOOKLET" (I HAVE GIVEN A NUMBER OF NEW CONVERTS THIS BOOKLET LATELY AND THEY HAVE ALL EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION FOR THE HELP IT GAVE THEM IN BEGINNING THEIR PRAYER LIVES).

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
Lake City, S C 29560

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U S Postage PAID  
Lake City, S C 29560  
Permit #8

## SPECIAL EVENTS

APRIL IS A BUSY MONTH HERE AT GRACE; BUT I BELIEVE IT WILL ALSO BE A BLESSED MONTH!

APRIL 8- QUARTERLY CHURCH CONFERENCE [WE RECEIVED NEARLY \$1300 ON MARCH 31 FOR OUR BUILDING FUND- THAT GIVES US ENOUGH TO PAY FOR THE NEW LIGHTS FOR THE CHURCH AS WELL AS FIX UP THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOMS] WE WILL DECIDE WHAT HAS PRIORITY DURING CONFERENCE.

APRIL 13- LADIES AUX. MEET

APRIL 15- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS EASTER PARTIES



APRIL 17- ON THIS "GOOD FRIDAY" THE MEN OF THE CHURCH WILL PRESENT THE LIVING LORD'S SUPPER BEGINNING AT 7:30PM. THIS PROGRAM WILL HIGHLIGHT THE MOMENT WHEN JESUS ANNOUNCES TO HIS DISCIPLES, "ONE OF YOU WILL BETRAY ME". EACH OF THE "DISCIPLES" WILL TELL HOW HE MET THE LORD AND EXPRESS WHAT MAY HAVE BEEN GOING THRU HIS MIND AT THIS MOMENT. EVERYONE IS INVITED TO ATTEND THIS SPECIAL SERVICE- I BELIEVE IT WILL DO SOMETHING SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE.

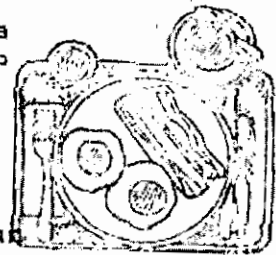
APRIL 19- SPECIAL EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES (Note Times!!!)

7:00am: The Ladies of the Church will present our Sunrise Service Program, "They Followed Him". The Ladies will share the various parts women played leading up to that dramatic moment when they found the empty tomb.

8:00am: Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Building (Eggs, Toast, Bacon, and grits mixed with a generous helping of Christian Fellowship).

9:00am: Sunday School for all ages

10:00am: Morning Worship Service- One of the most joyous services of the year as we celebrate the Resurrection of Christ in song and sermon. [THIS MEANS WE WILL DISMISS AROUND 11AM; ALLOWING YOU PLENTY OF TIME TO GET TO "MOMMY'S" HOUSE FOR DINNER OR PREPARE FOR ALL THOSE KIDS COMING IN. WE WILL NOT HAVE AN EVENING SERVICE EASTER SO IT WON'T MATTER IF DINNER IS A LITTLE LATE ANYWAY].



Breakfast



WHY SHOULD YOU ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL???

WHY SHOULD YOU BRING YOUR FAMILY TO SUNDAY SCHOOL?

1. God commands it- DEU 6:6 And these words, which I command thee, this day, shall be in thine heart;  
DEU 6:7 And thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

2. It's can lead your Child to Salvation and spare him or her from everlasting Hell- II Tim 3:15 That from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

3. It forms a spiritual heritage in the Child- II Tim 1:5 When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee, which dwelt first in thy grandmother Lois, and thy mother Eunice; and I am persuaded that in thee also.  
Prov 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go: and when 'he is old, he will not depart from it.

4. Jesus wants your child here- Matt 19:14 Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the Kingdom of heaven.

WILL YOUR EXCUSE FOR MISSING CHURCH CONDEMN YOU AND YOUR FAMILY TO HELL?

PERFECT ATTENDANCE RECORDS-

MRS. HARRY C MORGAN OF GREENE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUGUSTA  
GA REACHED 45 YEARS OF PERFECT ATTENDANCE- 2340 CONSECUTIVE SUNDAYS  
MISS JENNIE C POWERS OF PHILADELPHIA, PA ATTENDED 56 YEARS AND 4  
MONTHS- TOTAL OF 2938 SUNDAYS

ROLAND E DAAB OF COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS HOLDS THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS MARK. ON MAY 23, 1976, HE ATTENDED HIS 3,000TH CONSECUTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL SESSION. AN UNBROKEN STRING OF OVER 57 YEARS.

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THE LAST SENTENCE IN SIR WALTER SCOTT'S JOURNAL WAS NEVER FINISHED. HIS LIFE ABRUPTLY ENDED MID-SENTENCE; "TOMORROW WE SHALL..."!!!!

I TALK WITH PEOPLE ALMOST EVERY WEEK WHO INTEND TO GET THEIR HEART RIGHT WITH GOD SOMEDAY; WHO PLAN TO BECOME REGULAR IN CHURCH SOMEDAY. LIKE THE MAN WHO JUMPED FROM THE AIRPLANE WITH AN UMBRELLA FOR A PARACHUTE; THEY FIND THAT GOOD INTENTIONS DON'T HELP MUCH WHEN YOU COME DOWN TO THE "NITTY GRITTY".

I WONDER HOW MANY OF YOU THAT READ THIS NEWSLETTER TODAY NEED TO STOP INTENDING AND START DOING AS FAR AS YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IS CONCERNED??

HEB 3:7-11 To day if ye will hear his voice, Harden not your hearts, as in the provocation, in the day of temptation in the wilderness: When your fathers tempted me, proved me, and saw my works forty years. Wherefore I was grieved with that generation, and said, They do always err in their heart; and they have not known my ways. So I swear in my wrath, THEY SHALL NOT ENTER INTO MY REST.

## DIFFERENCE OF DOTHAN

GEN 37:13-28 AND II KINGS 6:8-17

IN THESE TWO SCRIPTURES WE HAVE 2 MEN WHO MET DESTINY AT DOTHAN AND YET EACH OF THEM IS DIFFERENT- IN GENESIS, JOSEPH IS CAPTURED BY HIS BRETHREN, AND SOLD INTO SLAVERY. IN II KINGS, ELISHA IS SURROUNDED AT DOTHAN BUT GOD SENDS CHARIOTS OF FIRE AND DELIVERS HIM. WHY?? WHY IS ONE DELIVERED AND THE OTHER SOLD INTO SLAVERY?

THERE ARE 4 BASIS PRINCIPLES WE CAN LEARN FROM THE DIFFERENCES AT DOTHAN:

1. **WE CANNOT PATTERN OUR LIVES AFTER OTHERS.** DOTHAN MAY BE OUR CAPTIVITY OR IT MIGHT BE OUR DELIVERANCE- WHAT WORKS FOR ONE MAN DOES NOT WORK FOR ANOTHER. EZRA COULD NOT REQUEST AN ARMY TO PROTECT HIM WHEN HE JOURNEYED TO JERUSALEM BUT NEHEMIAH COULD (EZRA 8:21 AND NEH 2:9). GEORGE MULLER FEED OVER 2000 ORPHANS AND NEVER ASKED FOR A PENNY- YET MANY OTHERS HAVE TRIED AND FAILED (THEY TRIED TO IMITATE MULLER INSTEAD OF OBEY GOD).

2. **WE CANNOT INSIST THAT OTHERS PATTERN THEIR LIVES AFTER OURS:** ELISHA COULD HAVE SAID THAT DOTHAN WAS A PLACE OF CAPTURE IF HE HAD FOLLOWED THE EXAMPLE OF JOSEPH. PETER WAS TOLD THAT HE WOULD DIE FOR THE LORD AND HE TRIED TO GET JOHN COMMITTED TO THE SAME THING BUT CHRIST REBUKED HIM AND SAID HIS PLAN FOR JOHN WAS THE BEST (JOHN 21:22). (GOD DOES NOT EVEN DEAL WITH US THE SAME WAY ALWAYS. SATAN COULD NOT GET THRU THE HEDGE AROUND JOB BUT GOD ALLOWED HIM THRU. DAVID SLEW A GIANT BUT WAS DRIVEN FROM JERUSALEM BY HIS SON. DANIEL COULD SPEND THE NIGHT IN THE LION'S DEN WITHOUT HURT BUT HE HAD TO DIE IN BABYLON AND NOT JERUSALEM. PAUL WAS DELIVERED FROM THE SHIPWRECK BUT HE WAS BEHEADED IN ROME).

3. **WE CANNOT JUDGE GOD'S LOVE FOR US BY OUTWARD CIRCUMSTANCES:** BECAUSE ELISHA WAS DELIVERED AND JOSEPH WAS NOT DOES NOT MEAN THAT GOD LOVED ELISHA MORE. TAKE THE EXAMPLE OF PETER AND JAMES- ACTS 12:1-3 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword. And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. JAMES IS KILLED, PETER IS DELIVERED- GOD LOVED THEM THE SAME. WILLIAM CAREY WAS ONE OF THE GREAT MISSIONARIES IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD AS HE CARRIED THE GOSPEL TO INDIA. HE LIVED A NORMAL LIFE AND DIED AT HIS DUTY. DAVID BRAINARD WAS ONE OF THE GREATEST PRAYING MEN IN THE WORLD- HE DIED AT 29 AT THE PEAK OF HIS WORK.

4. **WE MUST LOOK BEYOND THE "DOTHAN" IN OUR LIVES-** ELISHA DELIVERED AN ARMY- JOSEPH WAS USED OF GOD TO SAVE A NATION (AFTER HE WAS FAITHFUL IN TEMPTATION AND THRU TRIALS)!!

THERE IS A TIDE IN THE AFFAIRS OF MEN,  
WHICH, TAKEN AT THE FLOOD, LEADS ON TO FORTUNE,  
OMITTED, ALL THE VOYAGE OF THEIR LIFE  
IS BOUND IN SHALLOWS AND IN MISERIES

YOUR "DOTHAN" MAY BE DIFFERENT BUT GOD IS THE SAME. ALLOW HIM TO USE YOU IN THE WAY THAT IS BEST FOR YOU.

## SACRIFICES

HEB 13:15-16

HEB 13:15-16 By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of Praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name.

But to go good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

IN ORDER FOR MAN TO APPROACH A HOLY GOD HE MUST BRING A SACRIFICE. THAT WAS FIRST DEMONSTRATED IN THE GARDEN OF EDEN AFTER MAN SINNED AND HAS BEEN THE PLAN AND PURPOSE OF THE ENTIRE BIBLE. IN THE EARLY TIMES MEN BROUGHT ANIMAL SACRIFICES TO REPRESENT THE COMING MESSIAH- NOW WE COME CLAIMING HIS SACRIFICE AND DESIRING TO BRING SOME OFFERING OF OUR OWN.

I WANT US TO LOOK AT SOME OF THE SACRIFICES GOD HAS MADE AVAILABLE TO US TO GIVE BACK TO HIM- AND I WANT US TO OFFER THESE SACRIFICES TO GOD. THE SAD FACT TODAY IS THAT MANY PEOPLE COME TO GOD'S HOUSE TO GET BUT NEVER TO GIVE! AND LEAVE WITH GOD DISPLEASED AND THEIR OWN HEARTS DISAPPOINTED [TRUE LOVE MUST GIVE TO EXPRESS ITS SELF!!]. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SACRIFICES WE CAN GIVE TO GOD?

1. SACRIFICE OF PRAISE- FRUIT OF OUR LIPS GIVING THANKS TO HIS NAME MAL 3:16 Then they that feared the Lord spake often one to another: and the Lord hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the Lord, and that thought upon his name. WHEN IS THE LAST TIME YOU TOLD SOMEONE OF GOD'S GOODNESS TOWARD YOU.

2. SACRIFICE OF SHARING- TO DO GOOD. JAMES 2:15-16 If a brother or a sister be naked, and destitute of daily food, and one of you say unto them, Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled; notwithstanding ye give them not those things which are needful to the body; what doth it profit? WHEN HAVE YOU SACRIFICED TO SHARE?

3. SACRIFICE OF COMMUNICATION- TO COMMUNICATE: TAKING THE TIME TO REALLY LISTEN AND TALK. PHILEMON 6 That the communication of thy faith may become effectual by the acknowledging of every good thing which is in you in Christ Jesus. DO YOU COMMUNICATE OR "CLAM-UP"??

BUT THERE ARE OTHER SACRIFICES THE LORD WANTS US TO GIVE:

1. THE BELIEVER'S BODY- ROM 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

A) IT'S OWNERS- MATES: I COR 7:4 The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

THE LORD: I COR 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

B) IT'S OCCUPANT- I COR 6:19 What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

C) IT'S OCCUPATION- TEXT VERSE- SERVING THE LORD; SEPARATE FROM THE WORLD.

II. OUR OFFERING- PHIL 4:18 But I have all, and abound; I am sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.

A) CONSECRATED GIVERS- II COR 8:5 THEY first gave their own selves to the Lord, and unto us, by the will of God,

B) CONSISTENT GIVER- II COR 8:7 Therefore, as ye abound in every thing, in faith, and utterance, and knowledge, and in all diligence, and in your love to us, see that ye abound in this grace also. 8:12 How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality. SEE ALSO 8:11-15

C) CHEERFUL GIVERS- II Cor 9:7 Every man according as he purposed in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity; for God loveth a cheerful giver.

III. OUR PRAYERS- Ps 141:2 Let my prayers be set forth before thee as incense; and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice SEE REV 5:8 And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints.

A) THE POWER OF PRAYER- MATT 21:22 And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.

B) THE PRIVACY OF PRAYER- MAT 6:5 And when thou prayest, thou shalt not be as the hypocrites are: for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and in the corners of the streets, that they may be seen of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward. MAT 6:6 But thou, when thou prayest, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, pray to thy Father which is in secret; and thy Father which seeth in secret shall reward thee openly.

C) THE PRIORITY OF PRAYER- LUKE 18:1 Men ought always to pray and not to faint.

IV. A BROKEN HEART- Ps 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

A) LOSES IT'S WILL FOR GOD'S WAY- "BROKEN" IN SPIRIT AND HEART AS YOU REALIZE YOU HAVE SINNED AGAINST A HOLY GOD. (REPENTANCE)

B) DEPENDS ON GOD'S GRACE INSTEAD OF SELF WORKS- REALIZES THAT IT'S ONLY MEANS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IN THRU CHRIST.

V. SOULS WON TO CHRIST- ROM 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up (SACRIFICE) of the Gentiles might be acceptable being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

JESUS DIED FOR THE LOST; HE WANTS THEM TO BE SAVED. THERE IS GREAT REJOICING IN HEAVEN WHEN MEN ARE SAVED.

GOD IS LOOKING FOR A SACRIFICE FROM YOU TODAY. IS THERE SOMETHING YOU SHOULD PRAISE HIM FOR; SHARE WITH OTHERS; OR COMMUNICATE TO SOMEONE? HAVE YOU GIVEN YOU BODY AS A SACRIFICE TO HIM? YOUR WALLET? YOUR PRAYERS? YOUR HEART? YOUR TESTIMONY OF CHRIST'S SAVING POWER?

## DISCIPLES

THE TWELVE DISCIPLES WERE:

A) NATHANIEL	B) JAMES THE LESS	C) ANDREW	D) PETER
E) JUDAS	F) JOHN	G) JAMES THE ELDER	H) THOMAS
I) PHILIP	J) THADDAEUS	K) SIMON THE ZEALOT	L) MATTHEW

IDENTIFY THE DESCRIPTION WITH THE DISCIPLE:

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM THE BROTHER OF ANDREW, OFTEN IMPATIENT  
\_\_\_\_\_ I AM THE BROTHER OF JOHN; ONCE A FISHERMAN.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I BROUGHT NATHANIEL TO CHRIST  
\_\_\_\_\_ I WAS CALLED FROM UNDER A FIG TREE  
\_\_\_\_\_ I WAS ABSENT WHEN CHRIST FIRST MET THE DISCIPLES AFTER HIS DEATH  
\_\_\_\_\_ I WAS CALLED WHILE COLLECTING TAXES  
\_\_\_\_\_ I WAS THE "TREASURER" OF THE DISCIPLES  
\_\_\_\_\_ I BROUGHT THE BOY WITH THE 2 FISHES AND 5 LOAVES TO CHRIST  
\_\_\_\_\_ I WAS ENTRUSTED WITH THE CARE OF JESUS' MOTHER

MATCH THE NICKNAME WITH THE DISCIPLE:

\_\_\_\_\_ THE "BELOVED DISCIPLE"  
\_\_\_\_\_ I AM ALSO CALLED BARTHOLOMEW  
\_\_\_\_\_ THE "DOUBTER"  
\_\_\_\_\_ I AM ALSO CALLED LEVI  
\_\_\_\_\_ I AM "THE SON OF ALPHEUS"  
\_\_\_\_\_ I AM ALSO CALLED JUDE OR JUDAS, NOT ISCARIOT  
\_\_\_\_\_ MY OTHER NAME IS ISCARIOT  
\_\_\_\_\_ THE "ROCK"  
\_\_\_\_\_ MY BROTHER AND I WERE CALLED "BOANERGES"

MATCH THE MANNER OF DEATH WITH THE DISCIPLE:

\_\_\_\_\_ DIED ON THE ISLE OF PATMOS IN EXILE  
\_\_\_\_\_ CRUCIFIED UPSIDE DOWN  
\_\_\_\_\_ CRUCIFIED ON AN "X" SHAPED CROSS  
\_\_\_\_\_ THE ONLY DISCIPLE WHOSE DEATH IS RECORDED IN THE BIBLE

WHICH DISCIPLE SAID THESE THINGS:

\_\_\_\_\_ Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us. (Jn 14:8)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? (Jn 1:46)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us, and not unto the world? (Jn 14:22)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Why was not this ointment sold for three hundred pence, and given to the poor? (Jn 12:5)  
\_\_\_\_\_ We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. (Jn 1:41)  
\_\_\_\_\_ Lord, not my feet only, but also my hands and my head (Jn 13:9)

THESE THREE DISCIPLES WERE CALLED "THE INNER CIRCLE" BECAUSE THEY WERE OFTEN THE ONLY DISCIPLES ALLOWED TO BE WITH JESUS:

\_\_\_\_\_

## ONE CHAPTER BOOKS

There are \_\_\_\_\_ One Chapter Books in the Bible;  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament and \_\_\_\_\_ in the New Testament.

\_\_\_\_\_ wrote more One Chapter Books than anyone else.

\_\_\_\_\_ is also the shortest Book in the Bible

### MATCH THE BOOK TO THE DESCRIPTION

\_\_\_\_\_ is about an "unprofitable Servant".

\_\_\_\_\_ is about judgment on a "Vengeful Brother"

\_\_\_\_\_ is about "3 men in a Church"

\_\_\_\_\_ was written to a "Mother" and her "Children"

\_\_\_\_\_ contains material from the "Book of Enoch"

### MATCH THE VERSE TO THE BOOK

\_\_\_\_\_ - If he hath wronged thee, or oweth thee ought,  
put that on mine account.

\_\_\_\_\_ - As thou hast done, it shall be done unto thee: thy  
reward shall return upon thine own head.

\_\_\_\_\_ - Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling,  
and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with  
exceeding joy,

\_\_\_\_\_ - If there come any unto you, and bring not this  
doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God  
speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil  
deeds.

\_\_\_\_\_ - I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper  
and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth

\*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*    \*\*\*

THE SHORTEST BOOK OF THE BIBLE IS ABOUT 3 MEN. IDENTIFY THEM FROM  
THIS BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

\_\_\_\_\_ WAS A "HELPER OF THE TRUTH"

\_\_\_\_\_ WAS A "HINDERER OF THE WORK" [WANTED THE PREMINENCE]

\_\_\_\_\_ WAS A "HOLY BELIEVER" [GOOD REPORT OF EVERYONE]

# MICHELLE'S POEM

I SAID, "LET ME WALK IN THE FIELDS."  
 HE SAID, "NO; WALK IN THE TOWN."  
 I SAID, "THERE ARE NO FLOWERS THERE."  
 HE SAID, "NO FLOWERS, BUT A CROWN."  
 I SAID, "BUT THE SKIES ARE BLACK,"  
 THERE IS NOTHING BUT NOISE AND DIN,"  
 AND HE WEPT AS HE SENT ME BACK;  
 "THERE IS MORE," HE SAID. "THERE IS SIN."  
 I SAID, "BUT THE AIR IS THICK  
 AND THE FOGS ARE VEILING THE SUN."  
 HE ANSWERED, "YET SOULS ARE SICK,  
 AND SOULS IN THE DARK UNDONE."  
 I SAID, "I SHALL MISS THE LIGHT,  
 AND FRIENDS WILL MISS ME, THEY SAY."  
 HE ANSWERED, "CHOOSE TONIGHT  
 IF I AM TO MISS YOU, OR THEY."  
 I PLEADED FOR TIME TO BE GIVEN.  
 HE SAID, "IS IT HARD TO DECIDE?  
 IT WILL NOT SEEM HARD IN HEAVEN  
 TO HAVE FOLLOWED YOUR GUIDE."  
 I CAST ONE LOOK AT THE FIELDS,  
 THEN SET MY FACE TO THE TOWN;  
 HE SAID, "MY CHILD DO YOU YIELD?  
 WILL YOU LEAVE THE FLOWERS FOR THE CROWN?"  
 THEN INTO HIS HAND WENT MINE;  
 AND INTO MY HEART CAME HE;  
 AND I WALK IN THE LIGHT DIVINE,  
 THE PATH I HAD FEARED TO SEE.

--SAMUEL WILBERFORCE

WHILE PRAYING THE OTHER DAY THIS VERSE CAME  
 TO MY MIND. HOW ABOUT ONE OF YOU FINISHING  
 THIS POEM FOR ME AND SENDING ME THE RESULTS.

IF THOU PUT ME IN THE FIERY FURNACE  
 OR UPON A CROSS OF WOOD.  
 STILL I DO KNOW THAT THOU DOEST LOVE ME  
 AND WORK ALL THINGS FOR MY GOOD.

# GRACE AND GLORY

Grace Free Will Baptist Church  
 P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
 Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
 Vol 7, Num 10 April 22, 1987  
 "TO KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST"

PRAISE GOD FOR HIS CONTINUED BLESSINGS. I  
 CONTINUALLY STAND IN AWE OF HIS PRESENCE,  
 HIS POWER AND HIS PROVISION. OUR EASTER  
 WEEKEND SERVICES WERE SIMPLY GREAT AS THE  
 SPIRIT OF GOD MOVED IN A MIGHTY WAY IN EACH  
 SERVICE. EVEN TODAY MY HEART BUBBLES WITH  
 JOY AS I THINK ABOUT THE JOB DONE BY THE MEN  
 AND LADIES OF THE CHURCH DURING THE GOOD  
 FRIDAY AND SUNRISE SERVICES. TRULY GOD IS  
 PRAISED WHEN HIS PEOPLE SHOW THEIR LOVE FOR  
 HIM THROUGH DEDICATED SERVICE.

I HAVE SEVERAL NEWS ITEMS THIS EDITION AND  
 THEY ALL BEGIN WITH THE LETTER "M":  
 MACHINE- I MENTIONED THE BOOK BINDING  
 MACHINE I NEEDED IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER AND  
 THAT VERY WEEK MR AND MRS JIMMY FLOYD AGREED  
 TO PURCHASE ONE FOR THIS MINISTRY!!! IT WILL  
 PROBABLY BE A MONTH OR SO BEFORE I AM ABLE  
 TO OBTAIN THE MACHINE, AND BY THEN I HOPE TO  
 HAVE SEVERAL BOOKS READY TO BIND AND OFFER  
 AS GIFTS. PRAISE THE LORD FOR THIS FINE  
 COUPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO GIVE OF THEIR  
 RESOURCES TO ADVANCE THE WORK OF CHRIST.  
 MEMORIAL- I APPRECIATE A MEMORIAL GIFT TO  
 THIS WORK GIVEN BY TOM AND ANNE MCKNIGHT IN  
 MEMORY OF MR AND MRS THOMAS M MCKNIGHT SR..  
 IN ADDITION, MRS. ANNE IS HELPING ME WITH  
 SOME TYPING NOW THAT WILL ENABLE ME TO HAVE  
 SOME BOOKS READY FOR DISTRIBUTION SOON. I  
 THANK GOD FOR THIS FINE COUPLE ALSO.

Grace FMB Church Nonprofit Organization  
 P O Box 1003 Permit # 8 U S Post PAID  
 Lake City, S C 29506

MICHELLE AND MANDY- TWO OF THE YOUNG LADIES OF THE CHURCH CONTRIBUTED TO TODAY'S NEWS- LETTER: MICHELLE McALLISTER SHARED THE POEM AND MANDY MOORE MADE UP THE QUIZ. IN ADDITION, BOTH MICHELLE AND MANDY HAVE RECENTLY DECORATED BULLETIN BOARDS IN THE CHURCH THAT HAVE REALLY BRIGHTENED UP THINGS. (MANDY IS THE MOTHER OF "ANDREW"- HE'S THE ONE THAT AUNT "PA-PA" THINKS IS AS SWEET AS SUGAR AND UNCLE MIKE BELIEVES WILL SAY, "PRAISE THE LORD" AS HIS FIRST WORDS!). MEMORIES, MOTHERS AND MISSIONARIES IN MAY- Monday, May 4 will be a SPECIAL MEMORY for me. I was saved 25 years ago and began preaching almost immediately. We did not have Church in our community so I began preaching in a tobacco Pack House that belonged to Mr. Buster Poston. May 4th I will again preach a service in that same Pack House! Brother Tommy Poston is working to get everything as near like it was then as possible (Pulpit of tobacco sticks and plywood, benches of boards over grain sacks, etc). I'm looking for a good service. Monday, May 11 will be the Annual Mother-Daughter Banquet here at the Church. Special Speaker this year will be Mrs. Geneva Poole, Missionary to Brazil.

Wednesday, May 27 Brother Bobby Poole, Missionary to Brazil, will be our guest Speaker for a special Mission service. MONEY- RECENTLY I WAS SPEAKING AT A SENIOR CITIZEN SERVICE HERE IN TOWN WHEN A LADY GAVE ME A CRUMPLED DOLLAR BILL FOR THIS MINISTRY. I APPRECIATE THAT GIFT AND I REALIZE THAT MOST OF THE SUPPORT FOR THIS WORK COMES FROM PEOPLE LIKE HER. I WANT HER, AND YOU, TO KNOW THAT I AM VERY AWARE OF MY RESPONSIBILITY TO USE THE FUNDS ENTRUSTED TO ME IN THE CORRECT WAY. I DON'T RECEIVE ONE CENT OF PAY FROM THIS WORK AND I TRY TO MAKE SURE EVERY PENNY IS USED CORRECTLY.

# MANDY'S QUIZ

1. HOW MANY TIMES DID JESUS FORETELL HIS DEATH?
2. WHO WENT WITH JESUS TO THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION?
3. WHO APPEARED WITH JESUS ON THE MOUNT OF TRANSFIGURATION?
4. HOW MANY MEN TOOK PART IN THE LAST SUPPER?
5. WHICH TWO DISCIPLES DID JESUS SEND TO PREPARE THE LAST SUPPER?
6. WHICH DISCIPLE BETRAYED JESUS? HOW MUCH WAS HE PAID?
7. WHO PAID TO HAVE JESUS BETRAYED?
8. WHO CUT OFF THE EAR OF MALCHUS?
9. HOW MANY TIMES DID PETER DENY JESUS?
10. HOW MANY TIMES DID THE COCK CROW?
11. WHAT WOMAN HAD A DREAM ABOUT JESUS? WHO DID SHE TELL ABOUT THE DREAM?
12. WHAT HAPPENED AT CALVARY?
13. WHO BORE JESUS' CROSS?
14. WHO SAID, "THAT THOU DOEST, DO QUICKLY".
15. WHAT DID THE SIGN ABOVE JESUS'S CROSS CALL HIM?
16. WHO GAMBLER FOR JESUS CLOTHING?
17. TO WHOM DID JESUS SAY, "THIS DAY YOU SHALL BE WITH ME IN PARADISE."
18. HOW LONG WAS IT DARK DURING THE CRUCIFIXION?
19. WHEN JESUS DIED ON THE CROSS WHAT WAS TORN IN TWO?
20. WHAT TWO THINGS FLOWED FROM JESUS'S SIDE?
21. WHO WENT TO PILATE AND BEGGED THE BODY OF JESUS?
22. WHO SAW JESUS FIRST AFTER HIS RESURRECTION?
23. WHICH TWO DISCIPLES RAN TO JESUS' TOMB?
24. JESUS SAID TO "THE DISCIPLES AFTER HIS RESURRECTION: SE UNTO YOU".



# GRACE AND GLORY

## SPECIAL BULLETIN

APRIL 24, 1987

**REVIVAL** Services will begin at Grace Free Will Baptist Church THIS SUNDAY! (April 26) and will continue thru Wednesday Night (April 29). The Sunday Night Service will begin at 6:00pm and the Monday - Wednesday Services will begin at 7:30pm.

Our Guest Speaker will be Rev Larry McAlister, Pastor of Gilead Free Will Baptist Church. Brother Larry is a man that loves the Lord and is doing a great work for the Lord at his Church and we're looking forward with great anticipation to his coming and sharing God's Word with us. The Spirit of God has been moving in a marvelous way in our recent services and we're looking for the best Revival we've ever had.

Our **SPECIAL MUSIC** will open our hearts to worship and the word and will be provided by:

SUNDAY NIGHT- GRACE FWB CHURCH  
MONDAY- MRS MERRY GROOMS  
TUESDAY- RICHARD LEE FAMILY  
WEDNESDAY- GILEAD FWB CHURCH

**If you miss these services you will miss a blessing so make your plans now to join us.  
We welcome you**

\* \* \* \* \*  
Grace FWB Church Nonprofit Organization  
P O Box 1003 U S Postage PAID  
Lake City, S C Permit #8

YESTERDAY I SPEND THE ENTIRE DAY ON THE BANK OF A RIVER AS SEARCH PARTIES LOOKED FOR THE SON OF ONE OF MY MEMBERS. WE PRAYED AND WAITED AND GRABBED ON EVERY BIT OF INFORMATION WE COULD FIND. EACH TIME A BOAT APPROACHED WE LOOKED WITH KEEN ANTICIPATION FOR SOME SIGN OF THE MISSING BOY. FINALLY, AROUND 5:30PM HE WAS FOUND; AND THE SHOUTS OF JUBILATION AND TEARS OF JOY FLOWED.

WE'RE ENTERING INTO REVIVAL SERVICES SUNDAY AND I'M STILL LOOKING FOR LOST BOYS AND GIRLS TO COME TO SAFETY. I BELIEVE THE SHOUTS WILL BE JUST AS LOUD AND THE TEARS JUST AS JOYFUL WHEN WE SEE PRODIGALS COME HOME AND THE LOST FOUND.

LOOKING TO SEE YOU SUNDAY.

PREACHER MIKE

### WHEN DO WE NEED REVIVAL??

1. WHEN MEMBERS WHO ONCE WERE FAITHFUL BEGIN TO MISS CHURCH SERVICES ON A REGULAR BASIS.
2. WHEN THE LURE OF THE WORLD REPLACES THE LOVE FOR GOD
3. WHEN CHURCH MEMBERS WANT TO FELLOWSHIP WITH THOSE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH MORE THAN WITH GOD'S FAMILY.
4. WHEN THE CHURCH HAS NO BURDEN FOR LOST SOULS.
5. WHEN THERE ARE NO NEW BIRTHS INTO GOD'S FAMILY
6. WHEN THE WORLD THINKS THE CHURCH IS A CLUB INSTEAD OF CHRIST.

TO PRAY FOR REVIVAL, ONE MUST PRAY FOR HIMSELF, REPENT OF HIS OWN SINS, ALLOW THE IMAGE OF CHRIST TO BE RECREATED IN HIS OWN HEART, AND COME AGAIN INTO A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH HIS LORD AND SAVIOUR.

**REVIVAL**



**Grace**

**FWB Church**



**Larry McAlister**

**Evangelist**

**April 26-29**



**7:30 p.m.**



# Grace & Glory

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 LAKE CITY, S C  
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 394-3725  
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"  
VOL V NUM 11 MAY 7, 1987

BIBLE STUDY HOUR.....10:00AM  
MORNING SERVICE.....11:00AM  
(LIVE OVER WJOT 1260 AM)  
EVENING SERVICE.....6:00PM  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEET...7:30PM

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## SERVER OR THE SERVED

WHY DO CHILDREN ALWAYS WANT MOMMY IN A CRISIS?? WHY DO PEOPLE ON TELEVISION AUTOMATICALLY SAY, "HI MOM"? WHAT MAKES MOMS SO SPECIAL?

THE OBVIOUS ANSWERS ARE A MOTHER'S LOVE AND CONCERN AND HER COMPASSION AND FORGIVENESS. ONLY A MOTHER CAN SEE TALENT WHERE OTHERS SEE TROUBLE; CAN SCOLD AND QUARREL WITH ONE BREATH WHILE REACHING OUT TO HOLD YOU TO HER BREAST (AND TAKE YOU INTO HER HEART) IN THE NEXT INSTANCE. ONLY A MOTHER CAN HEAL A BRUISE WITH A KISS AND "MIRACULOUSLY" FIND THAT CERTAIN PIECE OF CLOTHES JUST WHEN YOU NEED IT. BUT I THINK THE MAIN ANSWER TO A MOTHER'S PLACE OF HONOR COMES FROM HER ABILITY TO BECOME THE SERVER INSTEAD OF THE SERVED.

JESUS ASKED HIS DISCIPLES ONE DAY WHICH IS GREATER, HE THAT SITTETH AT MEAT, OR HE THAT SERVETH? IS NOT HE THAT SITTETH AT MEAT? BUT I AM AMONG YOU AS HE THAT SERVETH (LUKE 22:27). THIS ATTITUDE OF "HE THAT IS GREATEST AMONG YOU SHALL BE YOUR SERVANT" (MARK 10:44) WAS ONE OF THE KEYSTONES OF JESUS' MINISTRY AND I BELIEVE THIS SAME ATTITUDE IS WHAT CHARACTERIZES A GOOD MOTHER.

WHEN I WAS GROWING UP WITH MY 3 BROTHER MOM WOULD COOK JUST ONE CHICKEN FOR SUPPER. EACH OF US WOULD GET A PIECE AND INVARIABLY MOM WOULD GET THE NECK AND BACK (SHE SAID SHE LIKED THOSE PIECES BUT WE ALL KNEW IT WAS BECAUSE SHE WANTED DAD AND US BOYS TO HAVE THE GOOD PIECES). THAT ATTITUDE OF SELFLESSNESS AND SERVICE IS WHAT MADE HER SUCH A SUPER MOM.

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE CHRISTIANS TODAY DEVELOP THIS SAME SPIRIT OF SERVICE. MORE AND MORE AS I VISIT I FIND PEOPLE ONLY WANT A CHURCH THAT SERVES THEM INSTEAD OF FINDING THE PLACE THAT THEY CAN SERVE GOD. AND MORE AND MORE CHRISTIANS WITHIN THE CHURCH WANT TO BE SERVED INSTEAD OF SERVE. CONVENIENCE HAS REPLACED THE CROSS; SELF HAS BECOME MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE SAVIOUR; AND PEOPLE ONLY SEEK WHAT GOD CAN DO FOR THEM INSTEAD OF FINDING THEIR PLACE IN THE BODY OF CHRIST AND WORKING FOR GOD.

MOMS, WE APPRECIATE WHAT YOU ARE AND WHAT YOU REPRESENT. MAY YOUR SPIRIT OF LOVE AND SERVICE BECOME PART OF EVERYONE'S LIFE.



GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
LAKE CITY, S C 29560

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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LAKE CITY, S C 29560  
PERMIT #8

HOW CAN WE SERVE THE LORD?? THE VERY ESSENCE OF SIN IS "FALLING SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD" (ROM 3:23); WHICH BASICALLY MEANS THAT WE FAIL TO DO WHAT GOD REQUIRES- IN OTHER WORDS, WE FAIL TO SERVE THE LORD. THAT MAKES SERVING THE LORD ONE OF THE MOST VITAL ELEMENTS OF OUR LIFE. YET MANY PEOPLE DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHAT TO DO OR HOW TO DO IT IN ORDER TO SERVE THE LORD. THEY SEEM TO THINK THAT THE ONLY PEOPLE WHO "SERVE THE LORD" ARE THOSE ENGAGED IN "FULL TIME" CHRISTIAN SERVICE AT CHURCH- NOT REALIZING THAT JESUS WORKED MUCH MORE OUTSIDE OF THE CHURCH THAN HE DID IN IT.

LET'S LOOK AT SOME OF THE ATTITUDES AND ACTIONS THAT MAKE UP OUR SERVICE FOR GOD.

1. *Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling.* PS 2:11. THE PSALMIST HERE IS SAYING THAT OUR ATTITUDE OF SERVICE OUGHT TO BE "REVERENCE" (MEANING OF "FEAR" HERE). I WONDER HOW MANY PEOPLE SING, PRAY, GIVE, AND LISTEN TO SERMONS WITH AN ATTITUDE THAT IS MOST LESS THAN REVERENT?? I WONDER HOW MANY PEOPLE APPROACH THEIR WORK, SCHOOL, OR DAILY DUTIES WITH REVERENCE?- And WHATSOEVER ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men; COL 3:23  
A BAD ATTITUDE DESTROYS GOOD ACTIONS!!

2. *Brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another* GAL 5:13. SERVICE IS CHANGED FROM DRUDGERY TO DELIGHT WHEN YOU ADD LOVE TO THE WORK. JESUS SAID, *If you love me, keep my commandments* (JN 14:14) BUT SADLY TODAY MANY PEOPLE ARE IN LOVE WITH SELF INSTEAD OF THE SAVIOUR. THAT'S WHY THEY CAN SO EASILY BREAK HIS COMMANDMENTS IN ORDER TO DO THAT THAT PLEASE THEM. DO YOU LOVE TO SERVE GOD; OR DO YOU LOOK FOR AN EXCUSE NOT TO???

3. *My eyes shall be upon the faithful of the land, that they may dwell with me: he that walketh in a perfect way, he shall serve me* PSALM 101:6. IT'S WONDERFUL TO KNOW THAT GOD KNOWS THE NUMBER OF HAIRS ON MY HEAD AND IS CONCERNED WHEN EVEN A SPARROW FALLS TO THE GROUND BUT THAT ALSO MEANS THAT GOD EXPECTS EVERY AREA OF MY LIFE TO BE OF SERVICE TO HIM. SOMETIMES PEOPLE TRY TO SEPARATE THEIR "RELIGIOUS" LIFE FROM THEIR EVERYDAY LIVING BUT A SERVANT OF GOD KNOWS THAT WE HONOR GOD WITH A PRAYER OVER SUPPER AS WELL AS FOR A SERMON; THAT THE WAY WE LIVE OUR LIVES TEACHES A GREATER LESSON THAN ANY SUNDAY SCHOOL QUARTERLY.

JESUS SAID YOU COULD NOT SERVE TWO MASTERS- ARE YOU TRYING???

4. *Serving the Lord with all humility of mind, and with many tears, and temptations,...* (ACTS 20:19). SERVICE FOR THE LORD ALSO INVOLVES BEING A SERVANT, SUFFERING FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS SAKE, AND FIGHTING SIN. MANY SEEM TO BE WILLING TO SERVE GOD IF IT MEANS HEALTH, WEALTH, AND HAPPINESS BUT DON'T SEEM TO REALIZE THAT *whosoever of you will be chiefest, shall be servant of all* (MK 10:44). WE NEED MORE SERVING SAINTS INSTEAD OF "SUPER SAINTS" TODAY. OTHERS ARE WILLING TO SERVE AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T MEAN SUFFERING (SADLY TODAY MANY THINK MISSING THEIR FAVORITE TV PROGRAM IS TOO MUCH TO SUFFER FOR CHRIST!!). I BELIEVE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SERVE THE LORD IN THIS SINFUL WORLD WITHOUT SUFFERING SOME (I PET 4:12). AND, FINALLY, I BELIEVE A SERVANT OF GOD WILL FIGHT SIN BECAUSE SIN IS THE ENEMY OF GOD AND GOD'S PEOPLE.

**ARE YOU SERVING GOD TODAY???**

THE PACK HOUSE MEETING WAS GREAT. IT WAS SO GOOD TO SEE MANY OF THE SAME PEOPLE WHO WERE WITH ME 25 YEARS AGO STILL SERVING THE LORD. I APPRECIATE ALL THE WORK THAT WENT INTO PREPARING THE BUILDING AND GETTING EVERYTHING IN ORDER. Tapes of this service are available to anyone requesting them. THE FRONT SIDE CONTAINS THE SONG SERVICE AND THE BACK SIDE IS THE PREACHING SERVICE AND I HOPE IT BLESSES YOU AS MUCH AS IT DID ME.

WE ALSO HAD A GOOD REVIVAL WITH REV. LARRY MCALISTER. The tapes of these services are also available to anyone desiring them. EACH TAPE CONTAINS 2 NIGHT'S SERVICES (SPECIAL MUSIC AND SERMON).

I AM ABLE TO MAKE ALL THESE TAPES AVAILABLE BECAUSE GOD HAS BEEN VERY GOOD TO THIS WORK IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS. WE HAD ALMOST REACHED THE BOTTOM FINANCIALLY BUT GOD HAS MIRACULOUSLY AND WONDERFULLY MET THE NEEDS AND I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ORDER EXTRA TAPES AS WELL AS TAKE CARE OF NORMAL EXPENSES. IT HAS ALSO BEEN A VERY EXCITING TIME OF TESTIMONY FROM MANY PEOPLE ABOUT THE BENEFITS AND BLESSINGS FROM OUR OUTREACH WORK. NEW CONVERTS AND "SENIOR SAINTS" ALIKE HAVE TOLD ABOUT SPECIAL BLESSINGS FROM EITHER THE NEWSLETTER, TAPES, OR RADIO WORK. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY WITH ME THAT GOD WOULD LEAD AND DIRECT IN THE DAYS AHEAD. I BELIEVE THAT WE ARE JUST BEGINNING TO SEE WHAT GOD CAN DO THRU THIS WORK AND I'M EXCITED ABOUT WHAT'S AROUND THE NEXT "CORNER".

SPECIAL THANKS TO THESE FINE FOLKS FOR CARING AND CONTRIBUTING THAT WE MAY REACH PEOPLE WITH THE GOSPEL: MELLOW BELLFLOWERS, BILLIE ARD, NORMA HANNA (WHO MADE A SPECIAL TRIP TO GET ME THIS GIFT), LUCILE STUCKEY (A PARTNER AND "PRAY-ER"), THE MIXONS (FINALLY GOT TO MEET THESE FRIENDS FROM FLORIDA), SYBIL ANDERSON, BILL EVANS, JOSSE POSTON (LIKE MY SECOND "MOM"), AND JAMES POSTON (SO GLAD TO SEE HIM SAVED AND SERVING GOD NOW). THANKS ALSO TO REV SAM FULMER, REV DALE YARBOROUGH, AND REV LARRY MCALISTER.

The New lights are in and installed. Brother Arnold and Brother Russel finished installing them just a few minutes ago and they look GREAT. These men have work long and hard to get this joy done and I appreciate it very much. A GOLD STAR also to Mrs Johanna Lowder. She has come by after work for several days and has done a tremendous amount of painting in the Sunday School rooms. Things are looking "Brighter and Lighter" around our Church now thanks to all this work.

MOTHERS, be sure to bring all your family to Church with you this Sunday. We have a special gift for each mother and I pray God will use the service to save any of your lost children.

Remember that the MOTHER-DAUGHTER BANQUET will be Monday night at 7:30pm. Mrs. Geneva Poole will be the guest speaker and Mrs Merry Grooms will provide the Special Music. [Thanks to Amanda Moore for preparing the Special Mother's Day Bulletin Board].

I wish you God's best

Preacher Mike

# Mother's Day Quiz

Amanda Moore

Match the Mother with the Child:

## MOTHER

## CHILD

- \_\_\_ A. Hannah
- \_\_\_ B. Ruth
- \_\_\_ C. Eve
- \_\_\_ D. Hagar
- \_\_\_ E. Sarah

- \_\_\_ F. Rebekah
- \_\_\_ G. Rachel
- \_\_\_ H. Jochebed
- \_\_\_ I. Mary
- \_\_\_ J. Bathsheba
- \_\_\_ K. Eunice
- \_\_\_ L. Salome
- \_\_\_ M. Naomi
- \_\_\_ N. Elizabeth
- \_\_\_ O. Zipporah
- \_\_\_ P. Leah

- 1. Reuben (Gen 29:32)
- 2. Gershom (Exo 2:21-22)
- 3. John the Baptist (Luke 1:57&60)
- 4. Mahlon & Chilion (Ruth 1:2)
- 5. James and John (Matt 27:56, Mark 15:40 & 10:35)
- 6. Esau and Jacob (Gen 25:25)
- 7. Solomon (I Kings 1:11)
- 8. Jesus (Matt 1:16)
- 9. Seth (Gen 4:25)
- 10. Joseph (Gen 30:25)
- 11. Timothy (II Tim 1:5 & Acts 16:1)
- 12. Isaac (Gen 21:3)
- 13. Ishmael (Gen 16:16)
- 14. Moses and Aaron (Exo 6:20)
- 15. Obed (Matt 1:16)
- 16. Samuel (I Sam 1:20)

I recently had a verse in the newsletter and asked you to help complete it.:

If thou put me in the fiery furnace  
Or upon a cross of wood.  
Still I do know that thou doest love me  
And work all things for my good.

Mrs Barbara Thomas submitted these two verse to conclude it:

Even when I walk thru the valley  
You are with me every step;  
And although my feet get weary;  
I can know that I am kept

When this life is over  
And at death's door I stand  
I know who holds tomorrow;  
And I now who will hold my hand.

I appreciate her input. She did a good job didn't she??  
I'd still like to hear from YOU.

## SAVED

ROM 8:29

PURPOSE OF THIS MESSAGE: TO SHOW PEOPLE WHAT GOD SAVED THEM FROM AND WHAT GOD SAVED THEM FOR SO THAT THEY WILL BECOME THE CHRISTIAN GOD INTENDED THEM TO BE.

**I. GOD'S PLAN** ROM 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. GOD DID NOT SAVE US FOR WHAT WE WERE BUT FOR WHAT WE COULD BECOME- CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON IN WHOM HE WAS WELL PLEASED. (MANY PEOPLE LOSE THE JOY AND MEANING TO LIFE BECAUSE THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT GOD WANTS FROM THEM OR WHAT HE'S TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH IN THEIR LIFE. SO THEY ASSUME GOD WANTS THEM HEALTH, WEALTH, AND CARE-FREE. THAT FILLS THEM WITH DEPRESSION, DESPAIR, AND DISCOURAGEMENT WHEN GOD USES WHATEVER MEANS ARE NECESSARY TO MOLD THEM INTO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST).

A) Created that way in the beginning- Gen 1:26 Let us make man in our image.

B) Satan has always tried to defeat God's plan-

1. FIRST HE HAD MAN ERECT IDOLS (IMAGES) OF ANIMALS AND WORSHIP THEM (GOLDEN CALF).

2. THEN HE HAD MAN WORSHIP MAN-ANIMALS (SATYRS, ETC).

3. THEN CAME MYTHOLOGICAL "MEN AND WOMEN" (ZEUS, IRIS, ETC).

4. FINALLY THERE WAS THE WORSHIP OF MAN AS GOD (ROMAN EMPERORS)- ROM 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ROM 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, ROM 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. ROM 1:24

Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

ROM 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever

TODAY WE DEPEND ON SELF EGO (I'M THE ONLY ONE I HAVE TO ANSWER TO. IF IT FEELS GOOD TO ME THEN DO IT). GOD'S PLAN IS NOT THAT WE BE GOD BUT THAT WE CONFORM TO THE IMAGE OF GOD- I COR 11:7 For a man indeed ought not to cover his head, forasmuch as he is the image and glory of God:

**II. GOD'S PATTERN-** JESUS CHRIST COL 1:15 Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: JOHN 1:14 And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. JOHN 14:9 He that hath seen me hath seen the Father.

GOD DOES NOT EXPECT US ALL TO LEAVE HOME AND WANDER IN GALILEE! BUT HE DOES EXPECT US TO READ THE GOSPELS AND FOLLOW THE EXAMPLE OF OBEDIENCE THAT CHRIST HAS GIVEN US- AND IT IS THE EXAMPLE OF THE "TWO EDGED SWORD": KING IN MATTHEW BUT SERVANT IN MARK. MAN IN LUKE BUT GOD IN JOHN [THIS MAKES LIFE FULL INSTEAD OF ROBOT "ONE DIMENSIONAL"]

III. GOD'S POWER- WHEN WE ACCEPT CHRIST AND ARE BORN AGAIN THEN WE MUST BE ENABLED TO LIVE THIS NEW LIFE. IT'S NOT ENOUGH TO JUST TURN OVER A "NEW LEAF" AND "TRY" TO DO BETTER. YOU NEED SOMETHING TO ENABLE YOU TO BECOME WHAT GOD INTENDED.

A) The Word of God- II Pet 1:4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by them we might be partakers of the divine nature. Heb 4:12 says that it is a "Living Word", a Powerful Word, and a Searching Word- and John even calls Jesus "THE WORD". Have you read your Bible today???

B) The Spirit of God- II Corinth 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord.

WE GROW IN THIS IMAGE (COL 3:10) And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him. UNTIL FINALLY CHRIST WILL (PHIL 3:21) changes our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body...

YOU BECOME:

A) A New Creature (A NEW BEGINNING) II Cor 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

B) A Son of God John 1:12 But as many as received him to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. With all the rights and privileges that involves

C) An Heir to Heaven John 14:1-2 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

WHAT A GLORIOUS PRIVILEGE IT IS TO BE SAVED.

1. GOD FORGIVES THE PAST- LOOK WHAT HAPPENS TO FORGIVEN SIN???

PSALM 103:12 As far as the east is from the west, so far hast he removed our transgressions from us.

ISAIAH 38:17 Behold, for peace I had great bitterness: but thou hast in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption: for thou hast cast all my sins behind thy back.

ISAIAH 44:22 I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy transgressions, and, as a cloud, thy sins: return unto me: for I have redeemed thee.

MICAH 7:19 He will turn again, he will have compassion upon us: he will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

ISAIAH 43:25 I, even I, am he that blotteth out thy transgressions for mine own sake, and will not remember thy sins. WHAT SINS ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT???

2. HE GIVES POWER AND A PATTERN FOR THE PRESENT- THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE EXAMPLE OF CHRIST.

3. AND HE HAS PROMISED US A HOME IN HEAVEN!!!

ARE YOU SAVED???



# GRACE AND GLORY NEWSLETTER

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mircheal Jones 394-3725  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"  
Vol V Num 12 May 21, 1987

Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
Morning Service.....11:00am  
(Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Wed. Prayer Meet.....7:30pm

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WE ARE VERY THANKFUL TO HAVE SEVERAL NEW FAMILIES VISITING WITH US RECENTLY! WE HOPE THEY WILL BE A PERMANENT PART OF OUR "FAMILY" HERE AT GRACE. IT'S EXCITING TO SEE OUR "BASE" HERE AT THE CHURCH GROWING AS WELL AS OUR OUTREACH WORK. IF THE LORD TARRIES FOR 5 MORE YEARS THEN I BELIEVE WE WILL BE SIMPLY AMAZED TO SEE WHAT HE WILL HAVE ACCOMPLISHED HERE AT GRACE AND THRU OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY. I KNOW I DON'T DESERVE THE HONOR OF PASTORING SUCH A FINE CHURCH AND HEADING SUCH A GREAT MINISTRY BUT I'M VERY VERY GLAD THAT GOD HAS ALLOWED ME TO DO SO.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WILL BE JUNE 8-10 WITH GRADUATION ON THURSDAY JUNE 11. CLASSES WILL MEET FROM 7:00PM - 9:00PM EACH NIGHT. OUR FORMAT THIS YEAR WILL BE DIFFERENT, AND I HOPE ENJOYABLE- NOT ONLY FOR THE STUDENTS BUT ALSO FOR THE LEADERS. WE PLAN TO USE VIDEOS FOR THE LESSONS AND "PROJECTS" INSTEAD OF "CRAFTS" (CHILDREN WILL DESIGN POSTERS, BLACKBOARDS, BULLETIN BOARDS, ETC DURING CRAFT TIME ON MONDAY - WEDNESDAY AND THEN THE GRADUATION PROGRAM THURSDAY NIGHT WILL ALLOW THEM TO SHARE WITH THEIR PARENTS AND GUESTS THE BIBLE STORY THE PROJECT REPRESENTS. EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL GIFT TO TAKE HOME INSTEAD OF A CRAFT). OF COURSE, WE WILL ALSO HAVE SONGS AND REFRESHMENTS AND MAYBE EVEN AN OBJECT LESSON AND PUPPET PROGRAM EACH NIGHT.

-----  
+ We invite you to attend Grace Free Will Baptist  
+ Church any time. If you live in the Lake City  
Highway 52 + area then we invite you to experience the Wonder  
+ of Worship with us every week.  
+ If you are visiting in our area then we would  
Matthews Road + thrilled to have you attend one of our services  
+ any time.  
+ [Coming South from Florence on Highway 52 turn  
+ RIGHT at the first red light- 2 Texaco stations  
Lawrence St + ---West Main St and a Kentucky Fried Chicken on  
+ (Hywy 378) the corners. Go 1 block to  
Burch St + Matthew's Road and turn RIGHT.  
+ Go 1 block and turn LEFT on  
+ Lawrence St. We occupy the  
GRACE + entire 2nd block of Lawrence St  
CHURCH ++  
+

LOOKING TO SEE YOU IN OUR SERVICES SOON

PREACHER MIKE

\*\*\*\*\*

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
LAKE CITY, S C 29560

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U S POSTAGE PAID  
LAKE CITY, S C 29560  
PERMIT #8

## WORD HAND

1. HEARING- ROM 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God

2. READING- REV 1:3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.

3. STUDYING- II TIM 2:15 Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



4. MEMORIZING- PS 119:11 Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee.

5. MEDITATING- JOSHUA 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for when thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

PS 1: 2 But his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doeth he meditate day and night.

## PRAYER HAND



1. CONFESSING- I JOHN 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness

2. INTERCEDING- JAMES 5:16 Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.

3. PETITION- MATT 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you: seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

4. PRAISE TO THE GIVER- PSALM 150:1 Praise ye the Lord. Praise God in his sanctuary: praise him in the firmament of his power.

5. THANKING FOR THE GIFT- PSALM 100:4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

YOU NEED TO USE THE HANDS THAT GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO WORK FOR AND WORSHIP GOD. RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD WILL NOT ONLY CHANGE OUR ATTITUDE BUT ALSO OUR ACTIONS. PUT BOTH HANDS INTO PRACTICE TODAY.

## THE CHRISTIAN WORKER

II Tim 2:2

We live in a world that constantly pressures us and demands responsibility of us. We are constantly told that we must buy a certain car, or soft drink; wear a certain style of clothes; and conform to society's ideals. From among all this din of confusion and contradiction my job as Pastor is to get you to see the Necessary instead of the Needless.

In order to do that there are 2 Basic Principles you must be aware of: (1) EVERY Person is either Saved or Lost depending on their faith in the shed Blood of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins. and (2) EVERY Saved person must take up his cross and accept his place in God's Plan. This Second Principle involves a number of things- There is no way I can cover them all in one sermon but I do want to expose one aspect of your responsibility and cause you to repent of your failure and accept your place in God's Plan.

As Christians we have a responsibility to our family (I Tim 5:8 If any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel) THIS MEANS WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO SEE THAT OUR CHILDREN ARE TAUGHT CORRECTLY- Ps 78:5 For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children.

BUT WE NOT ONLY HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO OUR FAMILY; WE ALSO HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO THE CAUSE OF CHRIST- II TIM 2:2 The things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also. THIS IS THE OBLIGATION OF THE CHRISTIAN WORKER; AND IT IS THIS RESPONSIBILITY THAT I WANT TO ADDRESS TODAY.

**I. OUR OBLIGATION:** MATT 28:19-20 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. Three Obligations are given:

1. GO According to an article in "People to People" (A United Methodist Publication) 70% of those who come to Sunday School the first time come because someone invited them.

People come to Sunday School because of:	Friends	48.2%
	Transferred/moved	18.2%
	Relatives	14.8%
	Walked in/other	12.0%
	Pastor	6.5%
	Evangelistic Effort	.3%

2. Make Disciples- Teach all nations about Christ

3. Teach Them to observe ALL things- Put Christianity into practice.

## II. OUR QUALIFICATIONS:

WHAT TO LOOK FOR IN CHRISTIAN WORKERS-

1. They should be deeply concerned and dedicated Christians- not the blind leading the blind. Children's souls are too important to trust to Lost, Lazy, or Lukewarm Teachers!!!

2. They should be emotionally mature- not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. I Tim 3:6 Able to deal with Problems and Personalities that are a normal part of dealing with People.

3. They should possess the ability to work harmoniously with others- Realizing that all Christians are part of the Body of Christ and each part needs the other. Some are hands and some are feet but all function at the direction of the Head.

4. They should have a loving spirit- a man that says he loves God and does not love his brother is a liar. When you work for no Pay and little Praise you must be constrained by Love to do your job. "He who has love in his heart has spurs in his side".

5. They should have the ability to compromise on Preferences, but not on Principles- You don't care if the Preacher's Bible is Blue but you are greatly concerned that he preaches from the Bible.

THERE ARE 3 BASIC QUESTIONS EACH CHRISTIAN WORKER SHOULD ASK THEMSELVES:

1. Is my Living God Exalting- Let your light shine so men may glorify God

2. Is my Message Christ Centered- HE is our ONLY message- And He is a Person; not Just Principles

3. Is my Teaching Spirit empowered- Christians are BORN not made. Sinners are DEAD in trespasses and sins- they don't need new clothes, they need LIFE. 1CO 2:1-5 And I, brethren, when I came to you, came not with excellency of speech or of wisdom, declaring unto you the testimony of God. For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I was with you in weakness, and in fear, and in much trembling. And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

## III. OUR GOAL:

COL 1:28 (CHRIST) Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus;

ROM 8:29 For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

God has a Plan for Everyone- It is not the will of God that ANY be lost but that all come to the knowledge of the Truth

God has a Place for Everyone- Believers in the Body of Christ, Unbelievers abide under the wrath of God (John 3:36). WHAT A DIFFERENCE IT MAKES WHEN A TEACHER REALIZES THEY HAVE TO ANSWER TO GOD AS "BOSS" AND NOT THE CHURCH.

God's Power works on anyone who will Believe- Paul was the "Chief of Sinners" (I Tim 1:15). God's power can set the demon possessed man free, satisfy the thirst of the adulterous Samaritan woman, and even save self-righteous Nicodemus. And the only things needed to activate this power is Faith.

GOD IS LOOKING FOR PEOPLE THAT WILL NOT ONLY COMMIT TO HIM FOR SALVATION BUT ALSO FOR SERVICE. CHRIST'S DEATH ON THE CROSS PAID FOR OUR SINS AND NOW HE EXPECTS EACH OF US TO TAKE UP OUR CROSS AND FOLLOW HIM.

IS CHRISTIANITY A "LIFE INSURANCE POLICY" FOR YOU OR A LIFE???

## CONFRONTATION

(WEBSTER) CONFRONTATION: FACE TO FACE OPPOSITION.

MOST OF US DREAD CONFRONTATION AND SEEK TO AVOID IT. LET'S SEE SOME OF THE "VALUES" AND THE "VICES" OF CONFRONTATION.

ACTS 6:1 CONFRONTATION OVER FEELINGS OF NEGLECT

ACTS 15:2 CONFRONTATION OVER VARYING VIEWPOINTS ABOUT SALVATION

CONFRONTATION IS NOT WRONG (HERE WE FIND IT IN THE CHURCH AND AMONG THE "RELIGIOUS" LEADERS) IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS. CONFRONTATION CAUSES US TO DEFINE OUR BELIEFS (I COR 11:19 For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you )OR DISTINGUISH OUR BEHAVIOR [REMEMBER THAT IT IS THE FILE, AND NOT THE FEATHER, THAT SHARPENS THE AXE]. WHAT I WANT US TO SEE IS THAT CONFRONTATION SHOULD NEVER ORIGINATE FROM PERSONALITY PROBLEMS, PRIDE, OR THE "PLEASURE" OF SEEING OTHERS BROUGHT DOWN.

WHERE DOES THIS TYPE CONFRONTATION ORIGINATE?

1. THE EFFORT BEING MADE TO CHANGE ANOTHER PERSON INTO WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO BE- YOUR IMAGE INSTEAD OF GOD'S IMAGE. SIN IS FALLING SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD. SINCE GOD HAS A DIFFERENT WAY FOR DIFFERENT PEOPLE TO GLORIFY HIM (GIFTS) THEN WE CAN NOT JUDGE BY OUR STANDARDS. (REALIZE THAT THE PERSON OR PEOPLE YOU ARE TRYING TO CHANGE THINK YOU ARE SAYING TO THEM- "YOU WERE WRONG IN DOING IT THIS WAY BUT I'M SMARTER THAN YOU"; EVEN THOUGH MOST TIMES YOU ARE REALLY SAYING, "LET ME HELP YOU BECOME WHAT I THINK IS BETTER". THAT'S WHY PEOPLE RESIST CHANGE SO MUCH)

2. THE EFFORT BEING MADE TO CONTROL ANOTHER PERSON SO YOU CAN GET THEM TO DO WHAT YOU WANT THEM TO DO- EVERYONE LIKES TO "PLAY GOD". IT'S SOMETIMES EASY TO TALK ABOUT BEING A "SERVANT" IN AN ABSTRACT WAY BUT IT'S MORE DIFFICULT WHEN PEOPLE DON'T FOLLOW YOUR "SCRIPT"- WE WANT PEOPLE TO SAY, "I SEE YOUR GREAT SACRIFICE, AND THINK YOU'RE THE GREATEST PERSON IN THE WORLD". INSTEAD THEY OFTEN SAY, "CAN'T YOU DO MORE OR BETTER!". WE'RE ACTUALLY ONLY USING "SERVICE" TO ALLOW US TO "MASTER" THE OTHER PERSON AND WE BECOME ANGRY WHEN IT DOESN'T WORK OUT OUR WAY. [HUSBANDS AND WIVES USE "AFFECTION", OR THE LACK THEREOF, TO CONTROL EACH OTHER. CHILDREN BECOME "GOOD" BY DOING CERTAIN THINGS SUCH AS CLEANING THEIR ROOM WHEN THEY WANT TO GET THEIR PARENTS TO GIVE IN TO THEM. AND WHEN THE BOSS STARTS SMILING MOST WORKERS GET WORRIED!].

3. THE DESIRE TO CRITICIZE OTHERS IN ORDER TO "BRING THEM DOWN TO YOUR OWN LEVEL". UNWILLING TO IMPROVE YOURSELF YOU BECOME JEALOUS OF THOSE WHO ATTEMPT TO DO SOMETHING FOR GOD.

IT WOULD DO WELL FOR ALL PEOPLE TO REMEMBER THE 7 THINGS GOD HATES:  
PRO 6:16 These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

PRO 6:17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,

PRO 6:18 An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,

PRO 6:19 A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.

#### THE 7 THINGS GOD HATES:

1. A PROUD LOOK~ OVER ESTIMATION OF SELF, UNDER ESTIMATION OF OTHERS
2. A LYING TONGUE~
3. HANDS THAT SHED INNOCENT BLOOD~ IF WE FAIL TO WARN THE SINFUL THEN THEIR BLOOD IS UPON OUR HANDS.
4. HEART THAT DEVISETH WICKED IMAGINATIONS~ YOU SEE WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE INSTEAD OF WHAT IS SO.
5. FEET THAT BE SWIFT IN RUNNING TO MISCHIEF~ DESIRE TO DO WRONG
6. A FALSE WITNESS THAT SPEAKETH LIES~ A WITNESS IS SUPPOSED TO BE SOMEONE WHO ACTUALLY SAW THE INCIDENT. INSTEAD THEY TELL WHAT THEY WANT INSTEAD OF WHAT IS TRUE
7. HE THAT SOWETH DISCORD AMONG BRETHERN~ "LETTETH LOOSE STRIFE"

A PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION IS TO ALLOW SOMEONE TO HOLD THE END OF A BALL OF STRING AND TELL THE MAIN POINTS ABOUT A STORY. HE THEN TOSSES THE BALL TO SOMEONE ELSE WHO TELLS WHAT HE REMEMBERS ABOUT THE STORY. HOLDING THE STRING HE THEN TOSSES THE BALL TO ANOTHER WHO DOES THE SAME THING. SOON THERE IS A TANGLE OF STRING BETWEEN THE PEOPLE THAT MUST BE CUT INSTEAD OF UNRAVELED. SO IT IS WITH GOSSIP. IT SOON GETS SO TANGLED UNTIL UNRAVELING BECOMES IMPOSSIBLE AND ONLY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST CAN CHANGE THE SITUATION.

#### HOW CAN WE AVOID CONFRONTATION?

1. Put yourself in the other person's "Shoes"~ Job 16:4-6 I also could speak as ye do: if your soul were in my soul's stead, I could heap up words against you; and shake mine head at you. But I would strengthen you with my mouth, and the moving of my lips should assuage your grief. Though I speak, my grief is not assuaged: and though I forbear, what am I eased?

2. Are you defending a Preference or a Principle? See I Cor 9:19-22 where Paul said he had become all things to all men to save some, and compare it to Gal 1:9 where Paul calls a curse on those who preach another Gospel.

#### 3. Try to find where YOU are in relation to the Problem:

- A) Are you **IN** the Problem ("Blinded" by the Pressure),
- B) **OUTSIDE** the Problem (Where you're either criticizing or comforting or callously ignoring it),
- C) or simply "The" Problem!

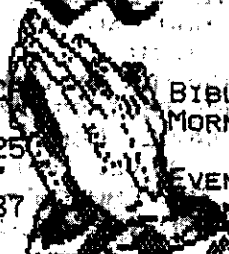
Study the examples of Jesus about Confrontation: He didn't confront the Samaritan woman about where to worship; He exposed her problem with husbands and pointed her to living water. That's the way we need to learn to handle situations: 1) See the "Root" of the Problem instead of the Fruit. 2) Try to help the situation instead of make it worst.

Are you trying to Change people into what YOU want, trying to Control them so they will fit your plans, or are you simply criticizing others because you're too lazy or loveless to get involved.

Don't be a "Confronter"; be a "Christian".

# Grace & Glory

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH BIBLE STUDY HOUR.....10:00AM  
P O BOX 1003 LAKE CITY, S C MORNING SERVICE.....11:00AM  
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 394-3725 (LIVE OVER WJOT 1260 AM)  
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST" EVENING SERVICE.....6:00PM  
VOL V NUM 13 JUNE 10, 1987 WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEET...7:30PM  
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WHAT A BUSY BUT BLESSED TIME IT HAS BEEN RECENTLY. THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF "LATE NIGHTS AND EARLY MORNINGS" BUT I'M REJOICING IN SEEING SOME OF THE "SEED" WE'VE BEEN SOWING OVER THE PAST YEAR BEGIN TO BLOOM INTO FRUIT. SO GET YOUR "SHOUTING SHOES" ON BECAUSE I HAVE A NUMBER OF BLESSINGS TO SHARE WITH YOU:

1. OUR ATTENDANCE HAS FINALLY BEGUN TO CLIMB AFTER LAST YEAR'S LOST OF SEVERAL FAMILIES DUE TO JOB MOVEMENT. AND THE LORD HAS BROUGHT IT ABOUT IN SUCH A WAY THAT HE HAS TO GET ALL THE CREDIT. I'VE BEEN DOING THE EXACT SAME THINGS RECENTLY THAT I'VE ALWAYS DONE YET WE HAVE HAD 6 SUNDAYS IN A ROW THAT SOMEONE NEW JOINED US IN OUR SUNDAY SERVICE!!! AND MANY OF THEM ARE COMING BACK SUNDAY AFTER SUNDAY. (I SURE WANT THE LORD TO KEEP THIS UP! I BELIEVE I COULD STAND 52 SUNDAYS IN A ROW WITH NEW PEOPLE EACH WEEK).

AND THEY WANT TO WORK!!! AND THAT "FEVER" IS SPREADING AMONG THE REST OF THE CHURCH- WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AS I WRITE THIS AND I WAS THINKING AND THANKING THIS MORNING THAT IT'S BEEN SUCH A PLEASURE FOR ME THIS YEAR TO BE ABLE TO DO MY MAIN JOB AND KNOW THAT ALL THE VARIOUS AREAS OF VBS ARE GOING WELL BECAUSE "THE PEOPLE HAVE A MIND TO WORK" (NEH 4:6). AND IT'S NOT JUST BIBLE SCHOOL; WE'VE ADDED 2 NEW SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES BECAUSE PEOPLE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING FOR THE LORD; DECORATED BULLETIN BOARDS ARE BECOMING A NORMAL THING IN THE CHURCH INSTEAD OF AN ODDITY! MUCH OF THE TYPING THAT I USED TO HAVE TO DO IS NOW BEING DONE BY VOLUNTEERS; AND IT'S ALMOST COMMONPLACE NOW FOR SOMEONE TO WANT TO PAINT OR FIX SOMETHING AROUND THE CHURCH.

I HAVE BEEN WORKING AS HARD AS I COULD BUT AFTER SEEING THE HARVEST I WISH I'D HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PLANT EVEN MORE SEED.

2. WE'VE ALSO RECEIVED SPECIAL BLESSINGS FROM RECENT SPECIAL SPEAKERS. BROTHER BOBBY POOLE, MISSIONARY TO BRAZIL, SPOKE ON WEDNESDAY MAY 27 AND OUR PEOPLE REALLY ENJOYED HIS MESSAGE AND HIS PRESENCE.

THEN WE HAD 2 "LAY SPEAKERS". BROTHER WYMAN LOWDER (FROM HERE AT GRACE) SPOKE ON WEDNESDAY JUNE 3 AND BROTHER CALVIN GROOMS (A DEACON FROM TABERNACLE FWB CHURCH) SPOKE LAST SUNDAY NIGHT. BOTH OF THESE YOUNG MEN DID OUTSTANDING JOBS AND I RECOMMEND THEM TO ANY OF THE CHURCHES IN THE AREA NEEDING SOMEONE TO SPEAK (BROTHER CALVIN'S WIFE, MERRY, IS ALSO AN EXCELLENT SOLOIST AND SHE'LL BLESS YOUR HEART WITH HER MUSIC).

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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LAKE CITY, S C 29560 LAKE CITY, S C 29560  
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3. BECAUSE OF THE CONCERN AND CONTRIBUTION BY BROTHER JIMMY FLOYD I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO PURCHASE THE BINDING MACHINE I NEEDED. I THEN TOOK THE CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE BILL MCBRIDES, THE LAVERNE BAZENS, THE WYMAN LOWDERS, AND MRS BILLIE ARD AND PURCHASED THE PAPER AND SUPPLIES I NEEDED SO THAT I NOW CAN OFFER A NUMBER OF BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS TO ANYONE DESIRING THEM:

JAMES "FAITH ON TRIAL"- CHAPTER BY CHAPTER NOTES (31 PAGES) THAT TELL WHY FAITH IS TESTED, THE TEST OF TRUE FAITH, AND HOW TO DEAL WITH PROBLEMS SUCH AS THE TONGUE, MONEY, & SICKNESS, AS WELL AS THE ANSWER TO THE QUESTION "CAN A SAVED MAN BE LOST"

I TIMOTHY "GUIDELINES FOR THE CHURCH"- 27 PAGES THAT COVER EACH CHAPTER AND GIVE GUIDELINES FOR THE MAIN AREAS OF CHURCH LIFE

NEHEMIAH "LEARNING TO WORK AND WORSHIP TOGETHER"- 30 PAGES THAT DEAL WITH ORGANIZING TO BUILD FOR THE LORD AND HOW TO PRESERVE THE GAINS ONCE YOU HAVE ACCOMPLISHED THE TASK.

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY- OVER 40 PAGES THAT GIVE A BRIEF OUTLINE AND OVERVIEW OF EACH OF THE BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT (THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE THRU THE BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE WITH THE TAPES OF THE CLASSES WHEN THIS WAS TAUGHT. YOU'RE WELCOME TO THE BOOKLET FREE BUT THE RIGHTS TO THE TAPES HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE TO HELP THEM TEACH THE WORD AND THEY COST \$30. THEY CAN BE ORDERED FROM REV NORWOOD GIBSON, STATE PROMOTIONAL OFFICE; P O BOX 13266; FLORENCE, S C 29504. THE ESCHATOLOGY TAPES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE THRU BROTHER NORWOOD).

ESCHATOLOGY "THE LAST THINGS"- 43 PAGES OF NOTES ON WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT HEAVEN, HELL, JUDGMENT, RAPTURE, TRIBULATION, MILLENNIUM, THE ANTICHRIST, SATAN, AND DEMONS (MAY BE OF SPECIAL VALUE THIS QUARTER SINCE OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS ARE ABOUT END TIME THINGS). [MRS ANNE MCKNIGHT HAS FINISHED RETYPING THE NOTES ON REVELATION AND I HOPE TO HAVE THEM PUBLISHED IN THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. THESE NOTES COVER EVERY CHAPTER IN REVELATION AND ARE MADE TO COMPLIMENT THE ESCHATOLOGY NOTES].

THESE BOOKLETS ARE AVAILABLE ON A FIRST COME BASIS AND, OF COURSE, ARE ABSOLUTELY FREE. THE MONEY TO PUBLISH THEM HAS ALREADY BEEN DONATED AND WHEN THE ONES I HAVE PRINTED AND BOUND ARE GIVEN AWAY I BELIEVE THE LORD WILL SUPPLY WHAT I NEED TO PUBLISH MORE. SO IF YOU WANT ANY OR ALL OF THESE BOOKLETS JUST WRITE AND REQUEST THEM.

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BROTHER WYMAN LOWDER GAVE THIS POEM TO ME AND I WANT TO SHARE IT WITH YOU:

AS CHILDREN BRING THEIR BROKEN TOYS,  
WITH TEARS FOR US TO MEND,  
I BROUGHT MY BROKEN DREAMS TO GOD,  
BECAUSE HE WAS MY FRIEND.  
BUT THEN, INSTEAD OF LEAVING HIM  
IN PEACE TO WORK ALONE,  
I HUNG AROUND AND TRIED TO HELP,  
WITH WAYS THAT WERE MY OWN.  
AT LAST, I SNATCHED THEM BACK AND CRIED,  
"HOW CAN YOU BE SO SLOW?"  
"MY CHILD," HE SAID, "WHAT COULD I DO?  
YOU NEVER DID LET GO."

. UNKNOWN

WHY DON'T YOU LET GO AND LET GOD TAKE CHARGE TODAY??



## THE TONGUE

Ps 17:3 Thou hast proved mine heart; thou hast visited me in the night; thou hast tried me, and shalt find nothing; I am purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.  
[Some of the material used in this message is gleaned from the May, 1985 edition of "Christian Leadership Letter"]

Every time the Lord has a program for his people Satan invents a "Counterfeit". Jesus said he was the Vine and we were the branches and as such this "Grapevine" is used to bear the fruits of life in a sin sick world. Satan came along and made the "Grapevine" a means of spreading Gossip instead of the Gospel, Slander instead of Salvation. (Gossip comes from an old English word meaning godparent. This was a person who knew and revealed personal or sensational facts about a person. It eventually came to mean what was said instead of who said it- "a rumor or a report of an intimate nature").

One of the things that keeps the "Gossip Grapevines" working is the tremendous "need to know" that is found in most of us. In surveys of those things which contribute to employee satisfaction, "Being in the know" always ranks near the top as being desirable. Knowing "what's going on" has a way of making us feel important and worthwhile. Not knowing what is going on or being surprised, particularly by a piece of information that affects us personally, is very demoralizing.

It is this sense of knowing something that is known to no one else, or only a few, (Again "being in the know") that makes Gossip so much fun. This is why people watch the News on TV and buy trash magazines in Grocery Check out lines; they want to learn something that they don't know or have only heard a small amount about. [Interestingly enough, this is the basis of much advertising. Enough information is given to spark your interest and cause you to want to visit the store or try the product].

Let's find out Why Gossip is bad, what can be done to correct it, and then see our Responsibility to correctly use our tongue.

1. **GOSSIP IS NORMALLY INACCURATE.** Causes of Inaccurate Gossip:
  1. Absence of Information. People feel like they need to know, but they do not know. So they start talking about things they do not know about.
  2. Information passed on out of context. Only half of the story is given. Sometimes a person is just "bursting" to share something he or she knows so they give a few details and the person listening takes it for all the facts. Prov 29:20 Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? There is more hope of a fool than of him.
  3. The need to feel important by knowing something that others do not know. You want to feel that you really are "in the know".
  4. The desire to promote your own interest so you build yourself up by repeating or making up stories that serve your own interest.
  5. Desire to harm another person. The most awful kind of gossip- the malicious repeating of truth or untruth in such a way that it harms a person's reputation or ability (I know of a Major Restaurant that almost closed because the competition put out the word that they were using "Cat Meat" in their dishes).

## HOW CAN WE CONTROL OR CORRECT GOSSIP?

A. Make sure it stops at you- Prov 26:20 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth.

Ask yourself these question about information you receive:

1. Is it TRUE?
2. Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3. Is it's purpose to BUILD or DESTROY? Prov 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue!
4. Is it NECESSARY for others to know? Prov 17:21 He that hath knowledge spaneth his words: See also 17:28

B. If it must be passed on then here are some questions to ask about information you pass on!

1. Would you say the same thing TO the person you are saying ABOUT the person?
2. If it is a problem between you and another, have you tried to be reconciled to them before you share your distress with others?
3. Are you sure you have the FACTS? Prov 18:13 He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him. Be aware that Gossip is almost always a two-way street. Sooner or later the person you are talking about will know what you say and who said it- Sadly in matters like this, you generally sow the wind and reap the whirlwind.

## WHAT ARE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES CONCERNING THE TONGUE?

The tongue is compared to a Fire- James 3:6 One "Match" burns a forest!

to the poison of an asp- Ps 140:3, Rom 3:13 "Deadly"

It is used to separate friends- Prov 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love: but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends. Prov 26:22 The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly, and can even destroy friends- Prov 11:9 An hypocrite with his mouth destroyeth his neighbor: but through knowledge shall the just be delivered.

It can overthrow a city- Prov 11:11 By the Blessing of the upright the city is exalted: but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked.

It can even kill you- Prov 13:3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

But even worst it can even destroy your soul- Prov 21:23 Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles. [See Rom 10:9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.]

We are commanded to Let your speech be alway with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.

THE TONGUE CAN BE ONE OF THE GREATEST ASSETS TO A PERSON. IT IS THE MEANS OF PROCLAIMING PUBLICLY CHRIST AS SAVIOUR AND THEN PUBLICLY PROCLAIMING CHRIST AS SAVIOUR. OR IT CAN BE USED TO SPREAD GOSSIP AND CONDEMN YOU- MATT 12:36 But I say unto you that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. Ps 110:5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off:

HAVE YOU CONFESSED CHRIST AS SAVIOUR?  
DO YOU NEED TO REPENT OF TONGUE TROUBLE??

## SOMEONE GOD CAN USE

II TIM 2:20-21 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.

If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.

AS WE TAKE THE TIME TODAY TO REJOICE WITH OUR GRADUATES, I WANT TO TALK WITH THEM, AND YOU, ABOUT YOUR PURPOSE IN LIFE. THE PSALMIST SAYS IN PSALM 1 THAT THE "GODLY" ARE LIKE A TREE PLANTED BY THE RIVER AND THE "UNGODLY" ARE LIKE THE WIND DRIVEN CHAFF- THAT IS, THE "GODLY" HAVE ROOTS AND FRUIT (PURPOSE TO LIFE) WHILE THE "UNGODLY" SIMPLY DRIFT WITH THE WIND- AND END UP BEING BURNED!!

WITH THAT IN MIND I WANT YOU TO SEE HOW YOUR LIFE CAN BE THE BEST IT CAN BE NOW AND ETERNALLY BLISSFUL IN THE YEARS TO COME. I THINK WE CAN DO THAT IS YOU WILL KEEP 3 WORDS IN MIND- HONOR, DREAMS, AND SERVICE

I. HONOR- PAUL TOLD YOUNG PREACHER, TIMOTHY, THAT IN A HOUSE SOME VESSELS WERE TO BE HONORED AND SOME DISHONORED. HE GOES ON TO DESCRIBE THE CONDITIONS THAT NEED TO BE MET BEFORE A VESSEL CAN BE HONORED- BUT HE DOES SO WITH AN ASSUMPTION; THAT TIMOTHY HAS ALREADY CONFESSED HIS SINS AND ACCEPTED CHRIST AS SAVIOUR. IF YOU HAVEN'T MADE THAT DECISION THEN YOU NEED TO DO SO IMMEDIATELY.

THIS DECISION ABOUT SALVATION MEANS 4 THINGS:

1. SAVED FROM THE GUILT, THE DOOM, THE STAIN, AND THE DOMINION OF SIN. 2. SAVED BY THE SOVEREIGN GRACE OF GOD, AND THE PRECIOUS BLOOD OF CHRIST. 3. SAVED FOR THE TRANSMISSION OF HIS LIGHT AND THE PRAISE OF HIS GLORY. 4. SAVED UNTO ALL THE BLESSINGS OF GOD IN THIS WORLD AND THE WORLD TO COME.

SIN IS "MISSING THE MARK" OF GOD'S WILL FOR YOUR LIFE. SALVATION IS TRUSTING CHRIST'S SACRIFICE TO PAY YOUR SIN DEBT AND THEN LIVING YOUR LIFE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOD'S WILL. THERE IS NO GREATER JOY OR CONTENTMENT THAN FINDING YOURSELF AT PEACE WITH GOD AND WITH YOURSELF (TO ME THAT IS THE REAL DEFINITION OF "SUCCESS").

SO FIRST OF ALL BE A PERSON THAT GOD CAN HONOR.

II. DREAMS- A "VESSEL" CAN'T DREAM BUT PEOPLE CAN AND PAUL IS TELLING TIMOTHY TO "DREAM" ABOUT BECOMING A VESSEL OF HONOR INSTEAD OF DISHONOR. IT IS THIS "DREAM" THAT MOTIVATES MEN TO STRIVE TO BE THE BEST THEY CAN BE. WHEN YOU LOSE YOUR "DREAM" YOU GIVE IN TO DISCOURAGEMENT AND DESPAIR, AND USUALLY END UP TRYING TO "RUN AWAY" FROM LIFE THRU DRUGS, DRINK, OR THE ACCUMULATION OF "THINGS".

HOLD ON TO YOUR DREAMS- GEORGE LUCAS HAD A DREAM ABOUT A SCIENCE FICTION MOVIE THAT HE THOUGHT WOULD BE SUCCESSFUL. UNFORTUNATELY OTHERS DID NOT SHARE THIS DREAM. FINALLY HE GOT 20TH CENTURY FOX TO GUARANTEE HIM \$10 MILLION DOLLARS; BUT THE REST HE HAD TO RAISE HIMSELF. BY THE TIME THE MOVIE WAS FINISHED LUCAS WAS BROKE AND EXHAUSTED -- SO FAR STAR WARS HAS GROSSED OVER \$750 MILLION DOLLARS!

JOSEPH ALSO HAD A DREAM- HE DREAMED THAT ONE DAY HIS BROTHERS AND FATHER WOULD BOW AT HIS FEET. FOR THAT DREAM HIS BROTHERS SOLD HIM INTO SLAVERY AND IT SEEMED IT WOULD NEVER COME TRUE. DURING HIS SLAVERY HE HELPED PEOPLE IN JAIL WITH THEIR DREAMS AND THE PHARAOH WITH HIS DREAM BEFORE FINALLY COMING TO THE PLACE WHERE HIS DREAM CAME TRUE. BUT HE NEVER GAVE UP!!

BE SURE YOU HAVE A DREAM AND NOT A NIGHTMARE!! ONE OF THE GREAT VIKINGS DECIDED TO BUILD THE BIGGEST AND STRONGEST SHIPS EVER. IT WAS A SPLENDID LOOKING VESSEL THAT COULD CARRY OVER 500 PERSONS AS WELL AS FULL ARMAMENTS. THE ONLY PROBLEM WAS THAT WHEN IT WAS LAUNCHED IT IMMEDIATELY SANK TO THE BOTTOM OF THE OCEAN.

BLACK POET LANSTON HUGHES PUT IT THIS WAY, "HOLD FAST TO DREAMS, FOR IF DREAMS DIE, LIFE IS A BROKEN WINGED BIRD THAT CANNOT FLY."

IT'S SURPRISING HOW OTHERS WILL ACCEPT OUR DREAMS AFTER THEY COME TRUE. A YOUNG LADY RECENTLY WROTE TO HER FORMER FIANCE: DEAR JIMMY- NO WORDS CAN EXPRESS THE GREAT UNHAPPINESS I'VE FELT SINCE BREAKING OUR ENGAGEMENT. PLEASE SAY YOU'LL TAKE ME BACK. I LOVE YOU, I LOVE YOU, I LOVE YOU! YOURS FOREVER, MARIE. PS AND CONGRATULATIONS ON WINNING THE STATE LOTTERY.

III. SERVICE- HOW DO WE GET THIS HONOR AND FULFIL OUR DREAMS? BY BECOMING A VESSEL GOD CAN USE. THAT MEANS WE:

A) Purge yourself from some things- THE VESSELS OF DISHONOR IN VS 20 (DON'T MIX THE "DIRTY" DISHES WITH THE CLEAN!) COME OUT FROM AMONG THEM AND BE YE SEPARATE SAITH THE LORD. I THESS 4:3-4 For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye should abstain from fornication: That every one of you should know how to possess his vessel in sanctification and honour: THAT MAKES US:

1. VESSELS UNTO HONOR- WORTHY OF GOD'S PRAISE

2. SANCTIFIED- SET APART FOR GOD.

3. MEET FOR THE MASTER'S USE- APPROPRIATE

B) Prepare for good work- READY TO BE USED.

THERE ARE 4 THINGS THAT CAN CONTROL A PERSON'S LIFE:

1. SOCIETY- LEAVES A STAIN ON THE OUTSIDE

2. SELF- LEAVES A STAIN ON THE INSIDE

3. CIRCUMSTANCES- "CRACKS" THE VESSEL

4. SAVIOUR- CLEANS AND USES THE VESSEL

1. WHEN SOCIETY CONTROLS, YOU BECOME LIKE THE WORLD- AND ONE DAY IT WILL BE DESTROYED BY THE FIRE OF GOD.

2. WHEN SELF CONTROLS, YOU ONLY RISE AS HIGH AS YOUR OWN FEELINGS AND ARE CONSTANTLY DEFEATED BY YOUR OWN FRUSTRATIONS.

3. WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES CONTROL, YOU BUILD A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE ON A SANDY FOUNDATION WITH A "HURRICANE" ON THE HORIZON.

4. WHEN CHRIST CONTROLS, YOU HAVE A PERFECT PLAN FOR YOUR LIFE AND A SOLID FOUNDATION AGAINST ANY "STORMS".

PERHAPS THERE ARE SOME HERE TODAY THAT ARE:

1. DIRTY VESSELS- GOD CAN WASH YOU CLEAN

2. DREAMLESS VESSELS- GOD IS THE MASTER POTTER, HE CAN REMAKE YOU INTO A VESSEL HE CAN USE. JER 18

3. DECEITFUL VESSELS- PAUL SAID THAT CHRISTIANS WERE TO BE "SINCERE" IN THEIR WORK FOR GOD (PHIL 1:10). THE WORD "SINCERE" MEANS "WITHOUT WAX". WHEN A MAN WOULD MAKE A VESSEL SOME OF THEM WOULD DEVELOP A CRACK. MANY OF THEM WOULD PUT WAX OVER THIS CRACK TO DECEIVE PEOPLE- BUT WHEN HOT WATER HIT IT THE FAULT WAS MADE CLEAR. SO ONE DAY GOD WILL PUT OUR WORK TO THE FIRE TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY FAULTS.

ARE YOU SOMEONE GOD CAN USE? YOU ARE IF YOU'RE SAVED AND AN AVAILABLE VESSEL.

# GRACE GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH      BIBLE STUDY HOUR.....10:00AM  
P O Box 1003      LAKE CITY,      MORNING SERVICE.....11:00AM  
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 394-3444      (LIVE OVER WJOT 1260 AM)  
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"      EVENING SERVICE.....6:00PM  
VOL V NUM 14      JULY 1, 1987      WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEET...7:30PM  
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## The "Gospel" according to Andrew.

Paula and I kept Andrew all last week while his mother had jury duty and we learned what Jesus meant when he talked about learning "out of the mouth of babes".

For years Bible scholars have argued about what the UNPARDONABLE SIN was- It's very simple to Andrew; he thinks it's unpardonable for anyone to go out the door without him!!

I've written Prayer Booklets and maintained a PRAYER ministry for years but Andrew knows how to get his "Prayers" answered without being able to speak a word!! And he expects to get an answer--or he'll Cry (I mean "Pray") until he does. [Although I'm not really sure God is as ready to spoil us by giving us our every whim as Aunt "Pa-Pa" is].

Andrew can't walk yet (although he can crawl all over my office and get into everything that's not tied down) but he does try to "Walk by Faith"--He pulls himself up on everything he can and then "launches out by faith to walk". He ends up on his backside or with his hard head banging into the nearest object but, after a short cry, he's up and trying again [A lesson a lot of Christians need to learn].

And if God loves us nearly as much as Aunt "Pa-Pa" loves Andrew [and I know He loves us far far more] then I understand why He puts up with our "dirty diapers" and "sleepy time irritations" just so we can have fellowship together.

Preacher Mike

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WAS VERY VERY GOOD. WE HAD EXCELLENT PARTICIPATION AND ATTENDANCE AND IT GOT OUR SUMMER OFF TO A VERY GOOD BEGINNING. THE CHILDREN LOVED THE PUPPETS AND THE VIDEO CLASSES AND EVERYONE SEEMED TO ENJOY THE CRAFT THIS YEAR. THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR THEIR HELP.

WHAT A JOY IT WAS TO AWARD 15 PERFECT ATTENDANCE CERTIFICATES FOR THE MARCH-MAY QUARTER OF SUNDAY SCHOOL THIS YEAR. AND THEN WE AWARDED 9 PERFECT ATTENDANCE PINS FOR A FULL YEAR'S ATTENDANCE (OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL YEAR RUNS FROM JUNE TO JUNE). THIS FAITHFULNESS IS SOMETHING I'VE PRAYED FOR AND I'M VERY THANKFUL FOR.

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH      NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
P O BOX 1003      U S POSTAGE      PAID  
LAKE CITY, S C 29560      LAKE CITY, S C 29560  
PERMIT #8

OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE HAS CONTINUED TO SHOW A VERY GOOD INCREASE EVEN WITH SUMMER VACATIONS IN FULL SWING. EVERY WEEK THE LORD BRINGS IN SOMEONE TO REPLACE THOSE WHO ARE ABSENT AND IT'S A GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT TO EVERYONE [THE BEGINNER CLASS THAT BEGAN THE FIRST SUNDAY IN JUNE NOW HAS 12 STUDENTS. IN THE YEARS TO COME WE HOPE THIS FLOOD OF YOUNG PEOPLE WILL POSITIVELY AFFECT EVERY AREA OF OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL].

THE MIRACLES KEEP ON COMING IN OUR OUTREACH WORK. LAST WEEK I WROTE A CHECK TO PAY FOR SOME MATERIAL FOR THIS MINISTRY AND HAD A TOTAL OF 33 CENT LEFT IN THE CHECKING ACCOUNT. BUT THANKS TO GIFTS BY MR AND MRS TED HANNA, MR AND MRS OLEE ELMORE, REV LARRY McALISTER, BILL EVANS, AND W C SAULS AS WELL AS REGULAR GIFTS BY MRS BILLIE ARD, MR AND MRS BILL MCBRIDE, AND MARION COKER IT'S NOW UP TO OVER \$100 AGAIN. WITH THAT IN HAND I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO ASSEMBLE COPIES OF AT LEAST 10 DIFFERENT BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (I COULD NOT BELIEVE HOW FAST THE BOOKS I MENTIONS IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER WENT. I'M COMPLETELY OUT OF SOME NOTES AND AM HAVING TO GET MORE PRINTED SO I CAN ASSEMBLE THEM. BUT THAT'S WHAT WE'RE AFTER; HELPING AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE LEARN AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ABOUT THE LORD AND HIS WILL FOR THEIR LIVES). [IF YOU DIDN'T GET YOUR COPY OF THE NOTES I MENTIONED LAST TIME AND WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THEM THEN LET ME KNOW AND I'LL BE GLAD TO SEND THEM TO YOU. BY THE TIME I GET YOUR REQUEST I HOPE TO HAVE A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL COPIES ASSEMBLED; AND I DON'T WANT THEM CLUTTERING UP MY SHELVES!!].

WE HAVE ADDED A NUMBER OF NEW RECIPIENTS TO OUR NEWSLETTER IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS AND WE WELCOME YOU TO OUR "FAMILY". I PLAN TO TRY TO LIST MANY OF THE FREE BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS AND TAPES AVAILABLE TO YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE. IN THE MEAN TIME LET ME ENCOURAGE YOU TO WRITE OR CALL IF I CAN HELP YOU WITH A SPECIFIC PROBLEM OR STUDY BOOKLET (AND PLEASE DON'T THINK YOU NEED TO SEND MONEY TO GET THE MATERIALS. GOD HAS GRACIOUSLY PROVIDED AND I KNOW HE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. LET US HELP YOU IF WE CAN--WE REALLY WANT TO).

LET'S TALK FOR A FEW MOMENTS ABOUT YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD. THERE ARE TWO MAIN REASONS THIS IS AN IMPORTANT QUESTION, LIFE AND DEATH.

1) LIFE- WITHOUT CHRIST YOU HAVE NO FOUNDATION TO BUILD YOUR LIFE ON AND YOU WANDER ABOUT WITH NO REAL PURPOSE AND A LASTING ACHE IN YOUR HEART. ACCEPTING CHRIST GIVES YOU PEACE (WITH GOD, YOURSELF, AND YOUR CIRCUMSTANCES) AND A MEANINGFUL PURPOSE AND PLAN TO YOUR LIFE AND WORK.

2) DEATH- WITHOUT CHRIST YOU FEAR DEATH--AND WELL YOU MIGHT BECAUSE YOU WILL GO OUT INTO A CHRISTLESS ETERNITY IN A BURNING HELL. ACCEPTING CHRIST CHANGES DEATH FROM DEFEAT INTO VICTORY AND FROM HELL INTO HEAVEN!

LIFE AND DEATH; THE DIFFERENCE IS CHRIST. IF YOU REALIZE TODAY THAT YOU ARE A SINNER (AND ALL HAVE SINNED AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD). IF YOU'VE FINALLY COME TO THE END OF SELF EFFORT AND ARE WILLING TO TRUST GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION FREELY OFFERED IN CHRIST. THEN DO THIS TODAY: ASK CHRIST TO FORGIVE YOU OF YOUR SINS AND COME INTO YOUR LIFE IN THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. ACCEPT THE FACT THAT YOU ARE SAVED BY FAITH. ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR DECISION BY PUBLICLY PROCLAIMING CHRIST AS YOUR SAVIOUR (SEE ROM 10:9-10) [IF YOU'LL LET ME KNOW I'LL BE GLAD TO SEND YOU A FREE BOOKLET THAT WILL HELP YOU GET STARTED ON THE RIGHT FOOT].

TIL NEXT TIME. MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AS YOU SERVE HIM.

## A WORD FROM THE LORD

JEREMIAH 37:16-17

JEREMIAH WAS IN JAIL BECAUSE HE WOULD NOT COMPROMISE ON THE CLEAR TEACHINGS OF THE WORD OF GOD (IT'S NOT UNUSUAL FOR GOD'S MAN TO BE IN JAIL- JOSEPH, DANIEL, JOHN THE BAPTIST, PETER, AND PAUL ALL SPENT TIME IN JAIL; AND EVEN JESUS DIED AS A "CRIMINAL". [MOST CHANGE IN THE WORLD HAS BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT BY MEN WHO WERE WILLING TO ACCEPT PERSECUTION AS PART OF BRINGING ABOUT CHANGE- "WE PLEDGE OUR LIVES, OUR FORTUNES, AND OUR SACRED HONOR". THE GREATEST "SCAR" THAT VIET NAM HAS LEFT ON AMERICA IS THAT FEAR OF FAILURE HAS OVERCOME OUR DESIRE TO PROTECT AND DEFEND FREEDOM]).

BUT REGARDLESS OF THE FACT THAT JEREMIAH WAS A "JAIL-BIRD", JERUSALEM WAS SURROUNDED, AND KING ZEDEKIAH WAS IN TROUBLE, SO HE CAME TO SOMEONE WHO REALLY BELIEVED IN SOMETHING INSTEAD OF BEING SIMPLY A "YES" MAN (THAT'S WHAT THE WORLD IS LOOKING FOR TODAY ALSO). HE CAME TO JEREMIAH TO GET A WORD FROM THE LORD.

MANY PEOPLE TODAY ARE ASKING THEMSELVES THAT SAME QUESTION, "IS THERE ANY WORD FROM GOD?". IS THERE A SURE GUIDE TO GO BY AMONG ALL THE BABBLING VOICES OF NEWSCASTERS, POLITICIANS, AND ADVERTISEMENTS? THERE IS- AND IT COMES THRU LOUD AND CLEAR TO THOSE WHO WILL LISTEN, "HE THAT HATH EARS TO HEAR, LET HIM HEAR".

LET'S HEAR GOD'S WORD:

I. FOR OUR NATION- PROV 14:34 Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people Ps 127:1 Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain. WHEN SCHOOLS IN AMERICA MUST EDUCATE THE CHILD'S MIND BUT MUST NEGLECT THEIR MORALS; WHEN KIDS RELY ON DRUGS INSTEAD OF DADS; WHEN CRIMINALS ARE PROTECTED AND VICTIMS ARE PERSECUTED; AMERICA NEEDS TO CUT OFF THEIR TV, RADIOS, AND MIND-NUMBING ACTIVITIES AND LISTEN.

II. FOR THE CHURCH- REV 2:4-5 I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love. 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. REVIVAL IN THE CHURCH WOULD PREVENT REVOLUTION IN THE WORLD, DISASTER IN THE FAMILY, AND THE TRIUMPH OF EVIL. THE PROBLEM IS COLDNESS TOWARD GOD, THE COMMUNITY, AND EACH OTHER. GOD'S TWO PRIMARY COMMANDS ARE TO LOVE HIM ABOVE ALL ELSE AND TO LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF-- HE DID NOT COMMAND US TO SIMPLY SEEK FOR MORE WEALTH TO WASTE ON GADGETS THAT CAN NOT FILL THE EMPTY PLACE IN OUR HEART RESERVED ONLY FOR GOD. WE ARE LIGHTS AND WE NEED TO SHINE.

III. FOR THE YOUNG CHRISTIAN- (STILL A BABE IN CHRIST) I PET 2:2 As newborn babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby. GOD'S WORD FOR YOU IS GET IN THE BOOK. AS A BABY CRIES FOR AND CRAVES HIS BOTTLE SO YOUNG CHRISTIANS NEED TO CRAVE A KNOWLEDGE OF GOD'S WORD. YOU DON'T ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL AND PREACHING SERVICES AND WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER MEETING TO PLEASE THE PREACHER; YOU FIND YOU NEED THE SCRIPTURES TO KEEP YOU FROM STARVING.



IV. FOR THE CHRISTIAN WHO LACKS ASSURANCE OF SALVATION- THIS IS THE BIGGEST PROBLEM AMONG MANY CHRISTIANS. I JOHN 5:12-13 He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God. YOU ARE SAVED BY FAITH AND YOU MUST WALK BY FAITH. CHRISTIANITY IS NOT JUST A DOCTRINE YOU BELIEVE BUT A PERSON YOU RECEIVE- CHRIST.

V. FOR THE BACKSLIDER- ISAIAH 55:6-7 Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; and let him return unto the Lord, and he will have mercy on him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. GOD SAYS YOU NEED TO CHECK UP ON WHAT YOU DO AND WHAT YOU THINK- YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A BRAZEN SINNER TO BE A BACKSLIDDEN SINNER!

VI. FOR THE DISCOURAGED AND DOWN TRODDEN- ISAIAH 41:10 Fear not; for I am with thee; be not dismayed; for I am thy God, I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness. GET YOUR EYES OFF CIRCUMSTANCES AND PUT THEM ON CHRIST. THERE IS NOTHING THAT CAN SEPARATE YOU FROM THE LOVE OF CHRIST- ROM 8:38-39.

VII. FOR THE LOST- HEBREWS 3:7 The Holy Ghost saith, Today, if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts. TO NEGLECT TO HEAR GOD'S CALL TO YOU TODAY IS TO INVITE DISASTER- ZEDEKIAH ASKED FOR A WORD FROM THE LORD; AND THEN IGNORED IT! TIL THERE WAS NO REMEDY II CHRON 36:11-16 Zedekiah was one and twenty years old when he began to reign, and reigned eleven years in Jerusalem. And he did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD his God, and humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet speaking from the mouth of the LORD. And he also rebelled against king Nebuchadnezzar, who had made him swear by God; but he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel. Moreover all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much after all the abominations of the heathen; and polluted the house of the LORD which he had hallowed in Jerusalem. And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place; But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till there was no remedy.

HAVE YOU HEARD GOD SPEAK TO YOU TODAY?? IT'S BETTER NOT TO HEAR THAN TO HEAR AND IGNORE. LISTEN AND OBEY





## PASSING THE BUCK

JAMES 1:13

ONE OF THE PRESIDENTS PUT A SIGN ON HIS DESK, "THE BUCK STOPS HERE". SADLY, THAT SIGN IS NOT HEEDED MUCH BY PRESENT PRESIDENTS; AND FROM THE PRESIDENT ON DOWN EVERYONE SEEMS TO WANT TO PASS THE BUCK. IT HAS EVEN BEGUN TO INFECT THE CHURCH AS CHRISTIANS MORE AND MORE WANT TO BLAME THEIR PROBLEMS ON THE PASTOR, ON THEIR CIRCUMSTANCES, OR EVEN ON GOD.

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT A COUNTRY PREACHER WHO WAS PREACHING ON A STUMP IN THE OPEN AIR. AS HE BEGAN TO PREACH A HECKLER STOOD ON ANOTHER STUMP AND BEGAN TO CALL OUT, "GOD, IF YOU'RE REAL, KNOCK ME OFF THIS STUMP.". THE PREACHER IGNORED HIM FOR AWHILE BUT HE JUST KEPT AT IT. FINALLY THE PREACHER GOT OFF HIS STUMP AND WALKED OVER TO WHERE THE HECKLER STOOD AND KNOCKED HIM OFF THE STUMP AND ONTO HIS BACK. THE PREACHER THEN TURNED TO THE CROWD AND TOLD THEM, "I NEVER ASK THE LORD TO DO ANYTHING I CAN DO MYSELF"!

MAYBE THIS WAS NOT THE BEST WAY TO HANDLE THIS SITUATION BUT IT DOES ILLUSTRATE A PRINCIPLE- GOD WORKS THRU US AS WELL AS FOR US. IT'S SO MUCH EASIER TO LAY OUR PROBLEM OFF ON SOMEONE OR SOMETHING ELSE OR TO FAIL TO ADMIT OUR OWN LAZINESS KEEPS US FROM DOING WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO. AND WE CAN SOUND SOOOOO SPIRITUAL IN DOING SO:

"IF WE ONLY HAD MORE FAITH WE WOULDN'T BE HAVING FAMILY PROBLEMS"

"IT THEY WERE MORE COMMITTED TO THE LORD THEIR CHILDREN WOULDN'T CAUSE THEM SO MUCH PROBLEMS"

"IF I HAD MORE MONEY I'D DO SOMETHING FOR THE LORD"  
AND SO ON AND SO ON.

WHEN YOU LOOK AT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING YOU'RE SIMPLY PASSING THE BUCK ABOUT THE PROBLEMS- TO YOUR "LACK OF FAITH" (DO YOU HAVE A "GRAIN OF MUSTARD SEED" WORTH? MATT 13:31) OR TO GOD FOR FAILING TO SUPPLY, OR THE PERSON FOR FAILING TO BE "MORE COMMITTED" (HOW MUCH MORE DO THEY NEED?? 10 MINUTES OF PRAYER A DAY? 1 MORE BIBLE CHAPTER??)

Here are some guidelines to help you handle your Problems instead of allowing them to handle you:

1. Acknowledge your Problems. Admit they exist. Don't pretend they don't. Jesus couldn't get the Pharisees to be saved because they would not admit they were lost! Most problems are half solved when we are willing to face the fact that they exist
2. Ask God for Wisdom in determining how to deal with the problem. Then LISTEN to what God has to say! Many people only "Pray out of Politeness" with their minds already made up as to what they're going to do. (See Jeremiah 42 and 43)
3. Do what you can, with what you have, where you're at. There are times you can patiently wait for a problem to solve itself but many times we use that for an excuse to fail to handle a "dirty" or "difficult" job. And sometimes the longer you wait to handle a job the more rotten it becomes. (Don't wait until you know EVERYTHING about a problem or situation before you do ANYTHING)
4. Don't expect perfection from yourself or others. We grow as long as we are human- and growth involves trial and error. Forgive others their failures and expect them to forgive you yours. Accept different Personalities as part of God's plan. (See I Cor 12)

YOU CAN CONTINUE TO "PASS THE BUCK" WHILE THE PROBLEMS GROW AND FESTER; OR YOU CAN QUIT LOOKING FOR SOMEONE TO BLAME AND INSTEAD FIND THE ROOT OF THE PROBLEM AND BEGIN TO CHANGE THE SITUATION.

## TRIOS

THERE ARE A NUMBER OF "TRIOS" LISTED IN THE BIBLE. SEE HOW MANY YOU CAN NAME.

1. NAME THE 3 PARTS OF THE TRINITY (MATT 3:16-17)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
2. NAME THE FIRST 3 OCCUPANTS OF THE LAKE OF FIRE (REV 19:20, 20:10)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
3. YOU MUST HAVE ONE OF THREE THINGS TO BUY OR SELL DURING THE LAST HALF OF THE TRIBULATION. NAME THE THREE. (REV 13:16-18)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
4. NAME ABRAHAM'S 3 "WIVES". (GEN 16:1-2, GEN 25:1)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
5. NAME 3 THINGS GOD BROUGHT INTO BEING ON THE 3RD DAY OF CREATION (GEN 1:9-13)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
6. NAME THE 3 DISCIPLES WHO WERE THE "INNER CIRCLE" (MK 5:37)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
7. NAME 3 THINGS THAT ABIDE ALTHOUGH ONE IS GREATER (I COR 13:13)  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
8. NAME THE 3 BOOKS OF THE BIBLE THAT BEGIN WITH "R"  
A. \_\_\_\_\_  
B. \_\_\_\_\_  
C. \_\_\_\_\_
9. NAME 3 PEOPLE THAT JESUS RAISED FROM THE DEAD  
A. \_\_\_\_\_ (MARK 5:35-43)  
B. \_\_\_\_\_ (LUKE 7:11-15)  
C. \_\_\_\_\_ (JOHN 11:43-44)
10. NAME 3 THINGS YOU DO TO BE SAVED:  
A. RECOGNIZE YOU ARE A SINNER (ROM 3:23)  
B. REPENT OF YOUR SINS (LUKE 13:3)  
C. RECEIVE CHRIST AS YOUR PERSONAL SAVIOUR

# Grace Glory

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH      BIBLE STUDY HOUR.....10:00AM  
P O BOX 1003      LAKE CITY, S      MORNING SERVICE.....11:00AM  
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 394-372      (LIVE OVER WJOT 1260 AM)  
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"      EVENING SERVICE.....6:00PM  
VOL V NUM 15      JULY 22, 1987      WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEET...7:30PM

THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING SO WELL RECENTLY UNTIL I'M SCARED TO SAY A LOT ABOUT THEM. OUR ATTENDANCE IS UP SIGNIFICANTLY, OUR OFFERINGS HAVE BEEN GOOD (SEE RELATED ARTICLE), AND ON A RECENT WORK NIGHT WE HAD A VERY GOOD TURN OUT AND MUCH WAS ACCOMPLISHED. WE STILL HAVE A WAY TO GO TO REACH THE GOALS WE HAVE SET FOR OURSELVES BUT I BELIEVE THEY ARE WITHIN SIGHT NOW.

OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY IS ALSO BEGINNING TO SHOW SOME FRUIT FROM ALL THE WORK AND EFFORT WE PUT INTO IT. EVERY WEEK WE ADD MORE PEOPLE TO THE MAILING LIST OF THE NEWSLETTER, OUR TAPE MINISTRY IS REACHING MANY WHO CANNOT ATTEND OUR SERVICES, AND MORE AND MORE BOOKLETS ARE BECOMING AVAILABLE FOR PEOPLE TO USE IN THEIR BIBLE STUDY.

SOMETIMES I LOOK AT WHAT GOD IS DOING AND MY HEART IS OVERWHELMED WITH PRAISE AND ADORATION. I APPRECIATE YOUR PRAYERS AND CONTRIBUTIONS AS WE CONTINUE TO REACH OUT TO A LOST AND HURTING WORLD WITH THE GOSPEL OF CHRIST.

PREACHER MIKE  
TAPES AVAILABLE- IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IN THE MORNING AND EVENING SERVICE AT GRACE BUT ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND WE'LL BE GLAD

TO SEND YOU SOME TAPES OF OUR SERVICE. (EACH TAPE CONTAINS THE MORNING SERVICE ON ONE SIDE AND THE EVENING SERVICE ON THE OTHER.) AVAILABLE RIGHT NOW ARE LIVING IN LIBERTY/FIGHTING FEAR & WHAT ABOUT SEX/ TYPE TEACHING ON SALVATION. OF COURSE, THEY'RE FREE FOR THE ASKING- JUST WRITE AND REQUEST THEM

MEMORIAL- I'M PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE A MEMORIAL TO OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY GIVEN BY BILL AND ELISE MCBRIDE IN MEMORY OF LLOYD MIXON.

I'M ALSO HAPPY TO ACKNOWLEDGE GIFTS TO OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY FROM THE ARNOLD LOWDERS, BILLIE ARD, MELLOW BELLFLOWER, THE OLEE ELMORES, RUBY AMERSON, TOM AND ANNE MCKNIGHT, AND WYMAN LOWDER.

OFFERING- I WANT TO TAKE A MOMENT TO THANK THE LORD FOR SUNDAY'S OFFERING. WE RECEIVED \$4200!! \$700 IN REGULAR TITHES AND OFFERINGS AND \$3500 FOR THE BUILDING FUND. THE BUILDING FUND OFFERING WAS A SPECIAL GIFT AND WE PRAISE THE LORD FOR IT; AND THE \$700 REGULAR OFFERING WAS ABOVE NORMAL--BUT IT SHOULDN'T BE!! I PRAY, AND ANTICIPATE, THAT THIS "REGULAR" OFFERING WILL BECOME REGULAR FROM NOW ON!

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
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LAKE CITY, S C 29560

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PERMIT #8

**LOOKING AHEAD-** This Sunday we continue our Study on "God's Character/Our Commitment" by looking at "God's Ability". In the weeks to come we will look at "How to Describe God"; "The Love of God"; "The Man God is Seeking"; "Things to Know About God"; "What Does God Require of Us"; "What Happens When Man Meets God"; "The Will of God"; and "The Worship of God". I am putting together a booklet containing all these sermons and hope to have them available soon. I think the most important information you will ever receive is about God and your relationship to Him. I hope you will join us during the next few months as we study this important Subject.

I have noticed in the last few weeks that several people wanted to ask me questions after Church but couldn't wait until I finished with the people who got to me first so I thought it might be a good idea this Sunday Night to have a "Question and Answer Service". You'll be given an opportunity to ask questions about anything in the Bible!! (It might be a good idea to write down your questions this week and then you'd have them readily available Sunday Night). [I realize that some questions people have are too personal or private to ask in a public service and I'm always ready to help you with these. Come by the office any time or invite me to your house for coffee and cake!!!]

Aug 2: Gideon Speaker during the AM Service

Sunday Night we will have an "Open House" at the Parsonage. A year ago we completed the remodeling of the Parsonage (And Paula and I have REALLY ENJOYED it) and we want to give everyone another opportunity to see what we enjoy every day.

Aug 3-8: Teen Camp

Aug 10-15: Junior Camp

Aug 29: District Ladies Aux. "Prayer and Praise" Service at the Church with Mirial Gainer as Special Speaker

Sept 8: Fall Session of Bethel Bible Institute begins- We've got a great session lined up. Rev Joe McKnight will continue his series on "Bible Characters", Our Study Book will be "Ephesians" (What a great book this is. It covers God's Purpose for us, Salvation, The relationship between the Church and Israel, How to change Character, Being Filled with the Holy Spirit, Family Relationships, and Armament for daily living. I hope to have the notes available during the first session and then assign some of the students to teach some of the classes- we have Pastors, Deacons, and lay speakers in the classes and this is part of their training). And our last course will be a discussion class on various subjects: When AIDS comes to Church, Marriage and Divorce, Holy Spirit "Troublers" (Tongues, Gifts, etc), Christianity in the "Real World", What about Tithes (How much, how often, how important), etc. The cost is only \$25 for all the courses; and that includes all booklets!!

Sept 13: HOME COMING here at Grace. I'd like to have our Biggest, and Best, day ever. Special Music will be provided by the "Singing Couriers" of Bennettsville and a number of special events are planned.

Oct 2: South Carolina Conference Quarterly Meeting here at Grace

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN LEARN ABOUT, AND SERVE, GOD THEN WE INVITE YOU TO ATTEND ANY AND ALL OF OUR SERVICES HERE AT GRACE.

# CHRISTIAN AND SEX

I CORINTH 7:1-5

SEXUAL INNUENDOES ARE USED TO MARKET ALMOST EVERYTHING IN SOCIETY TODAY. DIVORCE BECAUSE OF SEXUAL INFIDELITY IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY COMMON EVEN AMONG CHRISTIANS. WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND WHAT GOD HAS TO SAY ABOUT THIS IMPORTANT SUBJECT

## I. SEXUAL REQUIREMENTS-

A) RELATIONSHIPS- PROV 5:15-23 NEVER RIGHT OUTSIDE OF MARRIAGE  
1. TWO ARE NEEDED- DON'T ALLOW SELF ABUSE (ADAM NEEDED EVE FOR FELLOWSHIP, AS A HELP MATE, AND TO PRODUCE OFFSPRING. ANIMALS, ANOTHER MAN, AND EVEN GOD COULD NOT MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS)  
2. LOVE AND NOT JUST LUST- LOVE SEEKS TO SERVE ANOTHER, LUST SIMPLY SEEKS SELF SATISFACTION. CHRISTIANS DON'T USE (OR ABUSE) OTHERS; THEY REALIZE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO EACH OTHER- I COR 7:3-4 Let the husband render unto the wife due benevolence; and likewise also the wife unto the husband. The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband; and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife.

B) REGULARITY- I COR 7:5 Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency (THE SEXUAL RELATIONSHIP IS NOT TO BRIBE OR BIND BUT TO BLESS).

## II. SEXUAL REGULATIONS-

TO DISOBEY THE RULES BRINGS:

A) DISGRACE TO GOD- I COR 6:15-20 Know ye not that your bodies are the members of Christ? shall I then take the members of Christ, and make them the members of an harlot? God forbid. (VS 15)

B) DISHONOR- FOR YOU AND FOR THOSE AROUND YOU But whoso committeth adultery with a woman lacketh understanding; he that doeth it destroyeth his own soul. A wound and dishonour shall he get; and his reproach shall not be wiped away. PROV 6:32-33

C) DISEASE- PROV 5:1-11 And thou mourn as the last, when thy flesh and thy body are consumed. PROV 5:11 (VD, AIDS, ETC)

D) DEATH- PROV 6:24-33 Her house (THE ADULTEROUS WOMAN) is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

## III. SEXUAL RESPONSIBILITIES-

A) AWARE OF SOCIETIES PRESSURES TO DO WRONG. CHRISTIANS NEED TO BE CONSTANTLY AWARE THAT THE "WORLD" IS TRYING TO MOLD US INTO IT'S IMAGE INSTEAD OF ALLOWING US TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF CHRIST. IT DOES SO BY TRYING TO CORRUPT OUR MINDS, DEFILE OUR BODIES, AND LEAD US INTO SIN SO THAT GOD HAS TO CEASE HIS WORK THRU US IN ORDER TO WORK ON US TO GET US BACK INTO PROPER RELATIONSHIP.

B) AWARE OF NEED TO TEACH. PAUL COMMANDS THE AGED WOMEN TO Teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed. YOUNG PEOPLE WILL (AND SHOULD) LEARN ABOUT THE REQUIREMENTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING A SEXUAL BEING. CHRISTIANS CAN ALLOW IT TO COME IN BACK ALLEYS AND THRU HUMANISTIC SCHOOL CLASSES; OR THEY CAN ACCEPT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO EXPLAIN THAT GOD INTENDED MAN TO BE SEXUAL- A "GIFT" THAT DEMANDS DISCIPLINE BUT HAS POTENTIAL FOR GREAT DELIGHT; OR TREMENDOUS DISASTER.

And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. GENESIS 2:25

# GROWING

I PET 2:1-3

ONE OF THE FIRST "RULES" I LEARNED WAS THAT "WHEN YOU STOP GROWING YOU DIE". GROWTH IS A NECESSARY PART OF LIFE (AND IT KEEPS IT FROM BEING BORING BESIDES!!!). AS CHRISTIANS WE ESPECIALLY WANT TO KEEP GROWING IN OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND HIS WILL FOR OUR LIVES.

HERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT MAY SHOW US HOW TO KEEP GROWING:

THE FIRST THING TO REALIZE IS THE METHOD OF GROWTH. THIS MEANS WE MUST UNDERSTAND THE 2 BASIC METHODS OF GROWTH- HORIZONTALLY AND VERTICALLY

GOD

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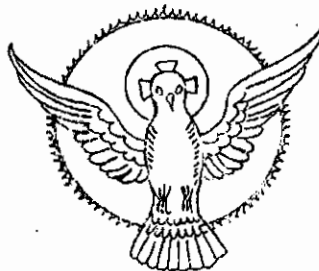
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IF YOU ONLY GROW TOWARD GOD THEN YOU CANNOT SERVE HIM ON EARTH. IF YOU ONLY GROW TOWARD MAN THEN YOU CANNOT REALLY HELP GOD OR MAN.

AFTER WE LEARN THE METHOD OF GROWTH WE MUST LEARN AND PRACTICE THE MEANS OF GROWTH:

- G- GO TO GOD IN PRAYER DAILY [THIS BRINGS PEACE WITH GOD AND POWER WITH MAN]
- R- READ GOD'S WORD DAILY [THIS TEACHES ABOUT GOD AND ABOUT LIFE]
- O- OBEY GOD, MOMENT BY MOMENT [THIS WILL KEEP YOU IN PROPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND WITH MAN]
- W- WITNESS FOR CHRIST WITH YOUR LIFE AND WORDS [GOD COMMANDS IT AND COMPASSION FOR LOST MEN REQUIRES IT]
- I- INTERCEDE FOR OTHERS [GOD LIKES IT AND OTHERS NEED IT]
- N- NAME YOUR WEAKNESS AND LEARN FROM GOD'S WORD TO OVERCOME [THIS DEVELOPS YOU AS A CHRISTIAN AND AS A PERSON]
- G- GLORY IN GOD'S DEALING WITH YOU [GOD AND MAN ENJOY HEARING OF HIS DEALINGS WITH YOU]

ARE YOU GROWING FOR GOD? STAGNATING IN STILLNESS? OR BACKSLIDING INTO UNBELIEF???



## FIGHTING FEAR

I SAM 14:4-14 20-23

THERE ARE SO MANY WONDERFUL EXAMPLES IN THE BIBLE OF MEN WHO MADE A MARK FOR GOD. ONE OF THESE MEN WAS JONATHAN. WE NEED TO TAKE THE TIME TO LOOK AT HIS ENTIRE LIFE STORY SOON BUT I WANT TO SIMPLY LOOK AT ONE EVENT TONIGHT AND SEE SOME PRINCIPLES THAT JONATHAN USED TO HELP HIM COMBAT FEAR IN HIS OWN LIFE AND THE LIFE OF HIS NATION.

SAUL HAD JUST BEEN ANOINTED AS KING AND WAS FACED WITH A VERY DIFFICULT SITUATION. THE PHILISTINES HAD COME AGAINST THE NEW KING WITH AN ARMY OF 30,000 CHARIOTS, 6,000 HORSEMEN, AND PEOPLE AS THE SAND OF THE SEA SHORE! (13:5). IN CONTRAST SAUL HAD ABOUT 600 MEN (13:15) AND THE MEN OF ISRAEL SAW THAT THEY WERE IN A STRAIT...AND THE PEOPLE HID THEMSELVES IN CAVES, AND IN THICKETS, AND IN ROCKS, AND IN HIGH PLACES, AND IN PITS (13:6). AND TO MAKE THINGS EVEN WORST THE PREACHER HADN'T COME WHEN HE WAS SUPPOSED TO AND SAUL WAS IN SUCH A PANIC UNTIL HE DISOBEYED GOD BY OFFERING THE SACRIFICE THAT ONLY THE PROPHET COULD OFFER. IT WAS A FRIGHTFUL TIME. BUT JONATHAN WOULD NOT ALLOW THE FEAR TO OVERWHELM HIM. HE DECIDED TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT AND IN DOING SO SHOWED US SOME VERY IMPORTANT PRINCIPLES IN DEALING WITH DIFFICULT SITUATIONS.

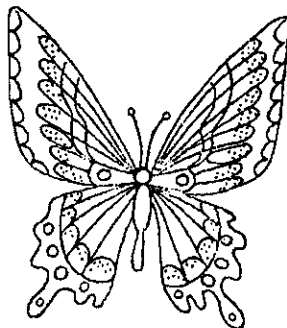
FIRST OF ALL, LET'S UNDERSTAND SOME THINGS ABOUT OUR "ENEMY" FEAR. FEAR IS NOT ALL BAD. IT SERVES A USEFUL PURPOSE IN OUR LIVES:

A) FEAR SHOULD BE PART OF OUR WORSHIP- PSALM 5:7 But as for me, I will come into thy house in the multitude of thy mercy; and in thy fear will I worship toward thy holy temple. THIS "FEAR" IS A REVERENTIAL RESPECT FOR GOD AND HIS HOUSE. WE LISTEN TO AND HEED HIS WORD AND SIT IN AWE IN HIS PRESENCE. THIS AWE IS MISSING IN MANY SERVICES TODAY; AND I FEAR MUCH WORSHIP IS MISSING ALSO

B) FEAR MOVES US TO WORK- HEB 11:7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house;... IT IS THE "FEAR" OF COLD AND RAIN THAT MAKES US BUILD HOMES. IT IS THE "FEAR" OF HUNGER THAT MOTIVATES US TO BUY GROCERIES AND PREPARE MEALS. AND PAUL SAID, KNOWING *therefore the terror of the Lord*, we persuade men: II COR 5:11

C) FEAR IS THE BEGINNING OF WISDOM- Ps 111:10 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. FEAR KEEPS US AWAY FROM TROUBLE AND DRIVES US ON TO TRIUMPH. WHEN WE DON'T WANT TO DISOBEY GOD WE LEARN HOW TO LIVE RIGHT AND DO RIGHT.

SO FEAR IS OUR FRIEND WHEN IT BRINGS RESPECT, MOTIVATION, AND EDUCATION.



But many times FEAR is our FOE instead of our FRIEND:

1. When it "Traps" us- Prov 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whose putteth his trust in the Lord shall be safe.

2. When it Terrorizes us- Jesus talked about the time "Men's hearts would fail them for fear" (Luke 21:26). It is this type of Fear- That paralyzing emotion that keeps us from life and it's Blessings, that we want to see how to overcome.

HERE ARE THE "WEAPONS" JONATHAN USED TO FIGHT FEAR:

I. THE FAITH NEEDED: vs. 6 "THERE IS NO RESTRAINT TO THE LORD TO SAVE BY MANY OR BY FEW". FEAR FADES BEFORE FAITH; FAITH IN GOD'S ABILITY TO HONOR YOUR FAITH. FEAR SAYS YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH; GOD SAYS ALL YOU NEED IS ME! FAITH IS LIKE TURNING ON A LIGHT IN A DARK ROOM!!

II. THE FELLOWSHIP WANTED: vs 7 "BEHOLD, I AM WITH THEE ACCORDING TO THY HEART". JONATHAN'S ARMOURBEARER WAS WILLING TO SHARE THE RISK. EVER NOTICE HOW YOUR FEARS DISAPPEAR WHEN A FRIEND SHARES THE DANGER? JESUS SAID HE WOULD NEVER LEAVE YOU OR FORSAKE YOU- HE'S A FRIEND THAT STICKS CLOSER THAN A BROTHER. A CHRISTIAN BECOMES PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST WITH "BROTHERS AND SISTERS" TO PRAY AND TALK WITH.

III. THE "FLEECE" DEPLOYED: vs 8-12 JONATHAN WANTED TO KNOW WHAT GOD'S WILL WAS. HE ASCERTAINED THIS BY ALLOWING GOD TO DIRECT HIM. (MANY PEOPLE TURN "FLEECE" INTO FOOLISHNESS AND TRY TO MANIPULATE GOD. DON'T DO THAT!!!). WHEN I'M RIDING DOWN A STRANGE ROAD I SOMETIMES WONDER IF I'M GOING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. IT'S SO REASSURING TO SEE A SIGN EVERY SO OFTEN THAT SAYS I'M GOING RIGHT.

IV. THE FIGHT INVOLVED: vs 13-14 THE ODDS WERE 10 TO 1 (JONATHAN AND HIS ARMOURBEARER KILLED 20 MEN) BUT THEY KNEW GOD WAS ON THEIR SIDE. THE ONLY WAY THAT FAITH CAN CONQUER FEAR IS IF WE SEE THRU FAITH'S "EYES" INSTEAD OF HUMAN VISION. HUMAN VISION SAYS A SIMPLE SHEPHERD BOY CAN'T KILL A GIANT, BUT DAVID WALKED BY FAITH AND NOT SIGHT. NOTE THAT FAITH DID NOT KEEP AWAY THE FIGHT; IT CAUSED IT. SOMETIMES FEAR MUST BE FACED AND DEALT WITH IF IT'S TO BE OVERCOME.

V. THE FOLLOWERS: vs 20-23 WHEN YOU'VE SHOWN THE WAY THEN MANY MORE WILL FOLLOW YOU. AFTER COLUMBUS DISCOVERED AMERICA, TRIPS ACROSS THE ATLANTIC BECAME COMMON. FEAR FIGHTERS ARE ABLE TO PICK UP MANY FOLLOWERS WHEN THEY HAVE CONQUERED THE REASON FOR THE FEAR.

FEAR CAN DEVELOP YOU-- OR DESTROY YOUR LIFE. APPLY GOD'S PRINCIPLES AND WIN THE VICTORY OVER FEAR TODAY.



# Grace



# Glory

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH      Bible Study Hour.....10:00am  
P O Box 1003      Lake City, SC      Morning Service.....11:00am  
Pastor Michael Jones 394-3725      (Live over WJOT 1260 AM)  
"To KNOW and to SHOW Christ"      Evening Service.....6:00pm  
Vol V Num 16 August 6, 1987      Wednesday Prayer Meet...7:30pm  
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I MAY BE "FAT, FORTY, AND FALLING APART" BUT I HAD A FABULOUS BIRTHDAY. THE MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH SURPRISED ME WITH A BEAUTIFUL BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY NIGHT AS WELL AS A BIRTHDAY CARD CONTAINING \$185 !!! (THIS GIFT WAS PART OF A TRIPLE BLESSING THAT MAKES ME VERY PROUD OF MY PEOPLE. OUR REGULAR TITHES AND OFFERING FOR THE DAY WAS \$800 !! [WE HAD 52 PEOPLE IN SUNDAY SCHOOL TO GIVE THAT OFFERING]. BROTHER W C SAULS GAVE A GREAT MESSAGE FOR THE GIDEONS AND WE RECEIVED ANOTHER \$141.03 FOR THAT MINISTRY !! AND THEN THEY GAVE THE SPECIAL BIRTHDAY GIFT ON TOP OF ALL THAT !! I KNOW PART OF THE SACRIFICE THIS MUST HAVE BEEN TO MY PEOPLE AND I APPRECIATE IT MORE THAN I CAN POSSIBLY SAY). GOD HAS BLESSED ME WITH SUCH GOOD PEOPLE THAT HAVE SUPPORTED ME AND SURROUNDED MY WIFE AND I WITH LOVE AND ONLY ETERNITY WILL REVEAL WHAT A TREMENDOUS BLESSING IT HAS BEEN.

THE BIRTHDAY BLESSING WAS PART OF THE OPEN HOUSE WE HAD AT THE PARSONAGE SUNDAY NIGHT TO ALLOW EVERYONE TO SEE THE BEAUTIFUL HOME WE LIVE IN (MANY OF THE MEMBERS HELPED WITH THE REFRESHMENTS AND WITH SERVING AND PAULA AND I APPRECIATE THAT). AFTERWARD, AS PAULA AND I CLEANED UP I NOTICED THAT MANY OF THE "SERVING TRAYS AND DISHES" WERE GIVEN TO US BY CHURCHES WE HAVE PASTORED. IT IS SUCH A BLESSING TO LOOK BACK OVER THE PAST 17 YEARS OF PASTORING AND REMEMBER SO MANY PEOPLE WHO HAVE BEEN SO GOOD TO US. I KNOW THE LORD HAS "SPOILED" ME BUT I HOPE HE NEVER STOPS.

ALSO ON SUNDAY NIGHT, THE CHURCH ACCEPTED THE REPORT OF THE "CURTAIN COMMITTEE" AND DECIDED ON THE NEW CURTAINS FOR THE FELLOWSHIP BUILDING. THEY WILL BE WHITE WITH GREEN TRIM, COST AROUND \$600 (INCLUDING THE CURTAIN RODS), AND HOPEFULLY BE IN BY AUGUST 29 WHEN OUR CHURCH HOSTS THE DISTRICT LADIES AUX. PRAYER AND PRAISE RALLY. THIS COMMITTEE DID A GOOD JOB INVOLVING MUCH HARD WORK AND THE CHURCH GIVES THEM A HARDY "WELL DONE" FOR THEIR EFFORT.

OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY (NEWSLETTERS, BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS, TAPES, AND RADIO) CONTINUE TO BE BLESSED. THE LORD USES IT IN EXTRAORDINARY WAYS TO REACH PEOPLE IN NEED AND I'M THANKFUL FOR EVERYONE'S CONTINUED SUPPORT. MRS ANNE MCKNIGHT HAS BEEN HELPING ME OUT WITH MUCH OF THE TYPING AS I PREPARE AND REVISE BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS AND BECAUSE OF GIFTS FROM MR MAYFORD ALTMAN AND MR RUSSEL LOWDER I SHOULD HAVE A NUMBER OF BOOKLETS READY FOR DISTRIBUTION SOON. LET ME KNOW IF I CAN HELP YOU.....PREACHER MIKE

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## FACTS ABOUT FATHERS

1. WHAT 2 MEN IN THE BIBLE NEVER HAD A FATHER?
2. WHAT 2 MEN IN THE BIBLE NEVER HAD A GRANDFATHER?
3. WHAT GODLY FATHER WALKED WITH THE LORD AND NEVER DIED?
4. WHAT FATHER HAD A FLOATING ZOO?
5. WHAT FATHER WAS SO FAITHFUL TO GOD THAT HE WAS WILLING TO SACRIFICE HIS SON UPON AN ALTAR?
6. WHAT BACKSLIDEN FATHER AND HIS FAMILY HAD TO BE DRAGGED OUT OF A SINFUL CITY BY TWO ANGELS?
7. WHAT PERMISSIVE FATHER FELL FROM HIS CHAIR AND DIED OF A BROKEN NECK WHEN HE HEARD THAT HIS EVIL SONS WERE SLAIN AND THE ARK OF GOD HAD BEEN CAPTURED?
8. WHAT GOD-FEARING FATHER PRAYED FOR HIS 10 CHILDREN, AND YET THEY ALL WERE KILLED IN ONE DAY?
9. WHAT NEW TESTAMENT FATHER WAS STRUCK DUMB BY GOD FOR REFUSING TO BELIEVE THE MESSAGE OF THE ANGEL GABRIEL?
10. WHAT FISHERMAN FATHER WAS LEFT BY HIS SONS JAMES AND JOHN, THAT THEY MIGHT FOLLOW JESUS?

MATCH THE FATHER AND THE SON:

TERAH	SOLOMON
NOAH	JACOB
NUN	SETH
JOSEPH	SHEM
ADAM	ISAAC
ZEBEDEE	JAMES AND JOHN
DAVID	JONATHAN
BOAZ	UBED
ABRAHAM	JOSHUA
ISAAC	EPHRAIM & MANASSEH
SAUL	ABRAHAM

## QUESTIONS ABOUT GOD

1. WHERE DOES GOD COME FROM? \_\_\_\_\_ (HAB 3:3)
2. WHAT 4 CREATURES REPRESENT GOD? \_\_\_\_\_ (EZEK 1:10)
3. WHAT NAME DID GOD TELL MOSES TO CALL HIM? \_\_\_\_\_ (EX 3:13-14)
4. HOW MUCH CATTLE DOES GOD OWN? \_\_\_\_\_ (PS 50:10)
5. NAME SOMETHING THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR GOD TO DO. \_\_\_\_\_ (TIT 1:2  
HEB 6:18)
6. GOD IS BRIGHT AS THE \_\_\_\_\_, AS SOLID AS A \_\_\_\_\_, AS UNSEEN AS THE \_\_\_\_\_, AND SAVES US BECAUSE HE \_\_\_\_\_ US. (I JN 1:5;  
PS 62:7; JOHN 3:8; ROM 5:8)
7. WHO IS GOD'S WIFE? \_\_\_\_\_ (JER 3:11-14)
- WHO IS HIS SON? \_\_\_\_\_ (JOHN 1:34)
- WHO IS HIS SON'S BRIDE? \_\_\_\_\_ (REV 21:9-10 EPH 5:23-32)
8. WHAT COLOR IS GOD'S HAIR? \_\_\_\_\_ (DAN 7:9 REV 1:14)
9. WHAT DOES GOD USE FOR A GARMENT? \_\_\_\_\_ PSALM 104:1-2)
10. WHAT ARE GOD'S JEWELS (SPECIAL TREASURE)? \_\_\_\_\_ (MAL 3:16-17 I PET 2:9)

## FOUNDATIONS

II TIM 2:16-19

POLICE WERE SO TOTALLY BAFLED BY THE LATEST STRING OF BURGLARIES THAT THEY BROUGHT IN A CLAIRVOYANT. THIS MAN PROFESSED TO HAVE HAD STUNNING SUCCESS IN LOCATING KIDNAPPED CHILDREN, MISSING PERSONS, LOST WALLETS, PETS THAT HAD STRAYED OFF, ETC. THE POLICE WELCOMED HIS ASSISTANCE AND TOLD HIM TO COME DOWN TO THE STATION. UNFORTUNATELY THE CLAIRVOYANT WAS NOT ABLE TO HELP THEM. HE COULD NOT FIND THE POLICE STATION!!!

SAD TO SAY, THAT IS THE WAY PEOPLE ARE LOOKING AT PREACHERS AND CHURCHES TODAY. IN THE MIDST OF SCANDAL AND SIN, MEN ARE BEGINNING TO ASK IF THE CLAIMS OF CHRISTIANITY ARE SIMPLY TALK. AND EVEN IN THE CHURCH, MANY ARE BEGINNING TO QUESTION SOME OF THE PRACTICES AND PRINCIPLES THAT ARE BEING USED.

FIRST OF ALL, THAT IS NOT NECESSARILY BAD. GOD DOES NOT CONDEMN DOUBT; HE DOES CONDEMN UNBELIEF- UNBELIEF WILL NOT BELIEVE! DOUBT IS SEEKING SOMETHING TO BELIEVE. GOD EXPECTS US TO EXAMINE WHAT WE ARE BASING OUR ETERNAL DESTINY ON- AND IF IT'S OF GOD IT WILL STAND THE TEST AND COME OUT STRONGER THAN EVER.

SO TODAY I WANT US TO LOOK AT WHAT WE ARE BUILDING OUR LIVES ON; HOW WE ARE BUILDING OUR LIVES; AND THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING OUR LIVES A CERTAIN WAY.

### I. THE PROPER FOUNDATION "WHERE SHOULD YOU BUILD?"

#### A) The Necessity of Having a proper foundation -

1. FOR STABILITY- PS 17:13 If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do? I ONCE CHASED A WILD GOOSE INTO SOME QUICKSAND AND FOUND IT A PLACE OF NO STABILITY- THE MORE I STRUGGLED THE WORST I SANK. THAT'S WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MANY PEOPLE TODAY. THEY'VE CHASED LIFE'S "WILD GEESE" AND HAVE ENDED UP STRUGGLING ALL THE TIME; AND SINKING DEEPER AND DEEPER. THEY NEED SOMETHING STABLE TO BUILD ON.

THIS IS WHERE THE MINISTRY OF THE CHURCH IS SO IMPORTANT. WITHOUT MORAL GUIDELINES FROM THE CHURCH WE GO INTO AN "ANYTHING GOES", LAWLESS SOCIETY THAT QUICKLY BECOME ANARCHY. IN THE MIDST OF THE "SWAMP OF QUICKSAND" THAT SOCIETY FLOUNDERS IN WE PROCLAIM CHRIST AS THE FOUNDATION PEOPLE NEED IN THEIR PERSONAL LIFE, IN THEIR PROFESSIONAL LIFE, AND IN THEIR PUBLIC LIFE. (THE BACK OF THE PARSONAGE WAS BUILT ON LAND THAT ONCE WAS A PIT. IN ORDER TO KEEP THE WALL FROM SINKING AFTER THE WORK WAS COMPLETED THE MEN HAD TO DIG A VERY DEEP FOUNDATION. SADLY TODAY, IN MANY LIVES, PEOPLE DO NOT BUILD THEIR LIVES ON THE PROPER FOUNDATION AND SOON THEIR "HOUSE" BEGINS TO TILT AND CRACK).

2. FOR SECURITY- LUKE 6:47-49 Whosoever cometh to me, and heareth my sayings, and doeth them, I will show you to whom he is like: He is like a man which built a house, and digged deep, and laid the foundation on a rock: and when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently upon that house, and could not shake it: for it was founded upon a rock. But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built a house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great. YOU CAN'T SEE THE FOUNDATION OF A HOUSE BUT IT'S SOON APPARENT WHEN THE STORMS AND RAINS COME. I ONCE PUT UP AN ANTENNA WITH A FAULTY FOUNDATION; THANKFULLY IT DIDN'T FALL WHILE I WAS ON IT, BUT IT DID FALL DURING THE FIRST BIG WIND. MANY PEOPLE ARE "RELIGIOUS" ON THE OUTSIDE BUT DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT FOUNDATION AND ONE DAY EVERYTHING THEY'VE BUILT WILL COME CRASHING DOWN ON TOP OF THEM.

B) The Test of a True Foundation- II TIM 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

TWO THINGS ARE LISTED HERE AS "SEALS" TO ALLOW US TO KNOW THAT THE FOUNDATION WE ARE BUILDING ON IS GOD'S FOUNDATION AND NOT A FALSE FOUNDATION (AS TOLD ABOUT IN VS 16-18):

1. RELATIONSHIP- "THE LORD KNOWETH THEM THAT ARE HIS" CHRISTIANITY IS NOT A "RELIGION"; IT'S A PERSON- CHRIST. IF ALL YOU HAVE ARE RULES INSTEAD OF RELATIONSHIP THEN YOU NEED TO RE-EXAMINE YOUR FOUNDATION.

2. RIGHTEOUSNESS- "LET EVERY ONE THAT NAMETH THE NAME OF CHRIST DEPART FROM INIQUITY". EVEN THE WORLD KNOWS THAT A CHRISTIAN IS SUPPOSED TO LIVE RIGHT. THE DAY AFTER I WAS SAVED I KNEW IT WAS WRONG TO CHEAT ON MY HOMEWORK EVEN THOUGH I HAD NEVER HEARD A SERMON ON IT. A "RELIGION" THAT KEEPS YOU IN SIN INSTEAD OF DELIVERING YOU FROM SIN'S POWER NEEDS TO BE THROWN AWAY LIKE A "HOT POTATO".

## II. THE PLAN YOU BUILD WITH- "WHAT TO BUILD" 1CO 3:10-15

According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ. Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble; Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

GOD HAS GIVEN US THE PRIVILEGE OF BUILDING UPON THE FOUNDATION HE HAS ORDAINED. WE PICK THE MATERIALS AND THEN FIND THE DESIGN HE HAS IN STORE FOR US. BUT WE ARE GIVEN AN AMAZING FREEDOM IN THE BUILDING PROCESS.

YOU MUST BUILD WITH THE CORRECT MATERIAL- NOT WOOD, HAY OR STUBBLE. PAUL TOLD TIMOTHY SOME THINGS THAT MAKE GOOD BUILDING MATERIALS- I TIM 6:17-19 Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; That they do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute, willing to communicate; Laying up in store for themselves a good foundation against the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.

III. THE PURPOSE OF BUILDING- EPH 2:19-22 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.

YOU'RE NOT BUILDING FOR THIS WORLD'S APPROVAL. YOU SHOULD BE BUILDING ON THE PROPER FOUNDATION, WITH THE PROPER MATERIAL, FOR THE GLORY OF GOD. ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS TODAY:

WHAT TYPE OF FOUNDATION ARE YOU BUILDING ON TODAY? WHAT ARE YOU BUILDING WITH? WHO ARE YOU BUILDING FOR??

## GOD'S ABILITY

WE ARE AWARE OF GOD'S ABILITY TO CREATE A WORLD WITH WORDS, TO HEAL THE SICK, AND EVEN TO RAISE THE DEAD. YET SOMETIMES IT SEEMS THAT GOD'S POWER AND ABILITY DOES NOT REACH US IN OUR PRESENT TIME AND CIRCUMSTANCES. LET'S LOOK AT A FEW OF GOD'S ABILITIES AND LEARN HOW THEY APPLY TO US TODAY.

**HIS ABILITY TO SUPPLY OUR NEEDS-** II COR 9:8 God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work.

EPH 3:20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us. WHILE GOD'S ABILITY TO SUPPLY IS NOT IN QUESTION YOU NEED TO KNOW THAT SOMETIMES HE USES STRANGE VESSELS TO DELIVER IT:

Years ago an old lady had no money to buy food. She prayed, "Dear Lord, Please send me a side of bacon and a sack of corn meal." Over and over again she prayed the same prayer aloud. One of the town's unscrupulous citizens decided to play a trick on her. He dropped a side of bacon and a sack of corn meal down her chimney. It landed in front of her as she knelt in prayer.

Jumping to her feet, she exclaimed, "Oh lord! You've answered my prayer!" Then she went all over town telling everyone the good news.

This was too much for the scoundrel who dropped the food down her chimney. He ridiculed her publicly and told her that God didn't answer her prayer; he did. The Old lady replied, "Well, the DEVIL may have BROUGHT it, but it was the LORD who SENT it!"

"The Paper Pulpit"

ELIJAH RECEIVED HIS FOOD FROM RAVENS AND A DESTITUTE WIDOW (I KINGS 17). JESUS USED A SMALL BOY'S LUNCH OF 2 FISH AND 5 LOAVES TO FEED 5000 (MATT 14:15-21). AND THE LORD EVEN USED "ANGEL'S FOOD" (MANNA- Ps 78:25) TO FEED HIS PEOPLE IN THE DESERT. [While I was typing this the Lord kept telling me to look at my wife's picture in my wallet. I couldn't understand why but finally I did. Behind my wife's picture was a \$100 bill!!! I have no idea how or when it got there but I sure did need it!! I'VE HAD THE LORD PROVIDE A BROKEN PARKING METER FOR ME TO PARK IN FRONT OF WHEN I DIDN'T HAVE A DIME TO PUT IN THE METER AT THE HOSPITAL. I'VE BEEN TO THE HOSPITAL ON MORE PRAYERS THAN GAS AND FINALLY PUT 2/10 OF A GALLON MORE GAS IN THE CAR THAN IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HOLD. I'VE SEEN GOD MIRACULOUS PROVIDE NEEDED EQUIPMENT FOR OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY TIME AFTER TIME. EVERY PAIR OF SHOES I'VE WORN IN THE LAST 10 YEARS HAVE BEEN A DIRECT GIFT OF GOD. HE'S MIRACULOUS PROVIDED CLOTHES FOR ME TO WEAR, FOOD FOR ME TO EAT, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE. I CAN TELL YOU THIS WITHOUT ANY HESITATION- GOD IS ABLE TO SUPPLY YOUR NEEDS.

BUT THERE ARE TIMES WHEN GOD IS ALLOWING US TO BE TESTED AND TRIED AND HE DOESN'T IMMEDIATELY SUPPLY OUR NEEDS? THEN WE DEPEND ON HIS ABILITY TO PRESERVE US IN TRIAL- DAN 3:17 If it be so, Our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. (YET THERE ARE TIMES WHEN GOD DOESN'T HEAL OR DELIVER? EVEN THEN GOD IS STILL IN CONTROL- MATT 10:28 Fear not them which kill the body, and are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell).

ABLE TO SUCCEED (GIVE US- 1 COR 10:13) THERE HATH NO TEMPTATION TAKEN YOU THAT  
himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that  
are tempted. I COR 10:13 There hath no temptation taken you  
but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not  
suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the  
temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear  
it. I'VE HAD TIMES WHEN I WAS TEMPTED TO "WALLOW" IN DEPRESSION  
BUT EVERY TIME GOD ALWAYS SEND SOMEONE IN PERSON, BY LETTER, OR ON  
THE PHONE TO ENCOURAGE AND UPLIFT ME. GOD ALWAYS SENDS THE HELP  
JUST WHEN WE NEED IT BECAUSE CHRIST IS ABLE TO SYMPATHIZE WITH OUR  
FEELINGS OF INFIRMITIES DURING TEMPTATIONS, TRIALS, AND TROUBLES-  
HEB 4:15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched  
with the feelings of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted  
like as we are, yet without sin.

BUT GOD DOES NOT LEAVE US TO BE BATTERED AND BEATEN BY SATAN, HE  
GIVE US WHAT WE NEED TO TO STRENGTHEN US- ACTS 20:32 Now,  
brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which  
is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all  
them which are sanctified. AND ON TOP OF THE THINGS GOD GIVES US  
TO ENABLE US TO STAND, HE ALSO TAKES US "INTO HIS ARMS" WITH HIS  
ABILITY TO KEEP US- ROM 14:4 God is able to make him stand  
JUDE 24 Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and  
to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with  
exceeding joy.

II TIM 1:12 For the which cause I also suffer these things:  
nevertheless I am not ashamed; for I know whom I have believed, and  
am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed  
unto him against that day. I CAN CAST MYSELF COMPLETELY AND  
ABSOLUTELY UPON THE LORD AND REST IN HIS FAITHFULNESS

BUT ONE OF GOD'S GREATEST ABILITIES IS HIS ABILITY TO COMPLETELY  
AND ABSOLUTELY SAVE PEOPLE WHO COME TO HIM BY FAITH- HEB 7:25  
Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come  
unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for  
them. WHEN A MAN COMES TO GOD CONFESSING HIS SINS AND CLAIMING  
THE BLOOD OF CHRIST FOR SIN'S PARDON HE COMES TO THE REALIZATION  
THAT HE HAS BEEN SAVED FROM SIN'S PENALTY, HE IS BEING SAVED FROM  
SIN'S POWER, AND ONE GLORIOUS DAY HE WILL BE SAVED FROM SIN'S  
PRESENCE. I DO NOT BELIEVE IN MAN'S INABILITY TO FALL BUT I DO  
BELIEVE IN GOD'S INABILITY TO FAIL

GOD IS ABLE- DON'T EVER DOUBT IT. YOU CAN CONTINUE TO LIVE YOUR  
LIFE TRUSTING IN YOUR OWN STRENGTH AND ABILITIES! OR YOU CAN COME TO  
GOD BY FAITH TODAY AND LET HIM BE YOUR STRENGTH AND SHIELD.

# GRACE And GLORY



**Grace Free Will Baptist Church**  
**"To Know and To Show Christ"**

BIBLE STUDY HOUR	10:00AM
MORNING EVANGELISTIC SERVICE (LIVE OVER WJQT)	11:00AM
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE	7:30 PM

**MICHAEL JONES, PASTOR**  
**(803) 394-3725**

VOL. V NUM 17 08/27/87 LAWRENCE STREET • PO BOX 1003 • LAKE CITY, S.C. • 29560

THE "SLOWNESS" OF SUMMER HAS NOW CHANGED INTO THE "FASTNESS OF FALL". SCHOOL HAS BEGUN FOR THE CHILDREN AND VACATION TIME IS ALMOST OVER. IT'S BEEN A VERY GOOD SUMMER THIS YEAR- LOTS OF NEW PEOPLE IN OUR SERVICES AND A GOOD SPIRIT AMONG OUR PEOPLE. I APPRECIATE THE CONTINUED GROWTH THIS SPIRIT AND DEDICATION REPRESENTS IN THE LIVES OF THE CHURCH "FAMILY". IT'S GOOD TO SEE GOD AT WORK AMONG HIS PEOPLE.

MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED THIS SUMMER-- AND MUCH STILL REMAINS TO BE DONE. SPECIAL THANKS TO RALPH AND MIRIAM McALLISTER FOR DONATING AND INSTALLING A FAN WITH LIGHTS FOR THE NURSERY; TO MIRIAM McALLISTER AND JOHANNA LOWDER FOR PUTTING WALLPAPER IN THE LADIES REST ROOM; TO ARNOLD AND WYMAN LOWDER FOR BUILDING A BACKGROUND HOLDER FOR THE PUPPET STAGE AND TO HOWARD FRYE FOR PAINTING THE BACKGROUNDS; AND TO THE SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS FOR CLEANING AND FIXING UP THEIR CLASS ROOMS. ALMOST EVERYONE ELSE HAS HELPED IN SOME WAY TO CLEAN UP OR FIX UP AROUND THE CHURCH AND I REALLY APPRECIATE EVERYONE'S WORK [DURING THE EARLY PART OF MY CHRISTIAN LIFE THE MOST DISAPPOINTING PART OF "CHRISTIANITY" TO ME WAS THE WAY THAT CHRISTIANS "SHOUTED OVER DOCTRINE AND SPLIT OVER DETAILS". MY GOAL HERE HAS BEEN TO TRY TO DEVELOP CHRISTIANS THAT NOT ONLY KNOW HOW TO BE SAVED BUT ALSO HOW TO LIVE LIKE CHRISTIANS. THANK GOD FOR THE PROGRESS I SEE].

I HAVEN'T BEEN DOING A LOT EXTRA WITH THE NEWSLETTER THIS SUMMER BUT OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY HAS CONTINUED TO GROW AND DEVELOP. WITH THE ADDITION OF THE BOOK BINDING MACHINE I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON REVISING AND PUBLISHING SOME OF THE BIBLE STUDY NOTES I HAVE (I THOUGHT I'D GET AHEAD BUT IT SEEMS THAT BOOKLETS GO AS FAST AS I CAN GET THEM TOGETHER- PRAISE THE LORD, THAT'S THE WAY I LIKE IT). BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL GIFTS BY W C SAULS, ROXANNA YOUNG, AND ANNE MCKNIGHT AS WELL AS REGULAR CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE McBRIDES AND BILLIE ARD I WAS ABLE TO GET THE PAPER AND EQUIPMENT NECESSARY TO CONTINUE WITH THE DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKLETS. THANKS, MANY LIVES ARE BEING INFLUENCED FOR CHRIST AND I'M GLAD YOU JOINED ME IN THE EFFORT

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## LADIES AUXILIARY-

OUR LADIES AUXILIARY HAS BEEN VERY ACTIVE DURING AUGUST. THEY CONDUCTED THEIR EMPHASIS PROGRAM SUNDAY NIGHT AUGUST 16 AND DID A SPLENDID JOB; THEY WERE IN CHARGE OF SELECTING THE NEW CURTAINS WE ARE PUTTING IN THE FELLOWSHIP BUILDING; AND THEY ARE HOSTING THE SOUTH CAROLINA DISTRICT "PRAYER AND PRAISE RALLY" THIS SATURDAY. THE LADIES OF THE CHURCH HAVE BEEN A VITAL PART OF IT'S WORK SINCE THE CHURCH BEGAN AND I APPRECIATE ALL THEY DO.

## LADIES AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 1987-88

PRESIDENT-----PAULA JONES  
VICE PRESIDENT--ALTHEA COKER  
SEC/TREASURER---JENENE BROWN  
MISSION STUDY---JACKIE LOWDER, HOPE FRYE, MARJORIE McALLISTER  
MISSION PRAYER--DOT SULLIVAN, SYLVIA GOWDY, CONNIE MATHIS  
MISSION ACTION--MIRIAM McALLISTER, ANNE MCKNIGHT, BILLIE ARD  
CARDS/ FLOWERS--ELISE McBRIDE  
HAM FUND-----BETH BROACH  
FOOD COMMITTEE--SUSAN SPRING, BETTY LOU THOMPSON

## BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE-

THE FALL SESSION OF BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE BEGINS IN JUST OVER 2 WEEKS !!!!- TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8. THE 13 WEEK COURSE WILL FEATURE THE STUDY OF BIBLE CHARACTERS LED BY REV JOE MCKNIGHT; AN INDEPTH STUDY OF THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS LED BY REV MIKE JONES; AND A NIGHTLY SESSION ON ISSUES AND ANSWERS [WHERE WE WILL DISCUSS CURRENT HAPPENINGS AND SITUATIONS FROM A BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVE]. I CAN HARDLY WAIT.

THE COST OF THESE SESSION ARE ONLY \$25 PER STUDENT AND WILL INCLUDE THE NOTES AND BOOKLETS NEEDED. THAT'S ONE OF THE BEST BARGAINS AROUND [THIS \$25 DOLLARS IS USED TO MAINTAIN THIS MINISTRY OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE OF FREE WILL BAPTIST. THE TEACHERS RECEIVE NO PAY FOR THEIR WORK--THEY'RE GLAD TO TELL PEOPLE ABOUT THE BIBLE].

## HOME COMING-

EVERYTHING IS BEGINNING TO FALL IN PLACE FOR OUR BIG 27TH ANNIVERSARY/HOME COMING SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13. SPECIAL SPEAKER WILL BE REV ROBERT ROSE, PASTOR OF MT ELON FWB CHURCH AND SPECIAL MUSIC WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE "SINGING COURIERS" OF BENNETTSVILLE. A NUMBER OF VERY SPECIAL ACTIVITIES ARE BEING PLANNED AND WE'RE LOOKING FOR A GREAT DAY.

THE BOOK BINDER HAS ALLOWED ME TO BIND ALL OF THE BULLETINS OF THE CHURCH AND WE'LL HAVE THEM ON DISPLAY DURING HOMECOMING. WE'LL ALSO HAVE COPIES OF ALL OF OUR OLD NEWSLETTERS IN BOOKLET FORM PLUS WE HOPE TO HAVE PICTURE BOOKS OF PAST ACTIVITIES TO DISPLAY. WE HOPE YOU'LL BE ABLE TO ENJOY LOOKING AT OUR PAST AS YOU JOIN US IN JOYFUL ANTICIPATION OF OUR FUTURE.

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THERE ARE MANY "TYPES" OF PEOPLE WHO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER- SOME ARE OLD AND SOME ARE YOUNG; SOME ARE MARRIED AND SOME ARE SINGLE; SOME ARE WELL TO DO AND SOME JUST MAKE DO; AND SOME ARE SAVED AND SOME ARE LOST. IF YOU'RE ONE OF THE LATTER, IF YOU DON'T KNOW BEYOND ANY DOUBT THAT YOU WOULD GO TO HEAVEN IF YOU DIED TODAY THEN I INVITE YOU TO YIELD YOUR HEART TO CHRIST. THEN WRITE ME AND LET ME SEND YOU SOME LITERATURE TO HELP YOU BEGIN THIS NEW LIFE IN CHRIST. IT'LL BE THE BEST THING YOU EVER DID.

PREACHER MIKE



**BEING GOD'S FRIEND**

IF I WERE TO ASK YOU TODAY IF YOU WANTED TO BE "GOD'S FRIEND", I FEEL CERTAIN THAT ALL OF YOU WOULD ANSWER YES; FOR I CAN THINK OF NO GREATER HONOR FOR ANYONE. TODAY I WANT US TO LOOK AT THE MAN GOD CALLED HIS FRIEND AND THEN AT THE REQUIREMENTS JESUS GAVE FOR MEN BEING HIS FRIEND; THEN I'D LIKE TO LOOK AT THE TRAGIC RESULTS OF CHOOSING THE WORLD AS A FRIEND INSTEAD OF GOD.

**I. THE MAN GOD CALLED HIS FRIEND- ABRAHAM**

A) A FRIEND IS CHOSEN (MAN HAS NO CHOICE IN HIS FAMILY BUT HE CHOOSES HIS FRIENDS!)- ISAIAH 41:8 But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend

B) A FRIEND GIVES (OF HIMSELF AND HIS SUBSTANCE)- II CHRON 20:7 Art not thou our God, who didst drive out the inhabitants of this land before thy people Israel, and gavest it to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever.

C) A FRIEND HAS FAITH (TRUST EACH OTHER)- JAMES 2:21-23 Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.

WHAT BEING GOD'S FRIEND HELPS YOU MISS:

ENOCH WALKED WITH GOD AND MISSED THE FLOOD

ELIJAH WORKED FOR GOD AND MISSED DEATH

MOSES LISTENED TO HIS FEELINGS INSTEAD OF HIS FRIEND (GOD) AND MISSED THE PROMISED LAND (EXODUS 33:11 And the Lord spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.)

**II. THE REQUIREMENTS JESUS GAVE FOR FRIENDSHIP-**

A) FRIENDSHIP REQUIRES DEDICATION- JOHN 15:13 Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.

THE TRUST THAT FRIENDSHIP IS BASED ON IS NOT SURFACE SUPERFICIAL RELATIONSHIP; IT IS WILLINGNESS TO DIE FOR EACH OTHER (JESUS ASKS US TO DIE TO SELF AND LIVE FOR HIM). [GOD'S FRIEND ABRAHAM WAS EVEN ASKED TO LAY DOWN THE LIFE OF HIS SON ISAAC!]

B) FRIENDSHIP INCLUDES SERVICE- JOHN 15:14-15 Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. FRIENDSHIP IS NOT JUST SOMETHING YOU TALK ABOUT, IT IS SOMEONE YOU BECOME. IT IS NOT A JOB BUT A JOY TO WORK FOR AND WITH YOUR FRIEND.

C) FRIENDSHIP IS BASED ON TRUST- JOHN 15:15 HENCEFORTH I CALL YOU NOT SERVANTS; FOR THE SERVANT KNOWETH NOT WHAT HIS LORD DOETH; BUT I CALL YOU FRIENDS; FOR ALL THINGS THAT I HAVE HEARD OF MY FATHER I HAVE MADE KNOWN UNTO YOU. SEE GEN 18:17-19 And the Lord said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.

**THE WRONG FRIEND TO HAVE**

JAMES 4:4 Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God.

**WHO CALLS YOU FRIEND ???**

## JOINING GOD'S CHOIR

Ps 40:1-3 I waited patiently for the LORD; and he inclined unto me, and heard my cry. He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD

I ENJOY GOOD SINGING--EVEN THOUGH I CAN'T SING! BUT THERE IS ONE CHOIR THAT HAS ACCEPTED ME AS A MEMBER AND IT'S "MUSIC TO MY EARS". THAT'S BECAUSE I'M A MEMBER OF GOD'S CHOIR:

1. ISAIAH SAID WE JOIN WHEN WE'RE SAVED- ISAIAH 12:2 Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord Jehovah is my strength and my song: he also is become my salvation

2. ONE OF THE SIGNS OF BEING SPIRIT FILLED IS Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; (EPHESIANS 5:18-19)

3. SUFFERING OUGHT TO BRING OUT OUR BEST TUNE- PAUL AND SILAS JOINED IT ONE NIGHT IN A JAIL IN PHILIPPI.

4. SIN GETS US OUT OF HARMONY- THE CAPTIVE JEWS LEARNED THAT WHEN THEY HUNG THEIR HARPS ON THE WILLOW TREES- Ps 137:1-4 By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion. We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

### I. THE CHOIR MEMBERS

A) BROUGHT UP- He brought me up out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay [FROM THE MIRE TO THE CHOIR!]. CHOIR MEMBERS ARE THOSE WHO HAVE SEEN THE MASTER COME DOWN INTO THE PIT WITH THEM AND OFFER TO CARRY THEM OUT. HE DID NOT SIMPLY STAND AT THE TOP AND TELL US TO TRY HARDER; HE CAME DOWN TO US, THAT WE MIGHT GO UP WITH HIM.

B) SET UP- set my feet upon a rock (FIRM STANDING AND FINE SINGING GO HAND IN HAND). JESUS IS A ROCK IN A WEARY LAND

C) HELD UP- established my going BY THE POWER OF GOD AND THE PARTNERSHIP OF THE BODY

D) TUNED UP- a new song in my mouth REV 5:9-10 And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; and hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

II. THE CHOIRMASTER- He hath put... MEANS HE IS THE PROVIDER AND PRODUCER OF THE MUSIC.

A) ALL EYES ARE UPON HIM- FOR DIRECTION

B) ALL VOICES ARE UNDER HIS COMMAND- DIFFERENT PARTS BUT UNDER HIS DIRECTION IT PRODUCES A HARMONY. (TESTIFY, TELL OF HIS WORKS, ETC.)

### III. THE CHOIR MUSIC-

A) THE VOICES- MANY BLEND TOGETHER TO MAKE THE WHOLE

1. KEEP IN TUNE- PRACTICE, PARTICIPATE

2. KEEP IN TIME- NOT RUSHING AHEAD OR LAGGING BEHIND

3. KEEP IN TEAM- THIS IS A CHOIR, NOT A SOLO

B) THE THEME- Even praise unto our God

C) THE RESULTS- many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the Lord OTHERS WILL WANT TO JOIN THE CHOIR ALSO!!!

## GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS, DEBT, AND LABOR

### I. GUIDELINES FOR BUSINESS DEALINGS

A) HONEST MEASUREMENTS ARE REQUIRED. Prov 11:1 A false Balance is abomination to the Lord; but a just weight is his delight.

1. The use of different weights and measurements between buying and selling is an abomination to the Lord. Prov 20:10,23

2. Use a good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over in your dealings. For with the same measure that ye mete it shall be measured to you again. Luke 6:30

B) Develop your business before you try to live off the Profits. Prov. 24:27 Prepare thy work without, and make it fit for thyself in the fields; and afterwards build thine house. (He who seeks to start off as an executive had better be the boss's son ! James 15:4). The dictionary is the only place you will find SUCCESS before WORK.

C) Keep a watchful eye on your Business- Prov 27:23-24 Be thou diligent to know the state of thy flocks, and look well to thy hands. For riches are not for ever; and doth the crown endure to every generation? When you neglect your business the "weeds begin to grow and the roof begins to rot" (See Prov 24:30-34). There is no business that will run itself long without jumping off the tracks.

### II. GUIDELINES FOR DEBT (Surety)

A) Stay away from Debt Prov 22:7 The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.

Prov 17:18 A man void of understanding striketh hands, and becometh surety in the presence of his friends.

Rom 13:8 Owe no man anything, but to love one another.

B) Especially stay away from signing someone else's note. 6:1-5

1. You may get hurt Prov 11:15

2. You may "Lose your shirt" 22:26-27

3. If you must sign get good collateral 20:16 27:13

C) If you owe someone, be sure to pay them when due.

Prov 3:27 Withhold not good from them to whom it is due, when it is in the power of thine hands to do it.

Lev 19:13 Thou shalt not defraud thy neighbor, neither rob him; the wages of him that is hired shall not abide with thee all night until the morning.

Deut 24:14-15 Thou shalt not oppress an hired servant that is poor and needy, whether he be of thy brethren, or of thy strangers that are in thy land within thy gates; at his day thou shalt give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it, lest he cry against thee unto the Lord; and it be sin unto thee.

James 5:4 Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud crieth; and the cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

If you owe someone something then you should pay that debt, if possible. If you cannot pay then be man enough to go to the person and make some kind of arrangements.

III. GUIDELINES FOR WORK- The man who is waiting for something turn up would do well to start with his own shirt-sleeves.

A) Poverty and laziness go hand in hand. (Prov 10:4 He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand; but the hand of the diligent maketh rich. You should learn from the Ant (6:6-11):

1. Able to work without someone telling them everything to do. 7
2. Works when it is time to work vs 8
3. Realizes that a little Laziness grows into a lot of Laziness until you lose everything as if it were stolen vs 9-11

B) God will not let a good man starve to death. Prov 10:3 The Lord will not suffer the soul of the righteous to famish: but he casteth away the substance of the wicked.

1. You are not supposed to help those who can work and won't do so- II Thess 3:10-12
2. Christian Faith means helping those who need it- James 2:14-16  
God gives the birds their food; but HE DOESN'T THROW IT INTO THEIR NESTS!!

C) There are 2 types of people listed:

1. The Diligent:
  - a. Produces a Profit Prov 10:4
  - b. Advances to a leadership role 12:24 22:29
  - c. Doesn't waste anything 12:27
  - d. Has a sense of Satisfaction 13:4
  - e. Uses his brain as well as his brawn 21:5
  - f. Keeps an eye on his responsibilities 27:23
2. The Sluggard/Slothful:
  - a. Is Lazy 6:9-11
  - b. Is a pain to his employer- like smoke in the eye or vinegar that sets his teeth on edge 10:26
  - c. Wants 13:4
  - d. But isn't willing to work for what he wants 20:4
  - e. Is always ready with an excuse 26:13-16
    - 1) We might run into trouble vs 13
    - 2) I can't make up my mind vs 14
    - 3) It's not worth the effort vs 15
    - 4) Stubborn once he makes the excuse vs 16 (And generally spends more effort making and defending his excuse than he would in doing the work!!!).
  - f. Faces a Difficult Way (15:19), a Wasteful Way (18:9), and a Bad End (21:25)

A stranger came to three workman, all employed on the same job. He asked each worker what he was doing. Growled the first man, "I'm breaking rocks.". Said the second, "I'm earning a living.". But the Third man replied with a smile, "I'm building a cathedral.".

Sir Christopher Wren.

# GRACE AND GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003 LAKE CITY, S C  
PASTOR MIRCHEAL JONES 394-3725  
"TO KNOW AND TO SHOW CHRIST"  
VOL V NUM 18 SEPTEMBER 9, 1987

BIBLE STUDY HOUR.....10:00AM  
MORNING SERVICE.....11:00AM  
(LIVE OVER WJOT 1260 AM)  
EVENING SERVICE.....6:00PM  
WEDNESDAY PRAYER MEET....7:30PM

+++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++ +++

WHAT A GREAT DAY WE HAD AT CHURCH SUNDAY. THE LORD REALLY BLESSED IN EVERY SERVICE AND WE GLORY IN HIS POWER AND PRESENCE. OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE WAS UP ON A TRADITIONALLY "DOWN DAY", WE HAD OUR FIRST CHILDREN'S CHURCH DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE WITH OVER 25 CHILDREN IN ATTENDANCE (MRS HOPE FRYE IS DIRECTING THIS NEW VENTURE. IT WILL MEET ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN EACH MONTH AT FIRST), AND THE LORD REALLY WORKED DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE. THEN SUNDAY NIGHT MRS SYLVIA GOWDY, MRS CONNIE MATHIS, AND MRS BILLIE ARD PRESENTED AN EXCELLENT PUPPET PROGRAM ON "PRAYER AND PRAISE". FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM PEOPLE WERE ALLOWED TO SHARE A FAVORITE PHRASE, POEM, OR PRAISE AND I REALLY ENJOYED HEARING WHAT THE PEOPLE HAD TO SHARE.

NOW I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR HOME COMING THIS SUNDAY. WE'VE ALREADY POSTED THE PICTURES (I CAN'T BELIEVE HOW YOUNG I USED TO LOOK! THANKS TO MRS SUSAN SPRING FOR PASTING THE PICTURES ON THE POSTERS), PREPARED THE DOCUMENTS, AND PRAYED FOR GOD'S BLESSINGS ON THOSE WHO WILL PARTICIPATE. NOW IT'S JUST A MATTER OF FOLLOWING THRU WITH THE DETAILS AND ENJOYING A GREAT DAY IN THE LORD. HOPE YOU'LL BE HERE WITH US.

MEMORIALS- I AM PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE MEMORIAL GIFTS TO OUR OUTREACH WORK IN MEMORY OF:

OREW LOWDER BY MRS ELNORA BRADY AND JOYCE DAVIS BY THE MCBRIDES. I ALSO APPRECIATE RECENT GIFTS FROM STEVE AND JUNE STANFORD OF SALTILLO, MISSISSIPPI, DAVID AND JACKIE JOHNSON OF BRATT, FLORIDA, AND MRS BESSIE GROOMS OF COWARD, S C. IN ADDITION TO PUBLISHING THIS NEWSLETTER AND DISTRIBUTING TAPES AND BOOKLETS; THIS OUTREACH WORK ALSO HELPS IN THE MINISTRY OF THE BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE. THE BOOKLETS I USE AND THE TAPES I MAKE FOR BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE ARE PRODUCTS OF THIS OUTREACH (AS IT BECOMES FINANCIALLY ABLE, THE BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE WILL REPAY THE COST OF THE TAPES TO THIS WORK AND SO WE NOT ONLY ARE INVESTING IN SOULS BUT ALSO SOWING "SEED" FOR THE FUTURE AS WELL). THIS MEANS WE ARE NOT ONLY HELPING PASTORS AND TEACHERS IN CHURCHES THRU OUR NOTES BUT WE ALSO ARE A PART OF TRAINING LAY PEOPLE FOR THE LORD IN THE HOPES THEY WILL PASS THEIR TRAINING ON TO OTHERS AND THEREBY MULTIPLY OUR EFFECTIVENESS. I'M THANKFUL TO BE A PART OF THIS WORK AND I APPRECIATE YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT.

MAY THE LORD BLESS YOU AS YOU LIVE AND WORK FOR HIM. WHAT A GREAT GOD WE SERVE AND WHAT A MARVELOUS SAVIOUR WE HAVE. PREACHER MIKE

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
LAKE CITY, S C 29560

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JOIN THE CROWD  
FOR



# HOME COMING



SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 1987

SPECIAL SPEAKER: REV ROBERT ROSE

SPECIAL MUSIC:  
"THE SINGING COURIERS"

Bring your Family and Friends and help us celebrate God's Blessings on us this year.

Sunday School- 10:00am (Object Lesson by Buck Flowers)

Worship Service- 11:00am (Live over WJOT)

Home Coming Dinner- NOON (Church History Pictures and Documents will be on display)

Special Sing with the "Singing Couriers" 1:30pm



# GRACE FWB CHURCH



Pastor Mike Jones and all the Members INVITE YOU

## THE WILL OF GOD

ROM 12:1-2

SEVERAL YEARS AGO THE NUMBER ONE QUESTION CHRISTIANS ASKED ME WAS HOW TO KNOW GOD'S WILL FOR THEIR LIFE- NOW THE MOST OFTEN VOICED CONCERN IS HOW TO GROW AS CHRISTIANS. I BELIEVE THE BASIC QUESTION IS THE SAME, BUT PEOPLE'S PERCEPTION HAS CHANGED. WHEN YOUR BASIC GOAL IS TO LEARN, AND OBEY, THE WILL OF GOD THEN YOU ARE ADMITTING THAT YOU ARE THE SERVANT AND GOD IS THE MASTER; WHEN YOU WANT TO GROW AS A CHRISTIAN, MANY TIMES, THE DESIRE HAS CHANGED TO MAKE YOURSELF MORE "GODLIKE" AND LESS OF A SERVANT [I BELIEVE THIS IS A SUBCONSCIOUS DESIRE -- I ALSO BELIEVE THAT MANY CHRISTIANS DESIRE TO GROW AS CHRISTIANS IN ORDER TO BETTER DO GOD'S WILL].

I WANT US TODAY TO LOOK AT HOW TO GAIN THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE WILL OF GOD AND THEN SEE THE GLORY OF DOING GOD'S WILL; AND THEN I WANT US TO DEDICATE OURSELVES TO DOING THE WILL OF GOD.

I. HOW TO LEARN GOD'S WILL- MARTIN DE HAAN II IN HIS BOOK ENTITLED "HOW CAN I KNOW WHAT GOD WANTS ME TO DO?" LISTS A NUMBER OF METHODS PEOPLE USE TO DETERMINE GOD'S WILL:

1. FLEECES (ASKING GOD FOR A SUPERNATURAL SIGN)
2. FLIPPING COINS (LEAVING IT TO "CHANCE")
3. FEELINGS (OBEYING YOUR FEELINGS IN SPITE OF LOGIC)
4. FLOUNDERING (FISHING EVERYWHERE FOR ANSWERS)
5. DEFAULTING (LETTING EVENTS DECIDE)
6. DIPPING (RANDOM BIBLE READINGS)
7. DELEGATING (LETTING OTHERS DECIDE FOR YOU)
8. DREAMING (ASKING FOR A VISION OR A VOICE)
9. SLIDING (TAKING THE COURSE OF LEAST RESISTANCE)
10. THINKING (USING LOGIC IN SPITE OF FEELINGS)

WE MUST REALIZE THAT WE HAVE Warring FACTORS WITHIN US ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE EVERY DECISION WE MAKE- GAL 5:17 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. THAT MEANS WE NEED TO LOOK AT SOME BASIC RULES FOR DETERMINING WHAT GOD WANTS US TO DO.

1. ACKNOWLEDGE THAT GOD IS GOD- PROV 3:5-6 Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE GOD WHEN WE:

- (1) DEMONSTRATE TRUST [WANT TO KNOW HIS WILL BECAUSE IT'S BEST],
- (2) PRACTICE SUBMISSION [WILLING TO ACCEPT WHATEVER HIS WILL IS],
- (3) GIVE OURSELVES TO PRAYER [ASK FOR HIS WILL TO BE SHOWN US],
- AND (4) LIVE IN OBEDIENCE TO HIM [DO WHAT HE TELLS US TO DO]

ALAN REDPATH SAID "DON'T EXPECT GOD TO REVEAL HIS WILL FOR YOU NEXT WEEK UNTIL YOU PRACTICE IT FOR TODAY."

2. ACCEPT THE BIBLE- DEUT 4:1-2 Now therefore hearken, O Israel, unto the statutes and unto the judgments, which I teach you, for to do them, that ye may live, and go in and possess the land which the Lord God of your fathers giveth you. Ye shall not add unto the word which I command you, neither shall ye diminish ought from it, that ye may keep the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you.

A) THERE ARE SOME THINGS THAT THE BIBLE SPECIFICALLY SAYS

1. TO DO- 10 COMMANDMENTS, TEACHINGS OF JESUS, EPISTLES

2. NOT TO DO- KILL, STEAL, COMMIT ADULTERY, ETC.

B) THERE ARE A NUMBER OF PRINCIPLES LISTED IN THE BIBLE:

REGARDING YOUR RICHES, REPUTATION, ETC.

REMEMBER- (1) GOD WILL NEVER ASK YOU TO DO ANYTHING THAT VIOLATES HIS WORD. (2) KNOW THE CONTEXT OF THE SCRIPTURE (IF IT'S QUOTING THE DEVIL OR A MAN THEN REALIZE THAT- SATAN TRIED TO GET JESUS TO DO WRONG BY MISAPPLYING SCRIPTURE).

3. ACQUIRE WISDOM- PROV 4:11-13 I have taught thee in the way of wisdom; I have led thee in right paths. When thou goest, thy steps shall not be straitened; and when thou runnest, thou shalt not stumble. Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go; keep her; for she is thy life.

1- WHAT ARE THE ALTERNATIVES IN YOUR SITUATION?

2- WHAT ARE THE ASPECTS OF YOUR SITUATION?

3- WHAT ARE YOUR ABILITIES TO DO THE SITUATION?

4. ASK COUNSEL- PROV 12:15 The way of a fool is right in his own eyes; but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.

1- OTHERS MAY HAVE EXPERIENCE IN YOUR SITUATION

2- OTHERS CAN BE MORE OBJECTIVE OF YOUR SITUATION

3- OTHERS MAY HAVE MORE WISDOM IN DEALING WITH YOUR SITUATION

SOME PARTING ADVICE -DON'T EXPECT GOD TO "TIE YOUR SHOES FOR YOU"-- GOD IS NOT GOING TO MOVE HEAVEN AND EARTH TO HELP YOU DECIDE BETWEEN A PINK AND BLUE SWEATER!!

-DON'T EXPECT "INSTANTANEOUS ANSWERS": ABRAHAM KNEW GOD'S WILL FOR 25 YEARS BEFORE IT CAME TO PASS

-REALIZE THAT GOD GIVES HUMANS A VAST AMOUNT OF "FREEDOM": GOD MAY DIRECT YOU TO BUY A CAR BUT ALLOW YOU TO CHOSE BETWEEN A FORD AND CHEVY

## II. GLORY OF GOD'S WILL

1. CONFIDENCE IN GOD'S CARE II TIM 1:12

A) YOU CAN TRUST HIM AS MASTER- GOES BEFORE SHEEP

B) YOU CAN TRUST AS FRIEND- CALLS BY NAME, NUMBERS HAIRS ON HEAD

2. IT BRINGS JOY IN YOUR LIFE- PS 40:8 I Delight to do thy will O Lord NOT AN ADDITION TO LIFE, BUT A COURSE OF LIFE.

DO YOU DESIRE TO DO GOD'S WILL FOR YOU TODAY?? ARE YOU WILLING TO BE A FOOL FOR CHRIST (I COR 4:10)?? SALVATION INVOLVES SUBMITTING. HAVE YOU??



## THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Is 6:1-8

1. WORSHIP IS THE HIGHEST, MOST ESSENTIAL ACT OR CALLING OF AN INDIVIDUAL OR CHURCH. IT IS THE ONE THING WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO EVEN IN HEAVEN- REV 4:10-11 The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him that liveth for ever and ever, and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created.

2. WORSHIP IS NOT PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES; IT IS NOT MEASURED IN TERMS OF ACHIEVEMENT (WE MEASURE IN TERMS OF DOING, MAKING, ENLARGING; GOD MEASURES IN TERMS OF RELATIONSHIP)

3. WE LIKE TO FOCUS ON OURSELVES- Is 2:8 Their land is full of idols: they worship the works of their own hands, that which their own fingers have made.- BUT REAL WORSHIP IS FOCUSING ON GOD. IT TAKES TIME TO "CLEAR THE WORLD OUT OF OUR EYES" BUT ONCE WE REALLY SEE GOD IT'S WORTH ALL THE WAIT AND WORK.

ISAIAH 6 SHOWS US TWO OF THE MOST IMPORTANT PARTS OF WORSHIP:

### 1. THE ATMOSPHERE OF WORSHIP- Is 6:1-8 I CHRON 16:23-29

#### A. OUTWARD ATMOSPHERE- KING UZZIAH DIED.

1) DEPENDENCE- ISAIAH HAD DEPENDED ON UZZIAH BUT NOW HE WAS LOOKING TO GOD. A MAJOR HINDRANCE TO WORSHIP IS OUR DEPENDENCE ON OTHERS INSTEAD OF DEVELOPING A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD. (HOW MANY PEOPLE DEPEND ON THE PREACHER TO DO ALL THE STUDY AND PRAYING AND THEN WONDER WHY HE'S MORE EXCITED THAN THEY ARE).

2) DESPERATION- MANY TIMES IT TAKES THIS DESPERATION TO BRING US TO GOD (THE WOMAN WITH THE ISSUE OF BLOOD HAD GIVEN UP ON THE DOCTORS AND HAD BECOME DESPERATE. JARIUS DIDN'T COME TO GOD UNTIL HIS DAUGHTER DIED. THE PROBLEM WITH THE LAODICEAN CHURCH WAS THAT THEY WERE COMFORTABLE IN THEIR SIN AND DIDN'T REALIZE THAT THEY WERE MAKING GOD SICK!!).

B. INWARD ATMOSPHERE- I SAW THE LORD. HE GOT HIS EYES OFF THE WORLD AND PUT THEM ON THE LORD. PRIDE AND POPULARITY FELL BEFORE THE DESIRE TO BE WITH THE LORD.

### 2. THE ACTS OF WORSHIP

A. EXULTATION OF GOD'S ATTRIBUTES (WHO HE IS, WHAT HE DOES)

B. CONFESSION OF SIN (NAME YOUR NEED- NOTE THAT ISAIAH SAID HE WAS A MAN OF UNCLEAN LIPS AND THAT'S WHAT GOD DEALT WITH)- REAL WORSHIP BRINGS US TO REALIZE HOW UNWORTHY WE ARE.

C. FORGIVENESS FROM GOD-

### 3. THE EFFECTS OF WORSHIP

A. HEARD VOICE OF GOD- JESUS SAID OVER AND OVER THAT MEN HAVE EARS TO HEAR AND HEAR NOT. DO WE HEAR GOD'S VOICE?? ARE WE LISTENING??

B. WORKED FOR GOD- YOU CANNOT COME INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND REMAIN UNCHANGED

DO YOU WORSHIP GOD; OR DO YOU ATTEND CHURCH??? DO YOU WORSHIP GOD; OR DO YOU SKIM A CHAPTER IN THE BIBLE SOMETIME??

## HOW TO WORSHIP GOD

I. ADMIRINGLY- Ps 29:2 Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness

A) REVERENT WORSHIP AS WE GLORIFY GOD

B) REPENTANCE WORSHIP AS WE REALIZE THE NEED OF HOLINESS

II. ADORINGLY- PSA 95:1-7 O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms. For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. In his hand are the deep places of the earth: the strength of the hills is his also. The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. 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.

WE SHOULD WORSHIP IN SONGS AND TESTIMONIES ABOUT GOD AND HIS WORKS

III. ABSOLUTELY- MATT 4:10 Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve DON'T WORSHIP THE PEOPLE OR THE PREACHER; GET YOUR HEART IN TUNE WITH GOD.

IV. ACCEPTABLY- PHIL 3:3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

A) Worship God in the Spirit- See John 4:23-24- But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. FROM HEART; NOT JUST HEAD

B) Rejoice in Christ Jesus-

1. WHAT HE DID FOR US: SALVATION

2. WHAT HE'S DOING FOR US: INTERCEDING

3. WHAT HE'S GOING TO DO FOR US: "MARRY" US

C) Have no confidence in the flesh- Eph 2:7-10 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus. For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God; not of works, lest any man should boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

# GRACE And GLORY



Grace Free Will Baptist Church  
"To Know and To Show Christ"

BIBLE STUDY HOUR	10:00AM
MORNING EVANGELISTIC SERVICE (LIVE OVER WJOT)	11:00AM
EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE	6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICE	7:30 PM

MIRCHEAL JONES, PASTOR  
(803) 394-3725

VOL. V NUM 19 09/24/87 LAWRENCE STREET • PO BOX 1003 • LAKE CITY, S.C. • 29560

WHAT A TREMENDOUS DAY THE LORD GAVE US ON HOME COMING. I BELIEVE WE HAD THE LARGEST CROWD EVER AND THERE WAS A VERY GOOD SPIRIT ALL DAY LONG. IT WAS ONE OF THOSE VERY SPECIAL DAYS THAT WE'LL REMEMBER AND REJOICE IN FOR MANY DAYS TO COME. I REALLY APPRECIATE EVERYONE THAT HELPED PREPARE AND EVERYONE THAT PARTICIPATED IN THIS SERVICE.

NOW WE'VE GOT ANOTHER SPECIAL BLESSING LINED UP FOR THIS WEEK WHEN REV ODELL MUZON SPEAKS DURING THE MORNING SERVICE [I'LL BE SPEAKING AT "OLD FASHION" DAY AT TABERNACLE FWB CHURCH IN COWARD]. BROTHER ODELL IS AN EXCELLENT SPEAKER AND I'M SORRY I'LL MISS HEARING HIM BUT I REJOICE IN THE BLESSING HE'S GOING TO BE TO OUR CHURCH.

WE WELCOME A NUMBER OF NEW READERS TO OUR NEWSLETTER. OUR MAILING LIST IS FAST APPROACHING 600; AND WITH THE EXPANSION OF THE OTHER PHASES OF OUR OUTREACH MINISTRY, I'M BEING KEPT VERY VERY BUSY NOW. FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR NEW READERS LET ME GIVE A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THIS WORK. THE NAME "GRACE AND GLORY" COMES FROM GRACE FWB CHURCH AND GLORY TO HIS NAME (THE NAME OF THE 15 MINUTE RADIO PROGRAM WE USED TO HAVE). TO ME, IT ALSO SYMBOLIZES THE TWOFOLD NATURE OF MY WORK HERE- (1) TO BUILD A SOUND, BIBLE BASED CHURCH HERE IN LAKE CITY AND (2) TO REACH AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WITH THE GOOD NEWS OF CHRIST IN ORDER TO GET PEOPLE TO KNOW CHRIST AS SAVIOUR AND THEN TO SHOW HIM IN THEIR CHANGED LIVES. IT IS THE CHALLENGE OF A LIFE-TIME; AND ONE THAT I HAVE DEVOTED MY LIFE TO ACCOMPLISHING.

OUR METHOD OF ACCOMPLISHING THIS SECOND GOAL IS MAINLY BASED ON DISTRIBUTION OF NEWSLETTERS, BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS, AND SERMON TAPES. BUT IT ALSO INCLUDES HELPING NEEDY FAMILIES AS GOD PROVIDES (EMERGENCY FOOD, FUEL, ETC), AND PROMOTING BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE THRU PUBLICITY AND CONTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS (I TAPED 28 TAPES TODAY OF THE FIRST TWO WEEKS LESSONS TO DISTRIBUTE DURING CLASS SO THAT PEOPLE WHO MISSED ONE OR MORE OF THE CLASSES COULD CATCH UP. THESE TAPES, THEIR LABELS, AND THE MACHINE TO COPY THEM ALL CAME THRU THE OUTREACH MINISTRY. THE LESSONS I DISTRIBUTE DURING CLASS ARE TYPED ON THE OUTREACH COMPUTER, RUN OFF ON THE OUTREACH MEMO MACHINE, ON OUTREACH PAPER!). (CONTINUED ON BACK OF PAGE)

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GRACE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
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Lake City, S C 29560

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THE FINANCES FOR THE OUTREACH MINISTRY COME ENTIRELY FROM CONTRIBUTIONS; ALTHOUGH ONE OF THE "RULES" I GO BY IS THAT WE NEVER ASK FOR FUNDS, NOR DO WE SELL ANYTHING (OR GIVE BOOKS OR TAPES FOR A SPECIFIED CONTRIBUTION). I DAILY PRAY (AND HAVE A "PRAYER BAND" OF CHRISTIANS THAT PRAY) FOR GOD'S SUPPLY OF OUR NEEDS. WHEN HE DOES THEN WE USE THAT AND WAIT ON HIM TO SUPPLY MORE. WE EXPAND AS FAR AND AS FAST AS GOD WANTS; AND ONLY AS FAR AND AS FAST AS HE WANTS.

THE STORY OF GOD'S SUPPLY FOR THIS WORK WOULD MAKE A "BEST SELLER" AS WEEK AFTER WEEK GOD MIRACULOUSLY MEETS THE NEEDS (IT TAKES FROM \$100 TO \$150 PER WEEK TO OPERATE RIGHT NOW AND SOMEHOW THAT AMOUNT ALWAYS COMES IN). TIME WON'T PERMIT ME TO TELL ALL THE DETAILS ABOUT OUR \$10 MEMO MACHINE (WORTH SEVERAL THOUSAND DOLLARS) THAT WAS GIVEN TO US, OR THE \$2500 COMPUTER GOD GAVE US, OR THE \$300 TAPE COPIER 2 OF THE DEACONS IN THE CHURCH GAVE ME, OR THE \$500 BINDER MACHINE GOD GAVE THRU ONE OF OUR READERS, AND ON AND ON IT GOES. THEN THERE ARE THE "NORMAL" NEEDS OF POSTAGE (AROUND \$50 PER MAILING), PAPER, INK, STENCILS, STAPLES, ETC THAT COME ABOUT FROM MAILING THE NEWSLETTER, PUTTING TOGETHER AND MAILING BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS, AND MAILING TAPES. I'LL BE FRANK WITH YOU, SOMETIMES WHEN I LOOK AT OUR EVER EXPANDING NEEDS I GET A LITTLE SCARED--BUT THE LORD IGNORES MY FEAR AND FOCUSES ON MY FAITH AND MEETS THE NEEDS WEEK AFTER WEEK [ALLOWING US TO DISTRIBUTE HUNDREDS OF BIBLE STUDY BOOKLETS, THOUSANDS OF TAPES, AND TENS OF THOUSANDS OF NEWSLETTERS IN THE PAST 3 YEARS].

SOME OF THE MOST RECENT "NEED-MEETERS" HAVE BEEN: BUCK AND PATRICIA FLOWERS OF CONWAY; REV RON MOORE (MISSIONARY TO IVORY COAST); MRS LOIS MIXON OF WEBSTER, FLA; MRS LUCILE STUCKEY OF CENTRAL, SC; AND THE CONTINUED FAITHFUL SUPPORT OF BILL AND ELISE MCBRIDE AND BILLIE ARD. THANKS ALSO FOR MEMORIALS GIVEN BY QUIDA EVANS AND MR AND MRS RICKY MATTHEWS IN MEMORY OF DREW LOWDER.

ALSO THANKS TO THE FOLKS AT SHILOH FWB CHURCH IN BRATT, FLA FOR DONATING A USED MEMO MACHINE AND FOLDER TO THIS WORK. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO GO GET IT SOON (THEY DON'T KNOW IT YET BUT SOMEBODY IN BRATT HAS ALSO "DONATED" A SHRIMP SUPPER TO THIS PREACHER!! I WANT SOME GUMBO AND FRIED SHRIMP--AND NO ONE TO MENTION THE WORD GLUTTONY!!).

I HOPE TO HAVE AS MANY COPIES AS POSSIBLE OF AS MANY BOOKLETS AS POSSIBLE TO DISTRIBUTE DURING THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE MEETING HERE AT GRACE ON FRIDAY, OCT. 2. THANKS TO MRS. ANNE MCKNIGHT FOR HER HELP IN TYPING AND PUTTING TOGETHER THESE BOOKLETS. SO FAR WE HAVE "NEHEMIAH", "JAMES", "GALATIANS", AND "I TIMOTHY" ALREADY READY. WE HAVE ALMOST COMPLETED REVISING "REVELATION" AND HOPE TO HAVE IT READY THIS WEEK. (THESE BOOKLETS ARE CHAPTER BY CHAPTER NOTES ON EACH BOOK. THEY ARE AVAILABLE TO ANYONE DESIRING THEM SIMPLY FOR THE ASKING). ALSO AVAILABLE ARE OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY (NOTES ON EVERY BOOK OF THE OLD TESTAMENT) AND ESCHATOLOGY (STUDY OF END TIME EVENTS) BUT THESE ARE DISTRIBUTED THRU BETHEL BIBLE INSTITUTE.

THE PAST HAS BEEN GREAT, THE PRESENT IS WONDERFUL, AND THE FUTURE IS EXCITING. THANK GOD HE SAVED ME AND ALLOWED ME TO SERVE HIM. LET ME KNOW IF I CAN HELP YOU TO KNOW OR TO SHOW CHRIST.

Preacher Mike

# TITHING

FIRST MENTIONED IN GEN 14:18-20 WHEN ABRAHAM PAID TITHES OF ALL HE RECAPTURED OF SODOM'S GOODS TO MELCHIZEDEK

1. WHAT IS A TITHE? 10%-- COMPARE GEN 14:18-20 TO HEB 7:2

IN GEN 28:16-22 JACOB PROMISED TO PAY GOD A TENTH OF ALL THAT GOD GAVE HIM.

2. HOW MUCH DO YOU TITHE ON? SHOULD YOU PAY TITHES ON GROSS OR NET? DO YOU WANT A GROSS OR NET BLESSING???

LEV 27:30-33 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD's: it is holy unto the LORD. And if a man will at all redeem ought of his tithes, he shall add thereto the fifth part thereof. And concerning the tithe of the herd, or of the flock, even of whatsoever passeth under the rod, the tenth shall be holy unto the LORD. He shall not search whether it be good or bad, neither shall he change it: and if he change it at all, then both it and the change thereof shall be holy; it shall not be redeemed.

DEUT 14:22 Thou shalt truly tithe all the increase of thy seed, that the field bringeth forth year by year.

MATT 23:23 Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees; hypocrites! for ye pay tithes of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone.

3. WHERE SHOULD YOUR TITHES BE GIVEN?

A) To God's House-Deut 12:5-6 But unto the place which the Lord your God shall choose out of all your tribes to put his name there, even unto his habitation shall ye seek, and thither thou shalt come: and thither ye shall bring your burnt offerings, and your sacrifices, and your tithes, and heave offerings of your hand, and your vows, and your free-will offerings, and the firstlings of your herds and of your flocks:

B) To Promote God's Work- II Chron 31:4-5 Moreover he commanded the people that dwell in Jerusalem to give the portion of the priests and the Levites, that they might be encouraged in the law of the Lord. And as soon as the commandment came abroad, the children of Israel brought in abundance the first fruits of corn, wine, and oil, and honey, and of all the increase of the field; and the tithe of all things brought they in abundantly.

C) To Help the Poor- Deut 26:12 When thou hast made an end of tithing all the tithes of thine increase the third year, which is the year of tithing, and hast given it unto the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow, that they may eat within thy gates, and be filled;

\*\*\*IF IT IS PERMISSIBLE TO PAY SOME OF YOUR TITHES TO THE NEEDY INSTEAD OF THE CHURCH THEN WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES FOR KNOWING WHEN TO GIVE, HOW TO GIVE, AND WHAT TO GIVE??

ARE YOU PROMOTING LAZINESS?? (II THESS 3:10-12)

YOU CAN'T GIVE TO EVERY NEED SO HOW DO YOU DECIDE WHICH TO GIVE TO?

## WHAT HAPPENS WHEN PEOPLE NEGLECT TO PAY THEIR TITHES?

A) The Work of God goes lacking- Neh 13:10-12 And I perceived that the portions of the Levites had not been given them: for the Levites and the singers, that did the work, were fled every one to his field. Then contended I with the rulers, and said, Why is the house of God forsaken? And I gathered them together, and set them in their place. Then brought all Judah the tithe of the corn and the new wine and the oil unto the treasures.

B) You are placed under a curse from God- MAL 3:8-12 Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings. Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation. Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts. And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the LORD of hosts.

SHOULD CHURCHES TITHE THEIR TITHES?~ NUM 18:25-26 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, Thus speak unto the Levites, and say unto them, When ye take of the Children of Israel the tithes which I have given you from them for your inheritance, then ye shall offer up an heave offering of it for the Lord, even a tenth part of the tithe.

A FINAL WORD OF WARNING: THE PHARISEE THOUGHT HE WAS RIGHTEOUS BECAUSE HE PAID TITHES BUT GOD SAID A "PAYING HEAD" IS NOT A "PRAYING HEART" AND HE WANTS MORE THAN YOUR MONEY~ LUKE 18:9-14

II COR 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

## SOME OFTEN ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT TITHING

1. WHAT ABOUT DISASTERS AND TITHES? IF YOU GET IN A BIND IS IT ALL RIGHT TO "SKIP" TITHING? TITHES ARE YOUR FIRST-FRUITS. I'D RATHER OWE THE ELECTRIC COMPANY THAN GOD
2. WHEN YOU PAY TITHES ON YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY AND TAXES IS IT DOUBLE TITHES TO PAY TITHES WHEN YOU BEGIN TO DRAW SOCIAL SECURITY? TECHNICALLY, MAYBE. LOVINGLY, NOT A PROBLEM. (UNLESS YOU ARE SELF EMPLOYED YOU PAY ONLY 1/2 OF YOUR SS; YOUR EMPLOYER PAYS THE REST).
3. MUST YOU PAY TITHES ON MONEY BORROWED TO PAY DEBTS? IT DEPENDS ON WHETHER IT'S FOR ADVANCEMENT OR INVESTMENT. (ADVANCEMENT IS A FARMER BORROWING MONEY TO LIVE ON UNTIL HIS CROPS COME IN- HE OWES TITHES ON EVERYTHING HE MAKES. THE ADVANCEMENT CAN'T BE DEDUCTED. AN INVESTMENT IS A MAN BORROWING MONEY TO BUY SOMETHING FOR RESALE OR INVEST IN SOMETHING- HE OWES TITHES ON THE PROFIT).
4. WHAT IF YOU DISLIKE THE PREACHER? SHOULD YOU WITHHOLD YOUR TITHES? YOU GIVE YOUR TITHES TO THE LORD, NOT THE PREACHER. IF HE IS PREACHING FALSE DOCTRINE THEN THAT NEEDS TO BE DEALT WITH BY THE CHURCH; IF IT IS A PERSONALITY PROBLEM BETWEEN YOU AND THE PREACHER THEN YOU NEED TO DEAL WITH THAT FACE TO FACE. [I CAN'T HOLD BACK MY ELECTRIC BILL BECAUSE I DON'T LIKE THE LOOKS OF THE CLERK WHERE I PAY MY BILL!].

## V. GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICAL CHURCH DUTIES- CHAPTER 5:1-16

PAUL NOW GOES FROM PRINCIPLES TO PRACTICAL CHRISTIAN LIVING. EVERY ONE OF HIS EPISTLES IS LIKE THIS. HE REALIZES THAT WHAT YOU BELIEVE DETERMINES WHAT YOU DO AND SO HE BUILDS PRACTICE ON PRINCIPLES.

A) Relationships with various Ages vs 1-2

1. Elder Men: They are to be treated with respect even when they err. Learn not to disregard and criticize the counsel of the elderly. If they do make a mistake deal with them as you would with your own father.

2. Younger Men: As brothers in Christ we should respect one another, love one another, and accept one another's differences.

3. Elder Women: Treat them with love and respect as you would your own mother.

4. Younger Women: Let your relationship be as if they were a sister; with the strictest regard to purity.

Intra-personal relationships probably cause more church problems than anything else. Christians need to realize their responsibilities to one another and live together as the Body of Christ.

B) Rules for Normal Help vs 3-8 Paul is specifically referring to widows here but the basic guidelines are such that the Church can follow them today in it's help for the needy.

1. Family- The family of the person in need should care for that person if at all possible (If she is a "widow indeed"- therefore no family- then support should be given to her). Paul lists first the children and then the grandchildren (Nephews in Old English usage). The family is God's basic unit and they should draw support from each other.

2. Faith- A widow deserving help is one who doesn't have Family help (either because they can't or won't). She looks now to God for help (and He helps thru His People!), she prays, and she adjusts her lifestyle to her condition (to live in pleasure means to live delicately: therefore expecting life's luxuries).

3. Folly- When a Christian fails to provide for his own family (when able) he has denied the very foundation of Christianity- I John 3:17 *whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?* (Jesus even condemned those who gave their possessions to the Church instead of caring for their family as they were supposed to- Matt 15:3-9 (Not normal tithes). NOTE-- The words "provide for" here carry the idea of future consideration. They mean that the person should not only care for the immediate needs of the family but should also plan for future needs- Retirement, School, illness, etc. (Which means it's alright for it to frustrate me when a family calls and says they are on the way from "Point A" to "Point B" and have run out of money but when I question them find they didn't have enough to make the trip when they started!! Or find that people have just bought an expensive luxury and then need help paying their light bill that they knew was coming).

The Church should have an ACTIVE program of help for those who are truly in need. But any program should not foster Laziness (II Thess 3:10), take advantage of people's goodness, or breakdown family responsibility.

C) Requirements of a Church Aid Program vs 9-16 There was no Social Security or Government aid program in Paul's day so it was very difficult for Widows to provide their own living.

1. The Qualifications for enrollment (Evidently the Church had a program of aid that allowed Widows to minister in and for the Church and in turn the Church would take care of them. These widows were enrolled on a list and help was given to everyone on the list-- the original reason for Deacons was to make sure each Widow was cared for).

- a. A Widow over 60 years old
- b. Must have a good reputation
- c. Must have had a good Home Life

1) Not Divorced (this leads some to believe that these women served as some form of Deaconess. But it's probably just God's way of re-affirming the sanctity of marriage).

2) Raised Children- If she is to "teach young women" proper home life (Tit 2:4) then she must have had a proper home life

d. Hospitable- "Lodged Strangers"! Willing to be sociable (Her circumstances may force her to live with others)

e. Serving- "Washed the saints' feet". Not just a Free Will Baptist!!! Willing to serve for Christ's sake.

f. Caring- "Relieved the afflicted"

g. Faith- "DILIGENTLY followed every good work"

## 2. Those to Refuse:

a. Younger Widows. They can and should remarry. If they join with the older widows problems will result because:

1) The younger Widows will become restless and want to remarry thus nullifying their commitment to full time service for Christ.

2) They will allow their free time to become idle time and fill it with gossip instead of spreading the Gospel. (Today we would say that women who spend time gossiping on the phone or watching "soap operas" need to find something constructive to do).

### 3) Advice for Younger Widows:

- Remarry
- Have Children
- Guide the house (Manage the house as a Ministry)
- Don't allow your life to help Satan's cause.

b. Those who have Family to support them. If those who can support their widows would do so then the Church would be more able to help those truly in need.

The idea is to help the person Spiritually as well as Physically. Don't let your help cause the person to develop a careless Spiritual outlook or manner of life.

## Things to Think on:

1. The Lord's Rules for help seem to be harder than most people's. (Remember that it was 3 days before Jesus decided to feed the 4000- Mark 8:2-3)

2. The main condemnation of the Rich man was that he fared sumptuously every day while Lazarus did without at the gate-Lu 16:19

3. God provided the Children of Israel Manna but He required them to harvest it, and that on a set schedule.



**"THE CHRISTIAN'S WEALTH"**

EPHESIANS 1:1-14

EPHESIANS IS ONE OF THE GREATEST BOOKS IN THE BIBLE. IT SHOULD BE READ AND STUDIED OFTEN. IT HAS 3 MAIN DIVISIONS: 1) OUR WEALTH IN CHRIST [1-3]; 2) OUR WALK AS CHRISTIANS [4:-6:9]; AND 3) OUR WARFARE AS CHRISTIANS [6:10-24]. PAUL BEGINS THIS LETTER WITH DOCTRINE AND GOES TO DUTY (HE KNEW THAT WHAT YOU BELIEVE DETERMINES WHAT YOU DO).

PAUL STARTS THIS LETTER BY DESCRIBING THE WEALTH WE HAVE AS CHRISTIANS. HE DOES THIS BY SHOWING WHAT GOD DID FOR US AND THEN SHOWS WHAT WE RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF THAT.

### I. CHOSEN BY THE FATHER (3-7) WHY? "To the Praise of the glory of His Grace" vs 6

Paul describes this Wealth in relationship to:

A) Our Possessions- We have been Blessed with all Spiritual Blessings in heavenly places in Christ. We have heavenly wealth today! (Remember that God paves His streets with Gold and "Throws" jewels on His walls. Real wealth is Joy, Peace, etc)

B) Our Position- Chosen us in Christ

1. When: before the foundation of the world

2. Why: that we should be holy and without blame before him in love

We are "accepted in the beloved" vs 6 Only He WOULD accept sinful creatures like us!! (Salvation is not a REWARD for Faith but a RESULT of God's Grace. God chose us before we ever chose Him!! We do not force God to accept us; we, by Faith, accept the fact that HE has chosen us.)

C) Our Predestination- "For He foreordained us (destined us, planned in love for us) to be adopted (revealed) as His own children through Jesus Christ, in accordance with the purpose of His will- because it pleased Him and was His kind intent;" (vs 5 amp bible) God determined from the beginning to make us full grown sons in Christ! [Divine Election: Chosen and Predestinated simply means that God determined from the beginning to accept all who come to Him by Faith in Christ. In His all knowing Knowledge He knew who this would be but His knowledge did not cause it to be. Whosoever WILL May come and be saved].

### II. REDEEMED BY THE SON (8-12) Why? "That we should be to the Praise of His glory" vs 12 Our Wealth in Christ is:

A) Payment for our Sins- "Redemption through his blood"

B) Pardon for our Sinfulness- "The forgiveness of sins". How much Forgiveness? "according to the riches of his grace". That's Rich!!

C) Provision for our Service- Abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence (Practical insight and understanding) Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself;

D) Plans for our future- That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in Him. IN WHOM WE HAVE OBTAINED AN INHERITANCE.

### III. SEALED BY THE SPIRIT 13-14 Why? "unto the praise of his glory"

A) The Spirit is God's "Brand" on his Children (See Rom 8:9)

B) The Spirit is God's "Earnest" (Down payment) on our inheritance until we finally arrive in God's presence.

So the Spirit Marks us as God's Property and guarantees God's Purchase of us.

WHY DO WE LIVE IN SUCH POVERTY OF DEPRESSION AND DISPAIR WHEN GOD HAS PROMISED AND PROVIDED US SO MUCH WEALTH???

## "PAUL'S PRAYER FOR THE EPHESIANS"

EPH 1:15-23

I. THINGS PAUL PRAISED FOR vs 15-16 Fellow Saints (When's the last time you spent time praising God for fellow Christians??)

- A) Their Faith in The Saviour
- B) Their Love for Fellow Saints

II. THINGS PAUL PRAYED FOR vs 17-23

A) Revelation of the Person of Christ- That God may give unto you the spirit of Wisdom and Revelation in the knowledge of Him.

Christianity is not a Religion; it is a PERSON- Paul prayed that the Ephesian Church would "See" Christ to the point that they could KNOW Him [Paul later told the Philippian Church I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: Phil 3:8]. What a great difference it would make in the average Church if the members could really come to KNOW Christ. Sadly, today most Church members know Christ as some giver of Principles instead of as a Person they have a Relationship with.

B) Revelation of what we have in Christ- The Eyes of your understanding being enlightened. (Paul is not praying for us to get these things-- HE WANTS US TO SEE WE'VE ALREADY GOT THEM!!!)

1. A PROMISE TO CLING TO: Hope of His calling- Not a dream or a desire but the confidence of God's Call:

- a. on our life and
- b. His future Call for us to go home with Him.

2. A PRIVILEGE TO REST IN: Riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints- God thought we were worth Christ dying for!!! The world will be destroyed but God will "brag" about us.

3. A POWER TO WORK WITH: The exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe.

a. Resurrection power- which he wrought in Christ when he raised him from the dead. Even Enemy "Death" destroyed.

b. Conquering Power- hath put all things under his feet, Power to not only DEFEAT but also to DELIVER

C) Realization of our part in God's Plan- The Church is the Body of Christ; He is the Head and we are the working members of His Body (Christ did not simply "Conquer" a Sin cursed World; He set up a new order to show righteousness and God's Glory). Our Power and our Position (As recipients of God's Goodness) are a result of our relationship to Christ. The Church is not Great because of what it DOES but because of WHOSE IT IS!!

# GRACE & GLORY

GRACE FREE WILL  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
P O BOX 1003  
Lake City, S C  
Pastor Mike Jones

Vol 5 Num 20 Oct 12, 1987

"To Know & Show Christ"

The Lord continues to Bless our Church. During Church Conference Wednesday Night we decided to carpet the Sunday School rooms and hallway (A committee consisting of Marion Coker, Dot Sullivan, and Beth Broach was appointed to select several colors and styles of carpet to present to the Church to vote on). We also had an excellent Treasurer's report (Nearly \$550 in our General Fund- we're used to having \$15 and \$20!!! Of Course my people know me. They know that we'll start some project that will use that up before long. I don't believe in letting the Lord's Money lay around if there is something we can do with it).

Then on Thursday Night the Men's Fellowship had a fish fry (Supplied by Russel and Arnold Lowder) and made tentative plans to remodel the front of the Church to put the Choir behind the Pastor and make room for a new organ (We hope to get soon). I hope to have the plans drawn up soon so everyone can see just what we plan to do and then we can decide if we want to go ahead with the project.

In addition to adding Physical Projects the Lord continues to add new people to our "Family" and I'm excited about seeing what HE is doing. Sometimes I can hardly wait to see what's thru the next door!



**MEMORIALS:** I appreciate Memorials gifts to our Outreach Work given in Memory of BREW LOWDER by Mrs Billie Ard and Rev and Mrs. Ned Pattillo; in Memory of Mrs Mildred Oliver by Bill and Elise McBride; and in honor of the McBrides by Bruce Nixon and Helen Crisp. These gifts and those from Rev Larry McAllister, Mrs Hope Frye and Mrs Asaro, Bill Evans, Nandy Moore, Rev LeRoy Grant, and Mrs Anne McKnight have enabled me to give away numerous booklets plus buy a new program that allows me to mix pictures and words on the same page. I am just learning how to use it but I hope it will make the newsletter more attractive and interesting in the days to come. A very special THANKS to Rev Ned Pattillo for his gift to the work. Not only did he give an offering but he also gave a case of paper that I really needed to complete the printing of the Revelation Booklets (I now have 50 copies of chapter by chapter notes on Revelation that are ready for distribution to anyone desiring them).

Grace Free Will Baptist Church  
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One of the things that has been such a blessing to me in recent months has been the little "Extras" that I have seen being done by the church. Some of the more recent ones include:

I mentioned during Church Conference that we needed another coffee pot in the fellowship building-



immediately Mrs Beth Broach volunteered to purchase one.

One of the ladies mentioned that we needed new rockers in the Nursery. Mandy Moore sanded and painted a used one and placed it in the Nursery. We needed another so Ralph and Miriam McAllister bought a new one for us. Then Brother Ralph's Mother made new cushions for all the rockers in the Nursery!! And then made curtains for the Nursery Windows to match the cushions!!!!!! (No wonder Brother Ralph is such a blessing-- with a mom like that!).

Or how about the fact that

we mentioned during Prayer Meeting one night that the carpet in the Fellowship Building needed cleaning and Lew Gowdy called that very night and arranged for it to be done. Then he borrowed equipment and cleaned the lot beside the Church so the Parsonage would not infested with mosquitoes and snakes-- and it looks a lot better also.

On and on I could go--and each time it adds another "Brick" into the solidity of our fellowship and testimony. Thank God for good people.

\* \* \* \* \*

The quiz included in today's newsletter is one that I made up MANY years ago (I found it the other day while going thru some old notes). I used it to test the basic Bible knowledge of my people in various churches and I hope it will be an incentive to you to learn more about the Bible. If you need the answers let me know.

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In the process of writing this I have received several more gifts- Thanks to Rev Bill Poteat, Mrs. Lillian Broxton, and Mr Jack B. Hanna. I have been needing a new file cabinet to put booklet notes in and I think I'll use this to begin looking for one.

**THANKS!!**

**FILL IN THE BLANKS:**

1. There are \_\_\_\_\_ books in the Bible. \_\_\_\_\_ in the Old Testament and \_\_\_\_\_ in the New Testament.
2. There are \_\_\_\_\_ books in the Bible containing only 1 chapter.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ wrote more books of the Bible than anyone else.
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Jesus was the first time all three parts of the trinity were manifested at one time.
5. Jacob's name was changed to \_\_\_\_\_
6. All Scripture is given by \_\_\_\_\_ of God. This means that God directed the writing of all Scripture.
7. The test of a true Prophet is that he's right \_\_\_\_\_ of the time.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ was a man after God's own heart.
9. The prophet who saw strange visions including wheels in wheels was \_\_\_\_\_.
10. My favorite verse in the Bible is \_\_\_\_\_

**TRUE OR FALSE:**

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. David was placed in the Lion's den because he prayed.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Job teaches us that all sickness is caused by sin.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. John the Baptist was Jesus' brother
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Paul was one of the most wicked and immoral of men before he was saved.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 5. Jesus frequently preached to Gentiles as well as Jews.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 6. Malachi and Matthew were neighbors.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 7. Paul's goal in life was to build the largest Church in Jerusalem
- \_\_\_\_\_ 8. Jesus said rejoice because your names are written in Heaven rather than because spirits are subject to you.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 9. God considers teaching more important than miracles or healings (I Cor 12:28).
- \_\_\_\_\_ 10. Since so many people have so many different opinions about the Bible all God requires is that a person be truly sincere in what they believe in order to be saved.

Rev Mircheal Jones

# MATCH THE PEOPLE WITH THE SENTENCE THAT BEST DESCRIBES THEM

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. ELIJAH_____           | A. I LED THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL FROM EGYPT TOWARD CANAAN.                                  |
| 2. NEHEMIAH_____         | B. MY LIFE IS TOLD ABOUT IN A BOOK OF THE BIBLE IN WHICH GOD IS NOT MENTIONED.             |
| 3. MOSES_____            | C. I WON A CONTEST ON MOUNT CARMEL AGAINST THE PROPHETS OF BAAL.                           |
| 4. ISAIAH_____           | D. I WAS KNOWN AS THE APOSTLE TO THE GENTILES.   |
| 5. JOSHUA_____           | E. I WAS A MINOR PROPHET WHO WAS A SHEPHERD AND DRESSER OF SYCAMORE FRUIT                  |
| 6. STEPHEN_____          | F. I WAS A CAPTIVE WHO RETURNED HOME AND LED IN REBUILDING MY CITY'S WALLS                 |
| 7. AMOS_____             | G. I WAS THE FORERUNNER OF THE LORD JESUS  |
| 8. PETER_____            | H. I WAS A DEACON WHO WAS KILLED BECAUSE I WITNESSED FOR CHRIST.                           |
| 9. JOHN THE BAPTIST_____ | I. I WAS A CALLED FISHERMAN WHO PREACHED SUCH A POWERFUL SERMON THAT THOUSANDS WERE SAVED. |
| 10. PAUL_____            | J. BECAUSE I WAS FAITHFUL TO GOD HE PROTECTED ME IN THE LION'S DEN.                        |
| 11. DANIEL_____          | K. MY BOOK HAS MORE TO SAY ABOUT THE COMING CHRIST THAN ANY OTHER OLD TESTAMENT BOOK.      |
| 12. ESTHER_____          | L. I BECAME THE LEADER OF GOD'S PEOPLE WHEN MOSES DIED.                                    |

\*\*\* \*\*

## CHECK THE CORRECT ANSWER:

- THE FIRST FIVE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE WERE WRITTEN BY \_\_\_\_\_ AND ARE CALLED:
  - THE APOCALYPSE\_\_\_\_\_
  - THE PENTATEUCH\_\_\_\_\_
  - THE KORAN\_\_\_\_\_
- GOD SELECTED A MAN TO FATHER A NATION FROM WHICH WOULD COME THE CHRIST. HE WAS
  - MOSES\_\_\_\_\_
  - DANIEL\_\_\_\_\_
  - ABRAHAM\_\_\_\_\_
- SIN ENTERED THE HUMAN RACE BECAUSE:
  - ADAM WAS NOT GIVEN ALL HE NEEDED\_\_\_\_\_
  - THE WOMAN DIDN'T LIKE BEING SUBJECT TO MAN\_\_\_\_\_
  - ADAM DISOBEYED GOD\_\_\_\_\_
- CHRIST WAS BORN IN:
  - BETHLEHEM\_\_\_\_\_
  - JERUSALEM\_\_\_\_\_
  - NAZARETH\_\_\_\_\_
- ALL OF THE GOSPELS CARRY THE STORY OF THE:
  - BIRTH OF CHRIST\_\_\_\_\_
  - RESURRECTION OF JESUS\_\_\_\_\_
  - SERMON ON THE MOUNT\_\_\_\_\_
  - ALL OF THE ABOVE\_\_\_\_\_

REV MIRCHEAL JONES

## SUPPER WITH GOD

REV 19:11-21

IF YOU WERE TO RECEIVE A HAND WRITTEN, FANCILY ENGRAVED INVITATION TO HAVE SUPPER AT THE WHITE HOUSE WITH THE PRESIDENT YOU WOULD PROBABLY BE TREMENDOUSLY EXCITED AND HONORED. YET WHEN GOD INVITES YOU TO SUPPER WITH HIM MOST PEOPLE EITHER IGNORE OR EVADE THE INVITATION (WHEN WE ANNOUNCED COMMUNION RECENTLY WE HAD THE LOWEST ATTENDANCE WE HAVE HAD IN YEARS!!). I WANT TO LOOK AT SOME OF THE SUPPERS THE LORD IS INVITING US TO TODAY AND THEN SEE THE TRAGIC RESULTS OF REFUSING TO ACCEPT HIS INVITATION.

**THE MARRIAGE SUPPER OF THE LAMB-** REV 19:9 And he saith unto me, Write, Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb. And he saith unto me, These are the true sayings of God.

A) When will it take place: The Rapture has taken Place- Christ has claimed His bride from the Earth. While the Tribulation is going on He has judged "Her" at the Judgement Seat of Christ. Now the marriage party is returning to the earth to celebrate the wedding

B) Who is Invited?- The Blood washed Saints who have lived for the Lord- Rev 19:7-8 Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints. BORN AGAIN BY FAITH IN CHRIST, THESE HAVE SHOWN THEIR FAITH BY THEIR FAITHFUL LIVING, AND NOW THEIR WEDDING GARMENT IS THEIR WORKS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.

WILL YOU BE AT THE WEDDING FEAST? FACING WRATH ON THE WORLD? OR IN THE HORRORS OF HELL?

**THE "FEAST OF THE FALLEN"-** REV 19:17-18 And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all men, both free and bond, both small and great.

A) When Will this take Place? At the end of the Tribulation AntiChrist's Army will attempt to destroy Jerusalem and the Jews. Just with all seems hopeless Christ will return and destroy this army. What does this mean to you: America is Doomed- Aids, Abortion, Apathy among Christians, and an Attitude of defiance toward God in Society means God's wrath will come soon descend on America. Many who consider themselves rich and increased with goods and in need of nothing will find themselves without Help or Hope as God's Judgment falls. No one can continue to rebel against God and expect to "Get by with it".

B) Who is Invited? All the Fowls of the air- to eat the flesh of those who continue to rebel against God

**THE "LORD'S SUPPER"**- I Cor 11:23-26 For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped; saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER IS:**

A) A SYMBOLIC OBSERVANCE- BREAD= BODY CUP= SHED BLOOD

B) A COMMANDED OBSERVANCE- THIS DO

C) A MEMORIAL OBSERVANCE- IN REMEMBRANCE OF ME (CHRIST)

D) A CONTINUING OBSERVANCE- TIL HE COME

A) When Does this take Place? Regular enough to be a witness

B) Who is Invited? Every Christian. [Careful if not a Christian- I Cor 11:27-30 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are weak and sickly among you, and many sleep.]

**THE REFUSED INVITATION-** LUKE 14: 16-24 Then said he unto him, A certain man made a great supper, and bade many: And sent his servant at supper time to say to them that were bidden, Come; for all things are now ready. And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come. So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. And the lord said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled. For I say unto you, That none of those men which were bidden shall taste of my supper.

A) THE EXCUSES- SOME FOR NOT COMING

SOME FOR NOT GOING TO INVITE MEN TO COME

B) THE EXPLANATION- NONE OF THOSE MEN WHICH WERE BIDDEN SHALL TASTE OF MY SUPPER.

THERE ARE 3 MAJOR "SUPPERS WITH GOD" MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE: MARRIAGE, MASSACRE, OR MEMORIAL. WHICH ONE WILL YOU ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO?? OR WILL YOU MAKE EXCUSE UNTIL GOD SETS YOU ASIDE AND GIVES YOUR INVITATION TO SOMEONE ELSE?



**PAUL'S POSSESSION PRAYER**

EPH 3:13-21

PAUL HAS BEEN TELLING THE EPHESIANS ABOUT THEIR WEALTH IN CHRIST, THE WONDER OF SALVATION, AND THE WAY INTO THE CHURCH. HE NOW CLOSES THE FIRST HALF OF HIS EPISTLE WITH A TREMENDOUS PRAYER THAT THE EPHESIANS WOULD POSSESS THE WONDERFUL WEALTH OF CHRIST INSTEAD OF SIMPLY PERCEIVE IT.

**I. THE REASON FOR THE PRAYER 13-15**

A) PAUL FEARED THAT THE EPHESIANS WOULD BEGIN TO "FAINT" BECAUSE OF THE TROUBLE HE WAS HAVING TO UNDERGO FOR HIS STAND FOR CHRIST (PERSECUTION FROM THE JEWS AND FROM THE ROMAN GOVERNMENT).

B) SO HE HUMBLY MAKES HIS PRAYER IN THE AUTHORITY OF THE NAME OF CHRIST of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named. JEW AND GENTILE HAVE ONLY ONE WAY TO HEAVEN AND FOR ANSWERED PRAYER AND THAT IS CHRIST. THEREFORE, WE MUST BE ONE!!

**II. THE RESULTS EXPECTED FROM THE PRAYER 16-19** IN PAUL'S PRAYER IN CHAPTER 1:15-23 HE WANTS THE PEOPLE "TO KNOW"; IN THIS PRAYER HE WANTS THEM "TO HAVE"- AND THERE ARE 3 THINGS HE WANTS THEM TO HAVE:

**1. STRENGTH vs 16-17A**

A. THE AMOUNT- ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GLORY

B. THE SOURCE- BY HIS SPIRIT IN THE INNER MAN

C. THE PURPOSE- THAT CHRIST MAY DWELL IN YOUR HEART BY FAITH (THAT IS WHY WE WANT TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT-- NOT TO BE "SUPER SAINTS", BUT TO HAVE CHRIST FEEL AT HOME IN OUR HEART!! THIS WILL RESULT IN THEM UNDERSTANDING AND OBTAINING THE POWER PAUL PRAYED FOR THEM TO KNOW ABOUT IN 1:19). IN PRACTICAL TERMS THIS MEANS IT IS NO LONGER "I" FIGHTING TEMPTATION, TRIALS, AND TROUBLES BUT CHRIST THAT DWELLS IN ME- AND THAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DEFEAT AND VICTORY

**2. STABILITY vs 17B- 19A**

A. ROOTED AND GROUNDED IN LOVE- TOWARD FELLOW SAINTS

B. REALIZE THE VASTNESS OF CHRIST'S LOVE, WHICH CAN ONLY BE KNOWN THRU PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP (NOT MENTAL ABILITY).

**3. SATURATION vs 19B-21 FILLED WITH ALL THE FULLNESS OF GOD!!**

(COL 2:9-10A For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily...and ye are complete (FILLED FULL) in Him, )

SO PAUL PRAYED FOR THE EPHESIANS TO KNOW THAT THEIR STRENGTH IS IN CHRIST, THEIR STABILITY IS IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST, AND THEIR GOAL SHOULD BE TO BE SATURATED WITH CHRIST

**III. THE REJOICING IN GOD'S ABILITY TO ANSWER 20-21**

1. GOD'S ABILITY- vs 20 IN AMP BIBLE: NOW TO HIM WHO, BY CONSEQUENCE OF THE ACTION OF HIS POWER THAT IS AT WORK WITHIN US, IS ABLE TO CARRY OUT HIS PURPOSE AND TO DO SUPERABUNDANTLY, FAR OVER AND ABOVE ALL THAT WE DARE ASK OR THINK- INFINITELY BEYOND OUR HIGHEST PRAYERS, DESIRES, THOUGHTS, HOPES OR DREAMS. WE CAN'T EVEN THINK ABOUT OR ASK AS MUCH AS GOD IS ABLE TO DO FOR US!!

2. GOD'S PRAISE- ALL THE POWER AND PROVISION GOD MAKES AVAILABLE IS OURS SO THAT WE CAN BRING GLORY TO GOD THROUGHOUT ALL AGES.

DO YOU SIMPLY KNOW ABOUT GOD'S WEALTH?? OR DO YOU POSSESS THE FULLNESS OF GOD??

## MEDICAL ETHICS

I. THE PLAN OF MAN. GEN 1:26-28 AS GOD IS 3 IN 1 (FATHER, SON, AND HOLY SPIRIT) SO HE MADE MAN 3 IN 1 (BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT-I THESS 5:23) AND PUT HIM IN CHARGE OF 3 KINDS OF CREATURES (FOWLS-AIR; FISH-WATER; AND FLESH-LAND). THUS WHEN WE SAY THAT MAN IS CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE IT DOES NOT MEAN THAT HE LOOKS LIKE GOD (OTHERWISE EVERYONE WOULD LOOK ALIKE). IT MEANS MAN REFLECTS THE "FORM" OF GOD.

WITH THIS IN MIND, REALIZE THAT WHEN A MAN DIES HIS BODY REMAINS HERE AND HIS SPIRIT GOES TO BE WITH THE LORD. HE WILL RECEIVE A NEW BODY AT THE RAPTURE THAT IS PERFECT. GOD EQUALLY SAVES A DEFORMED PERSON OR AN AMPUTEE JUST AS WILLINGLY AS HE DOES A "WHOLE" PERSON. [ALTHOUGH SUCH A PERSON COULD NOT BE A PRIEST- LEVITICUS 21: 16-23 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, Speak unto Aaron, saying, Whosoever he be of thy seed in their generations that hath any blemish, let him not approach to offer the bread of his God. For whatsoever man he be that hath a blemish, he shall not approach: a blind man, or a lame, or he that hath a flat nose, or any thing superfluous, Or a man that is brokenfooted; or brokenhanded, Or crookbacked, or a dwarf, or that hath a blemish in his eye, or be scurvy, or scabbed, or hath his stones broken; No man that hath a blemish of the seed of Aaron the priest shall come nigh to offer the offerings of the LORD made by fire: he hath a blemish; he shall not come nigh to offer the bread of his God. He shall eat the bread of his God, both of the most holy, and of the holy. Only he shall not go in unto the vail, nor come nigh unto the altar, because he hath a blemish; that he profane not my sanctuaries: for I the LORD do sanctify them. REMEMBER ALSO THAT THE SACRIFICES BROUGHT TO GOD MUST BE "WITHOUT BLEMISH"]

OUR BODIES ARE TO BE PRESENTED AS A "LIVING SACRIFICE" TO GOD (ROM 12:1) AND AS THE TEMPLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ARE TO BE KEPT HOLY (I COR 6:15-20). WE ARE THEREFORE NOT TO ABUSE OR MISUSE THEM.

## II. THE PROBLEMS WE ENCOUNTER

A) SHOULD WE REPLACE OUR ORGANS WITH ORGANS FROM OTHER ANIMALS- BABOON HEART IN A BABY, PIG VALVE IN YOUR HEART, ETC.

B) IS AN ARTIFICIAL HEARTS ANY DIFFERENT THAN ARTIFICIAL LIMBS?

C) IF A PERSON IS "BRAIN DEAD" SHOULD YOU "PULL THE PLUG" ON EQUIPMENT THAT IS BREATHING FOR THE PERSON (DID GOD START THE MAN'S BRAIN? OR BREATHE INTO HIM THE BREATH OF LIFE? WHEN IS A MAN "OFFICIALLY" DEAD IN GOD'S SIGHT??)

D) REPRODUCTION-

1. IS ABORTION RIGHT IF THE DOCTORS KNOW THE CHILD WILL BE DEFORMED? WHEN THE DOCTORS SAY YOU MUST CHOSE BETWEEN THE LIFE OF THE CHILD AND THE LIFE OF THE MOTHER, HOW DO YOU CHOSE? IS ABORTION RIGHT BECAUSE THE MOTHER IS YOUNG? "RETARDED"? FINANCIALLY UNABLE TO HANDLE THE CHILD?

2. IF THE DOCTORS CAN ALLOW YOU TO CHOSE THE SEX OF YOUR CHILD BY GENE MANIPULATION SHOULD YOU DO SO? WHAT ABOUT "TEST TUBE" BABIES? SURROGATE MOTHERS?

I COR 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

We are VERY  
HAPPY to Welcome  
Michelle McAllister  
as our New Church  
Clerk.

She is  
faithful



to the Church and  
it's activities and  
we appreciate her  
willingness to  
serve.

\*\*\*\*\*

FAMILY FUN  
NIGHT is scheduled  
for Wednesday Oct.  
28. We have

"Family Fun Night"  
instead of  
Halloween so we  
won't promote  
"Witches and  
demons" and such.  
Every family

brings a  
bag of  
candy,  
a soft  
drink,  
and



**AUTUMN**

some potato chips  
and the church  
supplies the Hot  
Dogs and buns and  
a good time is had  
by all. Hope Frye  
and Mandy Moore  
are in charge of  
the activities this  
year so we should  
have some  
"Exciting" Events.  
(Children are

allowed to wear  
costumes but we  
do ask that parents  
"Screen" them to  
make sure they  
give the proper  
example.)

We are having  
our Family Fun  
Night on Wednes-  
day this year  
instead of

Halloween because  
Halloween  
will be the



final day  
of the two day  
EVANGELISM  
CONFERENCE to be  
held at Horse  
Branch FWB  
Church in

Turbeville. This is  
a wonderful time  
of Preaching and  
singing and I hope  
many of you will  
attend these  
services.

\*\*\*\*\*

It won't be long  
until Christmas!!  
Mrs Sylvia Gowdy  
has been put in  
charge of our  
Christmas Play and  
we're looking for  
another great time  
in the Lord.



**G G  
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Vol 5 Num 21  
Oct 21, 1987

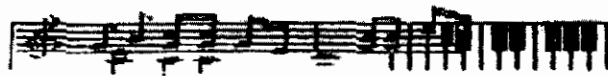
Grace Free Will  
Baptist Church

P O BOX 1003  
Lake City, SC

Pastor Mike Jones

**To KNOW &  
To SHOW  
CHRIST**

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For over 20 years Mrs Jackie Lowder has been a FAITHFUL Pianist for the Church. Her willingness to serve has been a tremendous example and help to the work of the Lord here and we appreciate her more than words will express. Now we are finally seeking to get her a little help. Several of the ladies in the Church have "Volunteered" to play for the Sunday School assembly on a rotating basis beginning this Sunday and I am VERY excited about this new phase of involvement. Our New "Part-time Pianist" are: Eulalia Jordan, Roxanna Young, Bonnie Lee, Connie Mathis, and Devonne Hanna. Pray for them as they work for the Lord.

Isn't it exciting seeing the Lord at work among His people!! I appreciate the many kind comments I have received from readers in the past few weeks. I pray the Lord will continue to use the newsletter to help you gain a greater knowledge of the Bible and a greater desire to serve the Lord. (Thanks to Rev Bill Poteat, Mr Jack B Hanna, and Mrs Lillian Broxton for their recent help with the work).

Till Next time. May the Lord Bless.  
Preacher Mike

(Brother Marion Coker shared this with me and I thought I'd share it with you)

#### TIME OUT TO LIVE!

The young mother stepped into a doctor's office carrying a little boy about a year old. She sat down across the desk from the physician and said, "Doctor, I want you to help me out of a problem. My little boy is only one year old, and I am pregnant again, and I don't want to have two children so close together."

The doctor thought for a moment and then said, "Well, what do you want me to do?" The mother said, "Why, I'd like to have an abortion, of course." The doctor sat silently thinking, then said, "I think I can suggest a better method for you. If you object to having two children so close together, let me just kill the child sitting on your lap, and let the other one live."

You see, it is so much easier to get at the one already born, and it makes no difference to me which one I kill. Besides, it would be dangerous for you if I undertake to kill the younger one."

Needless to say, the young mother jumped up, clutched her little boy to her, and began to scream, calling the doctor a murderer.

A few words from the doctor soon calmed the woman and convinced her that his offer to commit murder was no worse than her request for the destruction of her unborn child. The only difference would be in the age of the victim. Think about it! copied

*Jer 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.*

## SALVATION QUIZ

EITHER TRUE OR FALSE OR FILL IN THE BLANK

- \_\_\_ 1. THE GREAT PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE IS TO GIVE A HISTORY OF THE WORLD. (JN 20:31)
- \_\_\_ 2. IN JOHN 8:12 PETER IS CALLED THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
- \_\_\_ 3. ALL MEN ARE WILLING TO COME TO THE LIGHT OF JESUS (JN 3:19)
- \_\_\_ 4. THOSE WHO DO EVIL ARE AFRAID THAT THEIR EVIL DEEDS WILL BE REPROVED (JN 3:20)
- \_\_\_ 5. IF A MAN SINS HE IS A SERVANT OF SIN (JN 8:34)
- \_\_\_ 6. JESUS SAID IN JOHN 16:9 THAT NOT BELIEVING ON HIM IS A SIN
- \_\_\_ 7. ALL MEN ARE SINNERS (ROM 3:23)
- \_\_\_ 8. THE RESULT OF SIN IS DEATH (EZ 18:4 ROM 6:23)
- \_\_\_ 9. THE SINNER IS NOT UNDER CONDEMNATION NOW BUT WILL BE WHEN HE DIES (JN 3:18)
- \_\_\_ 10. CHRIST CAME TO CONDEMN YOU (JN 3:17)
- \_\_\_ 11. EVEN THOUGH MAN IS SINFUL GOD LOVES HIM (JN 3:16)
- \_\_\_ 12. BECAUSE CHRIST DIED FOR EVERYONE HE WILL AUTOMATICALLY SAVE EVERYONE (JN 8:24)
- \_\_\_ 13. JESUS WAS PROVED GUILTY OF SEVERAL FAULTS AT HIS TRIAL (JN 19:4 HEB 4:15)
- \_\_\_ 14. ROM 6:23 TEACHES ETERNAL LIFE IS A \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 15. YOU RECEIVE ETERNAL LIFE BY DOING MORE GOOD THINGS THAN BAD THINGS (EP 2:8-9 TIT 3:5)
- \_\_\_ 16. WHAT ARE YOUR "RIGHTEOUSNESSES" (GOOD WORKS) LIKE IN GOD'S SIGHT? (IS 64:6) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 17. IS THERE ANOTHER WAY TO GOD EXCEPT FAITH IN CHRIST'S SACRIFICE? (PROV 14:12 JN 14:6 ACTS 4:12)
- \_\_\_ 18. JESUS SAYS, BEHOLD, I STAND AT THE DOOR, AND KNOCK; IF ANY MAN HEAR MY VOICE, AND \_\_\_\_\_ THE DOOR, I WILL \_\_\_\_\_ IN TO HIM." (REV 3:20)
- \_\_\_ 19. IF YOU SAY, "I'LL TAKE MY PLACE AS A SINNER, FOR ALL HAVE SINNED (ROM 3:23) ; I TURN TO CHRIST, THE ONE WHO DIED IN MY PLACE (I PET 3:18) ; AND RECEIVE JESUS AS MY PERSONAL SAVIOUR (JN 1:12)". WILL HE SAVE YOU? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 20. HAVE YOU RECEIVE HIM ? \_\_\_\_\_ WHEN? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 21. DO YOU BELIEVE HE HAS SAVED YOU (JN 5:24) ? \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_ 22. WHAT DID JESUS TELL THE MAN IN MARK 5:19 TO DO ? \_\_\_\_\_

ROM 10:10 "For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

THERE IS NO NEED TO ASK IF IT'S GOD'S WILL FOR YOU TO BE SAVED FOR GOD *will* have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. (I TIM 2:4).

HERE ARE 4 THINGS YOU NEED TO BE TODAY:

1. BE CONCERNED- GOD ONLY SAVES LOST PEOPLE! AS LONG AS YOU ARE SATISFIED IN YOUR SIN THEN YOU'LL NEVER BE SAVED.
2. BE CONVINCED- THAT YOU CANNOT SAVE YOURSELF; AND THAT JESUS CAN AND WILL SAVE YOU
3. BE CLEANSED- BY ACCEPTING THE SACRIFICE OF CHRIST; ONLY HIS BLOOD CAN CLEANSE YOU.
4. BE COMMITTED- PUBLICLY, PERSONALLY, AND PERMANENTLY TO CHRIST

I HAVE LITERATURE TO HELP YOU GET STARTED IN YOUR NEW LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN. WRITE OR CALL ME (REV MIKE JONES, PO Box 1003, LAKE CITY, S C 29560 PHONE (803) 394-3725)

## HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN LIFE

PROV 4:20-27

LIFE IS A LOT LIKE A PERSON ABOUT TO TAKE A TRIP IN AN AUTOMOBILE. YOU NEED TO KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING, WHAT YOU'RE DOING, AND WHAT TO AVOID. SOLOMON GIVES US SOME OF THIS KIND OF ADVICE IN THIS PORTION OF SCRIPTURE.

1. GET WISDOM- PRO 4:20-22 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings. Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart. For they are life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh. LISTEN TO THOSE WHO HAVE MADE THE JOURNEY AHEAD OF YOU.

A) LISTEN TO THOSE GOD SENDS TO INSTRUCT YOU- PASTOR, TEACHER, PARENTS.

B) DON'T JUST LEARN WISDOM; PRACTICE IT!! (DON'T BE LIKE SOMEONE WHO READS THE MAP BUT NEVER TAKES A TRIP!)

2. KEEP YOUR HEART- PRO 4:23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. IF YOU DON'T TAKE CARE OF YOUR "CAR" IT WILL BREAK DOWN AND LEAVE YOU STRANDED.

A) BACKSLIDING BEGINS IN THE HEART. PROV 14:14

B) EVIL THOUGHTS, EVIL TALK, ETC COMES FROM THE HEART MATT 15:19

3. WATCH YOUR MOUTH- PRO 4:24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

WHEN YOU BREAK GOD'S "LAW OF THE LIPS" YOU GET A "TICKET" [WE WILL GIVE ACCOUNT FOR IDLE WORDS TO GOD- MATT 12:37].

4. KEEP YOUR GOAL IN SIGHT- PRO 4:25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE ROAD. WATCHING THE PEOPLE BESIDE THE ROAD MIGHT CAUSE YOU TO WRECK!! DON'T BE "WINDOW SHOPPING IN THE WORLD".

5. THINK ABOUT WHERE YOU'RE GOING- PRO 4:26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

A) DON'T GET TURNED AROUND BY FEELINGS. (MANY TIMES IT DOESN'T FEEL LIKE YOU'RE GOING "NORTH" BUT YOU TRUST THE SIGNS)

B) THE LONGER YOU TRAVEL AND SEE THAT THE MAP IS ACCURATE THE MORE YOU DEPEND ON IT. DON'T ARGUE WITH A SIGNPOST. (GOD'S WORD DOES NOT ALWAYS MAKE "SENSE" BUT IT'S ALWAYS RIGHT).

6. DON'T GET DISTRACTED- PRO 4:27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

A) BE AWARE OF "SHORT CUTS" THAT ACTUALLY DOUBLE YOUR JOURNEY. (ABRAHAM TOOK A "SHORT CUT" AND WE STILL REAP THE CONSEQUENCES)

B) DON'T QUIT BEFORE YOU REACH YOUR GOAL. WE'RE PILGRIMS HEADED HOME. SOMETIMES THE JOURNEY GETS LONG BUT IT'LL BE WORTH IT ALL WHEN WE GET TO OUR DESTINATION.

YOU CAN'T MAKE THE JOURNEY WITHOUT A "CAR". YOU GET IT AT CALVARY. AND IT'S A GREAT DEAL- GOD IS GIVING THEM AWAY!!!

## GOD AS FATHER

ISAIAH 64:8 But now, O Lord, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

THE GREATEST PRIVILEGE ANYONE COULD RECEIVE IS THE OPPORTUNITY TO CALL GOD "OUR FATHER".

### I. THE CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR FATHER

A) His Concern- A Father to the Fatherless- Ps 68:5 A father of the fatherless, and a judge of the widows, is God in his holy habitation. He cares about those in need.

B) His Character- A Holy Father- Matt 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Not only is He Holy but also His Home and His name are also

C) His Contribution- A Giving Father- Matt 7:11 If ye then, being evil, now how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him? Luke says these "good things" include the Holy Spirit! God gives us Himself.

D) His Compassion- A Loving Father- Rom 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. Jn 3:16 shows His love; so much so until later John says God is Love.

E) His Correct Judgement- A Just Father- I Pet 1:7 And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning here in fear:

GOD DOESN'T HAVE "PETS" THAT DO WRONG AND GET BY.

SO YOU CAN SEE THAT THE HEAVENLY FATHER IS THE GREATEST "FATHER" YOU COULD WANT OR WISH FOR. YET MULTITUDES OF PEOPLE HAVE NOT ACCEPTED HIS INVITATION TO BECOME HIS SONS.

### II. THE COUNTERFEIT FATHER

A) Many people believe that they are "Children of God" simply because they are born as Humans but the Bible shows us the fallacy of this opinion-

1. Sinners by Birth- Ps 51:5 Behold I as shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.

2. Sinners by Deed- John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do...

3. Sinners by Destination- Matt 13:38 The field is the world; the good seed are the children of the kingdom; but the tares are the children of the wicked one; vs 40-42 As therefore the tares are gathered and burned in the fire; so shall it be in the end of this world. The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; and shall cast them into a furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth.

B) What we must do- John 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.

## WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO US TO HAVE GOD AS FATHER???

LET'S LOOK AT WHAT IT MEANS IN REGARDS TO:

1. PRAYER- PROV 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord; but the prayer of the upright is his delight. GOD IS "OBLIGATED" TO HEAR MY PRAYERS BUT HE ONLY HEARS PRAYERS OF SINNERS BECAUSE OF HIS LOVE AND MERCY. PSALM 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me:

2. PUNISHMENT- HEB 12:6-8 For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. WE CAN HAVE PEACE IN THE MIDST OF DIFFICULTIES BECAUSE WE KNOW GOD ALLOWS TROUBLES IN OUR LIFE TO DEVELOP US; NOT DESTROY US!!

3. PRUNING- JOHN 15:1-2 I am the true vine, and my Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away; and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit. I PASSED BY MY GRANDMOTHER'S OLD HOME RECENTLY (SHE COULD ALMOST MAKE A ROSE BLOOM IN THE DESERT). SINCE HER DEATH IT HAS GROWN UP AND I NOTICED THAT THE GRAPEVINES SHE TOOK SUCH PRIDE IN WERE NOW WILD AND FRUITLESS. MANY PEOPLE WANT "FREEDOM" FROM PRUNING BUT THEY NOT REALIZE THAT THAT WILDNESS ALSO TAKES AWAY THEIR VALUE AND FRUIT.

4. PROMISES- JOHN 14:1-2 Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you, I go to prepare a place for you. I'M IN GOD'S WILL!! AND WILL INHERIT HEAVEN!

ARE YOU A CHILD OF GOD OR A SON OF SATAN?? THE CHOICE IS YOURS.



# GRACE & GLORY

Vol 5 Num 23 November 24, 1987

"To Know and to Show Christ"

Grace Free Will Baptist Church

Pastor Mircheal Jones

P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C 29560

(803) 394-3725

How thankful we are for God's continued Blessings on our Church.

- The new Carpet was installed in the Sunday School rooms last week and it looks very good (it also helps keep the noise down). Now all the Sunday School rooms have been painted and carpeted, several already have new curtains, and, most important of all, they are starting to fill up with people studying the word of God each week.

- We've also entered a busy time of member involvement: (1) The Ladies Aux. distributed 33 fruit baskets Sunday before presenting a very good Pre-Thanksgiving Program. (2) This coming Sunday night the "Children's Church" will be in charge of the service and show some of the things they've been learning recently. (3) Wednesday, Dec 9, Brother Wyman Lowder will be speaking during Prayer Meeting. (4) Sunday Night, Dec 13 the Contemporary Christmas play "Christmas with the Jones" will be presented. (5) Sunday Night, Dec 20 the Young People will present a special song celebration of Christmas. and (6) Wednesday Night, Dec 23 a traditional Christmas Program will be presented--followed by a Church Fellowship supper. And that doesn't count any of the class parties during that time!! We've got something for everyone to do this Christmas season to show their love and devotion for Christ.

Let me say a special word of thanks also to our Young people for helping get pine straw for the Church- and to Robert Young for his help and for allowing us to use his truck to haul the straw. It's great to see our people working together to help advance the cause of Christ. [Thanks also to the McBrides for donating the straw. I know brother Bill would have racked it up for us if he would have been home- instead of rambling over the world visiting his children!!]

Grace FWB Church

P O Box 1003

Lake City, S C 29560

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## A Psalm of Praise

Ps 150:

David, in Writing this last Psalm, shows us what should be the Christians attitude and actions as we approach this Thanksgiving season.

1a. WHAT- Praise ye the Lord. (Praise- to express approval or admiration; to glorify)

1b. WHERE- A) Praise God in his Sanctuary:  
[In the Church]

B) praise him in the firmament of his power. [In the World]

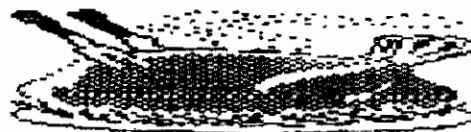
2 WHY- A) Praise him for his mighty acts:  
(What He Does)

B) praise him according to his excellent greatness. (Who He is)

3-5 HOW- Praise him with the sound of the tumpet: praise him with the psaltery and harp. Praise him with the timbrel and dance: praise him with stringed instruments and organs. Praise him upon the loud cymbals: praise him upon the high sounding cymbals. (Praise Him with Song and testimony, with Poem and musical instrument)

6 WHO- Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord. Praise ye the Lord.

~~~~~  
Let me take this opportunity to say a **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to all of you for your Prayers and support this year. The Lord has been very very good to me this year and I praise Him for allowing me to share His Blessings with you. I pray the Lord will bless you and all of yours with an extra special Blessing during this special time.



## NO THANKS

LUKE 17:11-19

HERE IS A SAD AND TRAGIC STORY OF THANKLESS HEARTS- 10 MEN WERE DESTINED TO A SLOW DEATH, ISOLATED FROM THEIR FELLOW MEN; BY THE PLAGUE OF LEPROSY. WITHOUT HELP OR HOPE THEY HEARD THAT JESUS WAS GOING TO PASS THEIR WAY SO THEY WAITED AND AS HE APPROACHED THEY CALLED WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT TO HIM TO HAVE MERCY ON THEM. WHEN JESUS STOPPED AND LOOKED AT THEM I IMAGINE THEIR HEARTS WERE AFLAME WITH HOPE AND EXPECTATION BUT INSTEAD OF SAYING SOME "MAGIC FORMULA" OVER THEM OR, SIMPLY SAYING THAT THEY WERE HEALED, JESUS TOLD THEM TO GO TO THE PRIEST AND LET HIM EXAMINE THEM.

AS THEY JOURNEYED THEY SUDDENLY FOUND THEIR SORES BEGAN TO HEAL AND FRESH FLESH CAME ON THEM. I CAN IMAGINE THE EXCITEMENT THAT MUST HAVE SWEEPED THRU THE GROUP AS THEY REALIZED THAT THEIR GREATEST DREAM WAS COMING TRUE. I BELIEVE THEY MUST HAVE HAD A "HUGGING HALLELUJAH" TIME AS THEY REJOICED IN THEIR DELIVERANCE.

BUT AS THE INITIAL EXCITEMENT WORE OFF A DILEMMA PRESENTED ITSELF TO THESE MEN- WE OFTEN CONDEMN THE NINE FOR THEIR THANKLESS HEARTS BUT FAIL TO APPRECIATE THEIR SITUATION. I CAN ALMOST SEE THE SAMARITAN AS HE SAYS, "COME ON, BOYS. LET'S GO THANK JESUS FOR OUR WONDERFUL HEALING!". AND EVERYONE MAY HAVE SAID, "YES, LET'S GO" UNTIL THEY STARTED OUT AND ONE OF THEM BEGAN TO SLOW AND THEN STOP. EVERYONE LOOKED AROUND AND ASKED WHAT WAS THE MATTER; DIDN'T HE WANT TO GO TELL JESUS HOW THANKFUL HE WAS THAT HE WAS HEALED. "YES," HE SAYS, "BUT WE MAY NEED TO LOOK AT THIS BEFORE WE RUSH OFF AND DO SOMETHING RASH. REMEMBER THAT THE LAW SAYS WE CAN'T ASSOCIATE WITH PEOPLE AGAIN UNTIL THE PRIEST HAS PRONOUNCED US CLEAN- AND JESUS DID SAY FOR US TO GO TO THE PRIEST AND LET HIM EXAMINE US. LET'S NOT LET THIS SAMARITAN, WHO DOESN'T KNOW THE LAW, LEAD US TO DO SOMETHING WRONG". SO NINE OF THEM CONTINUE ON TO THE PRIEST, WHILE THE LONE SAMARITAN GOES BACK TO JESUS AND GIVES GLORY TO GOD.

THIS SAME TYPE OF SITUATION FACES MANY OF US TODAY.. WE KNOW IT'S THE THANKSGIVING SEASON, AND WE SEE MANY THINGS THAT WE NEED TO GIVE GOD THANKS FOR; BUT SOMEHOW THE EVERYDAY SITUATIONS OF LIFE DETER US AND WE FIND OURSELVES DOING OUR "DUTY" INSTEAD OF THANKING OUR GOD. I WANT US TODAY TO SEE SOME OF THE REASONS WE ARE A PEOPLE OF "NO THANKS" INSTEAD OF MANY THANKS; AND THEN I WANT US TO REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO BEING THANKFUL.

## I. THE NEGATIVE NOTIONS

A) NEGATIVE CIRCUMSTANCES- WHY SHOULD I THANK GOD FOR DELIVERING ME WHEN GOD ALLOWED ME TO GET IN THIS SITUATION TO BEGIN WITH [WHY DO I HAVE LEPROSY WHEN OTHERS ARE HEALTHY?]. WE ARE FACED WITH MANY BAD CIRCUMSTANCES TODAY; FINANCIAL PROBLEMS, FAMILY PROBLEMS, HEALTH PROBLEMS. IT'S HARD TO STAND AND PRAISE THE LORD WHEN YOU CAN'T BUY WHAT YOU NEED FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER (AND YOU KNOW CHRISTMAS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!); WHEN YOUR FAMILY IS FALLING APART IN FRONT OF YOUR EYES OR YOU'RE LIVING IN A STATE OF "APATHETIC ENEMITY" WHERE YOU EXIST TOGETHER INSTEAD OF LIVE TOGETHER, OR WHEN EVERY DAY IS ANOTHER DAY OF PAIN AND PROBLEMS AND SOMETIMES YOU'D GIVE ANYTHING JUST TO FEEL GOOD ONE DAY.

A THANKFUL HEART, LIKE PAUL, HAS LEARNED, IN WHATSOEVER STATE I AM, THEREWITH TO BE CONTENT (PHIL 4:11). WHEN WE CAN LEARN THAT THE GRACE OF GOD IS SUFFICIENT FOR US THEN WE CAN GLORY IN INFIRMITIES (II COR 12:9) AND TURN TROUBLES INTO TRIUMPHS--AND THANKSGIVING WILL BE A PART OF OUR LIFE INSTEAD OF A "PUT ON".

B) NEGATIVE SELF-IMAGE- I DESERVE TO BE ISOLATED FROM SOCIETY BECAUSE I'M NOT WORTH ANYTHING ANYWAY [JEWISH SOCIETY THOUGHT AND TAUGHT THAT SAMARITANS WERE VASTLY INFERIOR IN EVERY WAY. I IMAGINE THAT EVEN IN THE CROWD OF TEN LEPERS HE WAS NEVER ALLOWED TO FORGET THAT HE MIGHT HAVE DESERVED TO BE STRICKEN WITH LEPROSY BECAUSE HE WAS A SAMARITAN]. MANY PEOPLE TODAY FAIL TO BE THANKFUL BECAUSE OF:

1. THEIR LOOKS- ROM 9:20 Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? MATT 6:27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? PSALM 139:14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. ACCORDING TO ISAIAH 53:2 JESUS hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him there is no beauty that we should desire him. BUT MEN FRET INSTEAD OF THANKING GOD.

2. THEIR LOT IN LIFE- THE GREATEST OF CHRISTIANITY IS THAT IT MAKES US PART OF THE BODY OF CHRIST- AND EVERY MEMBER IS IMPORTANT. WE NEED SINGERS, CHILDREN'S WORKERS, PAINTERS, GARDENERS, CARPENTERS, AS WELL AS TEACHERS AND SECRETARIES AND PIANO PLAYERS, ETC. TO HELP DEVELOP THE WORK OF GOD HERE.

## II. THE THANKFUL TRUTHS

A) JOY DOES NOT COME FROM ABUNDANCE: PROV 15:16 Better is a little with fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith.

B) THE SIGN OF BEING SPIRIT FILLED IS A SONG IN YOUR HEART AND PRAISE ON YOUR LIPS: EPH 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

C) LACK OF THANKFULNESS BEGINS THE DOWNWARD SPIRAL TO DEPRAVITY. ROM 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

GOD IS NOT LOOKING FOR YOUR "SACRIFICE"; HE WANTS YOUR LOVING THANKS. PROV 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.

HAS THANKS BEEN CROWDED OUT OF YOUR HEART BY THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LIFE. JESUS CAME TO GIVE LIFE AND THAT ABUNDANT LIFE. DO YOU NEED TO BOW AT THE FEET OF JESUS AND ACKNOWLEDGE WHAT HE'S DONE FOR YOU? HAVE YOU EVER PUBLICLY PROCLAIMED HIM AS SAVIOUR? HAVE YOU EVER PRAISED HIM FOR A SPECIAL WORK IN YOUR LIFE?

ARE YOU ONE OF THE "NINE" THAT'S HEALED BUT NOT HELPED? OR ARE YOU A THANKFUL JOYFUL CHRISTIAN??

## DECIDING QUESTIONABLE THINGS

ROM 14:

I COR 8:

I COR 10:23-33

1. SHOULD A CHRISTIAN GAMBLE? PLAY THE LOTTERY? RAFFLE TICKETS TO WIN RIFLES, Cakes, ETC.? (MY RULE OF THUMB IS THAT IF YOU PAY MONEY ON THE CHANCE OF WINNING SOMETHING THEN THAT IS GAMBLING. IT'S ALRIGHT TO TAKE A CHANCE TO WIN A REWARD BUT NOT IF YOU PAY- WE GIVE OUT CANDY BARS TO THE WINNER OF BINGO AT CHURCH SOMETIMES. IT WOULD BE GAMBLING IF THE PEOPLE PAID TO TAKE THE CHANCE OF WINNING THE CANDY.)
2. WHAT ABOUT GAMES THAT USE DICE OR PLAYING CARDS?
3. SHOULD A CHRISTIAN ATTEND MOVIES? OWN A VCR AND RENT MOVIES? PAY FOR CABLE TO RECEIVE MOVIES?
4. SHOULD A CHRISTIAN EAT IN A RESTAURANT THAT SERVES LIQUOR? BUY FROM A GROCERY STORE THAT SELLS LIQUOR?

HERE ARE SOME GUIDELINES TO HELP YOU DETERMINE WHAT TO DO:

1. DESIRE TO DO WHAT GOD WANTS- NOT JUST WHAT YOU WANT
2. COMPARE SCRIPTURES- DON'T USE JUST A PORTION OF SCRIPTURE OUT OF CONTEXT TO JUSTIFY WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.
3. PRAY FOR WISDOM
4. HEED THE HOLY SPIRIT'S LEADERSHIP- LISTEN TO HIS VOICE
5. CAN YOU DO IT IN THE NAME OF JESUS
6. DOES IT OFFEND OTHER CHRISTIANS. [WE'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT PREFERENCES BUT CONVICTIONS. (THE CHURCH BUSY BODY CAME UP TO THE PREACHER ONE TIME AND SAID, "YOUR TIE OFFENDS ME". THE PASTOR REACHED FOR A PAIR OF SCISSORS AND TOLD THE WOMAN TO CUT OFF THAT THAT OFFENDED HER. AFTER SHE CUT OFF HIS TIE AND HANDED BACK THE SCISSORS THE PASTOR THEN LOOKED AT HER AND SAID, "YOUR TONGUE OFFENDS ME!....."]

CHECK BY:

1. THE RULE OF EXPEDIENCE- I COR 6:12 All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient; WILL IT PROFIT MY SPIRITUAL LIFE?
2. THE RULE OF ENSLAVEMENT- I COR 6:12B All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. WILL IT CONTROL ME?
3. THE RULE OF EXAMPLE- I COR 8:9-10 But take heed lest by any means this liberty of yours become a stumblingblock to them that are weak. For if any man see thee which hath knowledge sit at meat in the idol's temple, shall not the conscience of him which is weak be emboldened to eat those things which are offered to idols; WILL IT LEAD OTHERS WRONG?
4. THE RULE OF EDIFICATION- I COR 10:23 All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient; all things are lawful for me, but all things edify not. DOES IT BUILD UP ME AND THE CHURCH?

REMEMBER THIS: "THE VERY FACT THAT IT'S QUESTIONABLE MEANS YOU NEED TO PROCEED WITH CAUTION"

## I CORINTHIANS: THE CHURCH CORREC

### QUESTIONABLE THINGS

I COR 8:- 10:23-33

PAUL IS NOW DEALING WITH THINGS THAT ARE NOT NECESSARILY WRONG BUT ARE VIEWED BY DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT WAYS. THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM WAS MEAT OFFERED TO IDOLS. THIS SACRIFICIAL MEAT WAS SOLD AT A CHEAPER PRICE THAN NORMAL MEAT AND THEREFORE MANY PEOPLE USED IT. SOME THOUGHT YOU WERE PROMOTING IDOLATRY TO DO SO. PAUL DISCUSSES THIS PROBLEM AND THEN GIVES US SOME PRINCIPLES THAT CAN HELP YOU DECIDE WHAT IS RIGHT FOR A CHRISTIAN.

#### I. THE PRIDE vs 1-3 (CONSIDER YOUR ATTITUDE)

- A) KNOWLEDGE BLOWS UP- LOVE BUILDS UP (AND THIS IS OUR GOAL)
- B) WE KNOW SOME BUT NOT NEARLY WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW
- C) GOD LOOKS AT OUR MOTIVE (ONE MAN PLUNGES A KNIFE INTO A MAN TO KILL HIM, ANOTHER TO CURE HIM. THE DIFFERENCE IS THE LOVING USE OF KNOWLEDGE). IS YOUR GOAL TO BUILD UP THE BODY? OR SELF??

#### II. THE PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY vs 4-8 (CONSIDER YOUR BROTHER'S KNOWLEDGE)

- A) WE ARE SAVED BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH AND THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO WORK WE CAN DO TO BE SAVED OR STAY SAVED. KEEPING THE LAW DOES NOT SAVE OR "UNSAVE" ME BUT IN EVERYONE THERE IS NOT THAT KNOWLEDGE. (LAW'S DEBT WAS COMPLETELY PAID IN CHRIST'S DEATH. BUT REMEMBER THAT FAITH WITHOUT WORKS IS DEAD BEING ALONE. A REAL FAITH PRODUCES WORKS)
- B) HOWBEIT IN EVERY MAN THERE IS NOT THAT KNOWLEDGE (VS 7) AND WHATSOEVER IS NOT OF FAITH IS SIN (IF I THINK IT'S SIN THEN IT IS SIN BECAUSE TO DO IT WOULD BE REBELLION).  
DO YOU HELP PEOPLE WHERE THEY ARE??  
OR DO YOU REJECT THEM BECAUSE THEY DON'T DO EXACTLY LIKE YOU??

#### III. THE PRACTICE vs 9-11 (CONSIDER YOUR BROTHER'S CONSCIENCE)

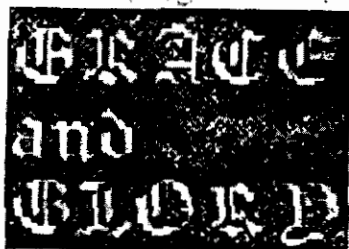
- A) MY CLAIMING MY "RIGHT" CAN LEAD ANOTHER WRONG (AS AN OLDER CHRISTIAN I'M SETTING AN EXAMPLE). I MUST BEWARE LEST I LEAD SOMEONE TO DO WHAT THEY THINK IS WRONG (NOT SIMPLY DISLIKES [OYSTERS] BUT ANYTHING THAT WILL CAUSE THEM TO STUMBLE IN THE WAY).
- B) THIS IS A SERIOUS PROBLEM BECAUSE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A PERSON DENOUNCING FAITH AND FALLING AWAY FROM GOD!  
WHICH IS MORE IMPORTANT- YOUR RIGHTS? OR YOUR BROTHER'S SOUL?

#### IV. THE PRINCIPLES vs 12-13 (CONSIDER CHRIST)

- A) OF CONSIDERATION- REGARD FOR A BROTHER'S WELFARE. (LIBERTY MUST BE REGULATED BY LOVE AND LIMITED WHEN THERE IS A DANGER OF HINDERING A BROTHER'S SPIRITUAL PROGRESS). RIGHTS BRING RESPONSIBILITIES!! (I HAVE THE RIGHT TO SWING MY FIST BUT THAT RIGHT STOPS AT YOUR JAW!).
- B) OF CONSCIENCE- I COR 10:29 Conscience, I say, not thine own, but of the other. ROM 14:14 I know and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus, that there is nothing unclean of itself but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean
- C) OF CONSEQUENCES- vs 12 When ye sin so against the Brethern, and wound their weak conscience, ye SIN AGAINST CHRIST

HOW CAN I KNOW IT'S RIGHT?

- |                          |                                        |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| EXPEDIENCE- I COR 6:12A  | CHECK BY THE RULE OF:                  |
| ENSLAVEMENT- I COR 6:12B | IS IT PROFITABLE TO MY SPIRITUAL LIFE? |
| EXAMPLE- I COR 8:9-10    | WILL IT CONTROL ME?                    |
| EDIFICATION- I COR 10:23 | WILL IT LEAD OTHERS WRONG?             |
|                          | DOES IT BUILD UP ME AND THE CHURCH?    |



## Grace Free Will Baptist Church "To Know and to Show Christ"

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Bible Study Hour           | 10:00am             |
| Morning Evangelist Service | 11:00am (over WJOT) |
| Evening Worship Service    | 6:00pm              |
| Wednesday Prayer Service   | 7:30pm              |

Mircheal Jones, Pastor (803) 394-3725 Vol 5 Num 24 Dec. 14, 1987



What an exciting few weeks it's been! The final session of the fall semester of Bethel Bible Institute was held on the first day of December with a large turn out of students and family. The Adult Class party was held on Dec. 4 with one of the largest attendances we've ever had (And a marvelous time of fellowship- If any of you want to find a parking space this Christmas season then contact Robert and Roxanna Young. They know all the "secrets"! ). Then on December 6 we had a special surprise treat as Mrs. Hope Frye's family joined us in the service and shared some songs with us [It would be difficult to tell how much we've appreciated Howard and Hope becoming a part of our "family" here at Grace. We feel like we've known them for years and years].

I think "Exciting" would be the way to describe the few days Paula and I had in Florida also. We left on Wednesday Morning before Daylight and arrived in Bratt around 5:00pm. The Church had a special supper for us at 6:30 (Some of the best cooks in the world live in Bratt, Florida!) before Pastor Tim Owens allowed me to bring the devotion. Everyone was so very very kind to us and, in spite of the fact that our hearts were saddened over the loss of brother Hayburn Norris that day, we still had a tremendous time of fellowship. Some of the excitement began to wear off around midnight though as my wife began showing the effects of a "bug" she had picked up. So instead of spending Thursday visiting the sick and shut-in as we had planned we became the sick and shut-in. We did manage to go to Pensacola Friday after the funeral to check on some supplies for some equipment I am donating to a home for unwed mothers and I was able (Continued on back)

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to get the equipment that Shiloh FWB Church donated to our ministry (A used Memo machine and folder that will be very very helpful as backup equipment for a machine that has already printed over 1 million items of literature). Praise the Lord for the folks in Bratt. I pray God will bless them greatly for their kindness.

Then Sunday Night we had the first of our 3 Christmas Plays this year (and if the next two are as enjoyable as this one we're in for a special Christmas season). David Wall, Susan Spring, Angela Young, Jerome Mathis, and Roxanna Young did a masterful job of showing the wrong attitude about Christmas and then showing how to correct that attitude [Of Course, they couldn't do too bad--they were pretending to be Joneses!!!]. Special Singing by Anne Thigpen and Todd Newell added to the program and I appreciate Mrs Sylvia Gowdy's direction.

This coming Sunday (Dec 20) will also be a SPECIAL SUNDAY here at Grace. This is the Sunday we receive our "White Christmas Offering". Instead of exchanging gifts at Christmas everyone in the Church gives an extra gift to the Church for the Lord's Work. This is normally the way we finance many of the special projects that the church undertakes throughout the year and I'm expecting a great day of rejoicing this year. Then Sunday Night at 6:00pm the young people (Under the direction of Mandy Moore and Hope Frye) will present "Listen to the Voices" [I already have and you're going to enjoy this].

It will all come to a glorious climax with the presentation of the "Living Christmas Story" on Wednesday night (Dec 23) at 7:30pm-- followed by a Church wide fellowship Supper.

I kept telling people this was going to be one of the best Christmas seasons we have ever had, and I believe they're finally beginning to believe me. Let me also add a word of Praise to Marjorie McAllister and Dot Sullivan for the great work they did in decorating the Church. It's the best it's ever looked.

But it's not going to end at Christmas!! Wednesday, Dec 30 we plan to end our year on a great note with a special concert by **THE JOHN I. FLOYD FAMILY**. I have wanted to have this fine group for a long time and I'm so glad they will help us ring out one of the best years we've ever had and ring in an even better year of service for the Lord. (With the way the Lord is blessing us I can't understand why everyone doesn't come to Grace!!!)



Paula and I wish each and every one of you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS. May Christ be real and living in each of your hearts.

*Preacher Mike Ps. 16:11*



## CALL HIS NAME JESUS

IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THROUGHOUT THE BIBLE THE IMPORTANCE GOD PUTS ON NAMING PEOPLE (THE FIRST PERSON WE FIND A REASON FOR THEIR NAME IS EVE- GEN 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve; because she was the mother of all living). INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH ADAM WAS NOT "NAMED"; HIS NAME SIMPLY MEANS "THE MAN" AND IS THE TERM THAT GOD USED FOR HIM. AFTER THAT, MOST PEOPLE'S NAME DESCRIBES SOMETHING ABOUT THEIR CHARACTER- GEN 25:25 And the first came out red, all over like a hairy garment; and they called his name Esau OR CONCEPTION- SETH MEANS "SUBSTITUTED" FOR ABEL, GEN 4:25; OR CIRCUMSTANCES- MOSES MEANS "DRAWN OUT" OF THE WATER, EX 2:10).

MANY TIMES GOD RENAMES A PERSON AFTER THAT PERSON COMES TO HIM (IN FACT, REV 2:17 SAYS WE WILL HAVE A "NEW NAME" IN HEAVEN).

1. ABRAHAM- GEN 17:5 Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee. ABRAM SIMPLY MEANS "EXALTED FATHER" WHILE ABRAHAM= "FATHER OF A GREAT MULTITUDE"

2. SARAH- GEN 17:15 And God said unto Abraham, As for Sarai thy wife, thou shalt not call her name Sarai (DOMINATIVE) but Sarah (PRINCESS) shall her name be.

3. ISRAEL- GEN 32:28 And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob (DECEIVER), but Israel (PRINCE OF GOD); for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast prevailed.

4. PETER- JOHN 1:42 And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, a stone (PETER).

BUT ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS GOD NAMED A CHILD BEFORE HE WAS BORN:

1. ISAAC- GEN 17:19 And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: (LAUGHTER)

2. JOHN THE BAPTIST- LUK 1:13 And the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias; for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John.

TODAY WE WANT TO LOOK AT THE ONE WHO WAS SO MARVELOUSLY ANNOUNCED BY THE ANGELS AND SEE THE IMPORTANCE OF HIS WONDERFUL NAME.

I. HIS NAME AS KING- Is 9:6 For unto us a child is born; unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful (WORSHIP), Counsellor (WISDOM), The mighty God (POWER), The everlasting Father (PERMANENT), the Prince of Peace (PEACE). WE CAN HAVE CONFIDENCE, RELIANCE, AND FAITH IN HIM TO DO RIGHT.

II. HIS NAME AS SAVIOUR- MATT 1:21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus for he shall save his people from their sins. JESUS IS THE SAME AS "JOSHUA" AND AS SUCH DESCRIBES HOW JESUS LEADS US FROM THE WILDERNESS OF SIN INTO THE PROMISED LAND (EVENTUALLY HEAVEN- BUT THIS IS SIMPLY A LAND OF POSSIBILITIES. CHRIST GIVES US ETERNAL LIFE AND ABUNDANT LIFE; NOT "PIE IN THE SKY" PROMISES BUT PRACTICAL HELP IN BECOMING WHAT GOD INTENDED US TO BE HERE SO WE WILL BE READY FOR THE HEREAFTER).

III. HIS NAME AS MAN- MATT 1:23 Behold, A virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us. JESUS SAID He that hath seen me hath seen the Father JOHN 14:9 [A LITTLE GIRL WAS DRAWING ON THE BEACH WHEN A MAN CAME BY. "WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING?" HE ASKED. "A PICTURE OF GOD." SHE REPLIED. "BUT NO ONE KNOWS WHAT GOD LOOKS LIKE." THE MAN SAID. "WAIT 5 MORE MINUTES AND YOU WILL." THE GIRL REPLIED!!]. BECAUSE CHRIST CAME TO THE EARTH, WE ARE NOW ABLE TO SEE HOW GOD WOULD ACT UNDER OUR CIRCUMSTANCES; DEALING WITH TEMPTATION, HUNGER, FAMILY PROBLEMS, ETC.

IV. HIS NAME AS GOD- PHIL 2:9-11, Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the Glory of God the Father. YOU WILL CONFESS THAT CHRIST IS LORD AND SAVIOUR- THE DIFFERENCE IS IN WHEN YOU DO IT: NOW WHEN IT MEANS ETERNAL LIFE, OR LATER; JUST BEFORE YOU ARE CAST INTO THE LAKE OF FIRE.

#### THE PURPOSE OF HIS NAME:

1. PREACH IN IT- LUKE 24:47 And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. CHRISTIANITY'S ENTIRE MESSAGE IS CHRIST. JOHN 12:32 And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me.

2. PRAY BY IT- JN 14:13 And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the father may be glorified in the Son  
ACCESS TO THE "BANK OF HEAVEN" WITH THE SON'S SIGNATURE!!

3. POWER OF IT- ACTS 3:16 And his name, through Faith in his name, hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all. MANY DOORS ARE OPEN BY THE SIMPLY MENTION OF THE RIGHT NAME IN OUR WORLD. THE NAME OF JESUS CAN OPEN DOORS IN THIS WORLD AND ALSO IN THE SPIRIT WORLD!

4. PRAISE TO IT- EPH 5:20 Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ALL GLORY AND PRAISE SHOULD BE GIVEN TO HIS NAME.

THIS CHRISTMAS, WON'T YOU CALL ON THE NAME OF JESUS AND ASK HIM FOR HIS FORGIVENESS, HIS STRENGTH, AND HIS PRESENCE. HE'S AS CLOSE AS HIS NAME.

## THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

1 TIM 2:8-15 I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands; without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with braided hair, or gold; or pearls; or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety.

PAUL HAS BEEN TALKING TO YOUNG PREACHER TIMOTHY ABOUT FALSE DOCTRINE IN THE CHURCH AND THEN ABOUT HIS PRAYER LIFE. SUDDENLY HE SEEMS TO "VEER" OFF COURSE AND BEGIN TALKING ABOUT THE APPEARANCE AND POSITION OF WOMEN. THE REASON FOR THIS "RABBIT TRAIL" IS THAT PAUL (LIKE PETER) REALIZED THAT A PROPER RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN WAS ESSENTIAL TO A PROPER PRAYER LIFE.

1 PET 3:1-7 Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner in the old time the holy women also, who trusted in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection unto their own husbands: Even as Sara obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose daughters ye are, as long as ye do well, and are not afraid with any amazement. Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life: that your prayers be not hindered.

PAUL LISTS 3 PROBLEM AREAS FOR WOMEN:

1. **THEIR APPEARANCE-** "MODEST APPAREL". MODEST HERE MEANS "AN ORDERED SYSTEM, A HARMONIOUS ARRANGEMENT, ORDER". THIS ORDERLINESS DOES NOT EXTEND MERELY TO THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE VARIOUS ARTICLES OF CLOTHING ONE TO ANOTHER BUT ALSO TO THE RELATIONSHIP OF THAT CLOTHING TO HER CHRISTIAN CHARACTER AND TESTIMONY. THIS MEANS YOU DO NOT NEED TO BE A "PLAIN JANE" TO BE A CHRISTIAN BUT YOU DO NEED TO WEAR CLOTHING TO PROMOTE YOUR BELIEF INSTEAD OF YOUR BODY. (IF MOST WOMEN SPENT AS MUCH TIME PRAYING AS THEY DO FIXING THEIR HAIR AND MAKEUP WE'D HAVE THE GREATEST REVIVAL IN HISTORY!!!). PAUL TELLS WOMEN TO WEAR "GOOD WORKS" INSTEAD OF GOLD ARRAY.

2. **THEIR ATTITUDE-** "SHAMEFACEDNESS AND SOBRIETY" (HUMILITY AND SOUNDNESS OF MIND). THE BASIC IDEA HERE BEING THAT MANY WOMEN WEAR THEIR CLOTHES BECAUSE OF PRIDE INSTEAD OF BECAUSE IT'S PROPER- MINISKIRTS, SKIN TIGHT CLOTHING, ETC. ARE WORN BY CHRISTIAN WOMEN BECAUSE THAT'S THE "FASHION". (MOST WOMEN'S FEET HURT ALL THE TIME BECAUSE THEY WEAR SHOES THAT THEY CAN'T WALK IN BUT THEY "LOOK SO GOOD"!!!!).

WOMEN NEED TO DRESS WITH CAUTION AND COMMON SENSE- DON'T DRESS TO PRODUCE "LUST" OR JUST FOR LOOKS.

3. **THEIR AUTHORITY-** THEY ARE NOT TO "TEACH, NOR TO USURP AUTHORITY [GRAB THE LEADERSHIP] OVER THE MAN".

A) IN CHURCH, THIS MEANS THEY ARE NOT TO TEACH ADULT MEN OR BE IN A POSITION OF DEFINING DOCTRINE [SUCH AS A WOMAN PASTOR]. (THIS DOES NOT MEAN IT'S WRONG FOR WOMEN TO TEACH UNMARRIED YOUNG MEN OR CHILDREN. THIS IS PART OF HER RESPONSIBILITY AS A MOTHER.).

B) IN THE HOME, A WOMAN IS TO "BE IN SUBJECTION TO HER OWN HUSBAND" AND SEE TO IT THAT SHE "REVERENCE HER HUSBAND" (EPH 5:33). EPH 5:24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing. (THE CHURCH KNOWS THAT CHRIST LOVES HER AND WILL ONLY ASK HER TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT. IN THE SAME WAY, THE HUSBAND IS TOLD TO LOVE HIS WIFE ENOUGH TO SACRIFICE HIS LIFE FOR HER AND DESIRE ONLY THE BEST FOR HER - EPH 5:25-28. A WIFE WHO KNOWS THIS WILL FIND IT MUCH EASIER TO SUBMIT).

PAUL NOW LIST 3 REASONS WHY THE WOMAN SHOULD "LEARN IN SILENCE" (NO PUBLIC OUTBURST) [THIS DOES NOT MEAN IT'S WRONG FOR A WOMAN TO TALK IN CLASS OR TAKE PART IN THE LESSON. PAUL IS SPECIFICALLY REFERRING TO WOMEN WHO WOULD DISPUTE THE TEACHER AND THEIR HUSBAND IN PUBLIC AND THUS ASSUME THE LEADERSHIP POSITION. THIS IS WHY PAUL TOLD THE CORINTHIANS TO let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home; for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. I COR 14:34-35. THIS SCRIPTURE IS NOT REFERRING TO BUSINESS MEETINGS!! Paul is giving guidelines for speaking in tongues as a sign to unbelieving Jews and is stressing the fact that women are not to speak in tongues because of the leadership position this would put them in. ]:

THEREFORE WOMEN ARE NOT TO TAKE THE LEADERSHIP ROLES BECAUSE OF:

1. **CREATION-** ADAM WAS CREATED FIRST AND THEN EVE. EVE WAS CREATED FROM ADAM FOR ADAM; AS A HELPER, NOT A BOSS. IF MEN AND WOMEN BOTH COULD JUST LEARN THEIR PART IN GOD'S PLAN THEY WOULD FIND THE JOY THAT SO MANY ARE LOOKING SO HARD TO FIND AND YET MISSING.

2. **CORRUPTION-** THE WOMAN WAS DECEIVED BY SATAN; ADAM WAS NOT; HE DELIBERATELY ATE OF THE FRUIT AND BROUGHT THE CURSE OF SIN UPON ALL HIS SEED- ROM 5:12, I COR 15:21-22, GEN 3:17. (WOMEN ARE GENERALLY MORE EASILY SWAYED BY EMOTIONAL ARGUMENTS. THEIR EMOTIONS ARE THEIR GREATEST ASSET AND YET THEIR GREATEST LIABILITY).

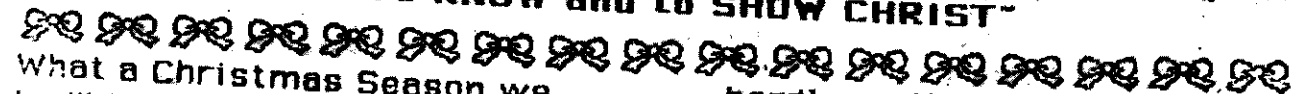
3. **CHILDBEARING-** ONE OF THE MAIN DUTIES OF A WOMAN IS TO BEAR CHILDREN (NOT DEFINE DOCTRINE). OCCUPYING THIS POSITION AS HOME MAKER WILL CAUSE HER TO LOOK TO HER HUSBAND FOR SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE. THIS WILL SAVE HER FROM FALLING INTO FALSE DOCTRINE AND ALLOW HER AND HER HUSBAND TO CONTINUE IN FAITH, LOVE, AND HOLINESS WITH A SOBER MINDED ATTITUDE. (BLAME SIN, NOT ME- GEN 3:16 Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee.)

SADLY, THERE ARE CASES WHERE THE WOMAN IS FORCED INTO THE POSITION OF LEADERSHIP BECAUSE THE MAN WON'T ASSUME HIS RIGHTFUL PLACE (BARAK AND DEBORAH IN JUDGES 4:8-9) BUT GOD'S PLAN IS FOR THEM TO ACCEPT THEIR POSITION OF SUPPORT (GEN 2:18. SEE ALSO LUKE 8:1-3) AND PROVIDE SOMETHING FOR MANKIND THAT NOTHING ELSE IN THE WHOLE WORLD CAN PROVIDE (GEN 2:19-22).

# GRACE AND GLORY

Grace Free Will Baptist Church P O Box 1003 Lake City, S C 29560  
Pastor Mike Jones (803) 394-3725 Vol 5 Num 25 Dec 29, 1987

**"To KNOW and to SHOW CHRIST"**



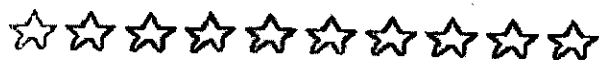
What a Christmas Season we had!! It seemed the Lord just added Blessing upon Blessing to help us celebrate the birth of His Blessed Son.

## ♪ NEW ORGAN ♪

The Lord began our Sunday before Christmas with a very **special Christmas Present**. Someone donated an Organ to the Church. We're very excited about it and can't wait to see who He's going to provide to play it for us.

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

Then our White Christmas Offering was almost \$3000 !!! I just couldn't stop saying "Praise the Lord"... The way our people have sacrificed and given this year is enough to make any pastor proud and thankful.



And what a great ending we had to this special Sunday when the Young People did an excellent job in presenting their Christmas Program. The program was great and the attendance was very good. I can

hardly wait until these young people put their enthusiasm and ability to work in our Choir and in our Church. [Special thanks to Brother Marion Coker for getting the fruit ready for distribution after the program!]

I'm still not finished sharing the Blessings however. This



past Sunday I was led to preach on Goals for our Church and how to reach them. Carl and

Eulalia Jordan gave the perfect example when they gave a large gift to begin our Building Fund for our **NEW SANCTUARY**. It's a long way from where we're at to the new Church Building we're dreaming of but it's closer today than it's ever been because at least we've started. Thanks to Brother Carl and Mrs. Eulalia for "laying the first bricks". We need more money and more people---but God knows where we'll get both; and I can hardly wait to see how He supplies them. (This was given in Memory of DREW LOWDER and that means a great deal to us also).



Grace Free Will Baptist Church  
P O Box 1003  
Lake City, S C 29560

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Remember our  
Great NIGHT of  
GOSPEL MUSIC  
featuring the **JOHN  
L. FLOYD FAMILY**  
is This Wednesday  
beginning at 7:30.  
This will take the  
place of our "Watch  
Nite Service" and  
help end a great  
year on a great  
note.

Our New Year is  
going to get off to  
a good start also  
as **Rev Dennis  
Keen**, Home  
Missionary to  
Charleston, will be  
our special guest  
on Sunday January  
10 during the 11am  
service. This will  
give us an  
opportunity to  
meet him and learn  
of his needs.  
We will also  
receive a special  
offering to help  
him get started in  
his new work.

And the Lake City  
Branch of **Bethel  
Bible Institute**  
is scheduled to  
begin Tuesday, Jan  
12 at 7:00pm. We  
will again meet in  
the Church  
Fellowship  
Building and

anticipate a great  
Spring Semester.  
Brother Joe  
McKnight will  
teach "Bible  
Characters III" and  
I will teach the  
"History of  
Christianity". We  
also hope to have a  
special Speaker  
dealing with  
different areas of  
Christian Growth  
and Christian  
Service as part of  
the course. We  
hope this Semester  
will be even better  
than last Semester  
(Which was one of  
the best class  
periods we've had  
yet). The cost is  
only \$25 per  
student and that  
covers all courses  
and materials.  
For more  
information  
contact either  
myself or Brother  
Joe McKnight.

Special **THANKS** to  
those that have  
given to this work  
recently to allow  
me to close out  
1987 in the Black  
Billie Ard, the  
McBrides, Jack  
Hanna, and Mr.  
Sybil Anderson  
from South  
Carolina; Dale  
Johnson, Rev Floyd  
Coleman, David and  
Theresa Brown  
from Florida and M  
and Mrs Virgi  
West from  
Mississippi. Thank  
for allowing me to  
continue to  
minister to man  
thru this outreach.  
I Hope you have  
the best year  
you've ever had in  
1988-- and I hope  
the Lord come  
back!!! May Chris  
richly Bless you.  
Preacher Mik

\*\*\*\*\*

(Mrs Billie Ard shared this with me to share  
with you. It was something the Lord gave  
her and I hope it proves a Blessing to you.)  
**Go Forth and Tell them of me.**  
**Open your hearts and pour out my**  
**instructions and love for them.**  
**Do this for My Son's sake, whom I loved**  
**and gave for your redemption**