

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XX

March 8, 2015

Number 7

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Charity Crawford
 Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
 6:30 P.M. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Piper Quinnelly
 Cradle Roll 2: Ryder Quinnelly
 Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White
 Cradle Roll 2: Shirley White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of February 15, 2015

Sunday School ----- 22
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 46
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 32
 Wed. Eve. Service, 02/18/15 ----- 21

Week of February 22, 2015

Sunday School ----- 13
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 28
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 20
 Wed. Eve. Service, 02/25/15 ----- 27

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of February 15, 2015

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 5,416.00
 Missionary Offering ----- \$ 20.00
Total Received for Week of 02/15/14: \$ 5,436.00

Week of February 22, 2015

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 512.00
 Missionary Offering ----- \$ 20.00
Total Received for Week of 02/22/14: \$ 532.00

**Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church EACH WEEK,
 as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00**

LISTEN TO -



ABIDINGRADIO.COM

INSURANCE FUND REPORT FOR FEB., 2015

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 329.66
 Amount Received During Feb., 2015 ----- \$ 0.00
Amount SHORT for February, 2015: - \$ 329.66

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today - OK?* Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Lois Mae Floyd ----- Pianist/ Organist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Shayne Hooper, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Ella Allen ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford



WHAT MUST AN HONEST CHRISTIAN DO ABOUT BAPTISM?

by Dr. John R. Rice

There are three courses which a man may follow in regard to baptism.

1. **FOLLOW CATHOLICS IN CHANGING BAPTISM AS TO MODE AND MEANING.**
2. **FOLLOW MODERNISTS IN LEAVING OFF BAPTISM.**
3. **FOLLOW THE BIBLE AND BE BAPTIZED THE BIBLE WAY.**

If he believes, as Catholics do, that the church has a right to change what God plainly commanded, that it does not especially matter any way, then he can accept the Catholic's substitute for baptism as many modern denominations have done. It is very likely that he will find himself accepting a lot of Catholic doctrine as well. Certainly he will miss the plain Bible meaning of baptism.

If a man seeks to please people instead of God, he may ignore the repeated commands of the Saviour Himself, and of the Scriptures, ignore the example of New Testament Christians, and do away with baptism as has Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick and Dr. Shailer Mathews and other modernists (liberals) and so many so-called "community churches." Such a person will be counted very broad-minded and very liberal, but he will be untrue to the Bible and disobedient to Jesus Christ.

Some people are so disgusted with denominationalism, especially those denominations patterned after Rome (and well they might be!) that they like to do away with every requirement that reminds them of their past bondage. Community churches usually commit the very foolish mistake of trying to please everybody. They sometimes offer to baptize people "any way that suits you best," like the school teacher who proposed to the trustees of a rural school that he would teach the world was flat or round, just as they preferred! In some cases, such churches prefer not to, take a positive stand on any matter of Bible doctrine about which there is controversy.

Sometimes, after compromising on the plain command of the Scripture, they try to defend their disobedience with Scripture. Such subtle modernists may claim that baptism was for Jews only, or that it was only intended for the Apostolic Age, or otherwise pervert the Scripture, either consciously or unconsciously, to condone their sin. But the way to please the Lord Jesus, and spread His gospel, is to do exactly what He said, "*teaching ALL NATIONS, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you.*" Then, we have His promise, "*Lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.*"

There is only one course left for you, dear Christian, if you seek to please Jesus Christ. You must follow the Saviour down into the watery grave in the likeness of His burial, and then, raised in the likeness of His resurrection, come up out of the water, proclaiming to the world your faith in a risen Saviour and your intention of living a new life for Him.

Can it be hard to decide when His Word is so plain and when He has done so much for you?

(Continued, inside)

CHRISTIAN HAPPINESS DEPENDS ON OBEDIENCE

Salvation is settled when one trusts in Christ and the believer has everlasting life, (John 3:16; 3:36; 5:24; 6:47). But a Christian's joy and fellowship depends largely upon how he follows the Lord. This is especially true about baptism. Experience joins with Scripture to teach that baptism brings great joy and peace in the heart. We find many references to rejoicing in Bible cases of conversion, the joy coming AFTER BAPTISM, or in connection with it! In Acts 2:41, we are told:

“Then they that GLADLY received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

In verse 46, following, we are told about the same people:

“And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with GLADNESS and singleness of heart.”

New Testament Christians had joy when they were baptized. In Acts 8:38,39 is another case of a baptizing and rejoicing:

“And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way REJOICING.”

The rejoicing followed the baptizing. Likewise, in the conversion of the jailer and his household in Acts 16:29-34, rejoicing followed baptism:

“Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, 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. And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and REJOICED, believing in God with all his house.”

HOLY SPIRIT BRINGS JOY AT BAPTISM

There is very clear teaching in the Scripture that Christians, after they obey Christ in baptism, claim Him before the world, may expect to be filled with the Holy Spirit. When Jesus was baptized, the Holy Spirit came on Him in visible form, as an example to those who looked on, and the voice of the Father from Heaven said, ***“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased”*** (Matthew 3:17). In Acts 2:38. the gift of the Holy Spirit is promised to those who repent and then are baptized for, (referring to, or pointing toward) the remission of their sins. There the Apostle Peter said:

“... Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

Notice in the following verse 39 that baptism, and the same promise of the Holy Spirit which goes with it, is for all of us, ***“even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”***

There are many other Scriptures which promise the Holy Spirit to those who obey the Lord, or keep His commandments. Jesus said to His disciples in John 14:15-17:

“If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever: even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.”

Peter, preaching on the resurrection of Christ in Acts 5:32, said:

“And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.”

When Jesus gave the Great Commission to His disciples in Matthew 28:19,20, including baptism, He followed it with a promise that when we do these three things, making disciples, baptizing them and teaching them to obey His commands, “Lo, I am with you alway even unto the end of the world.” Part of the happiness, then, and presence of Jesus through the Holy Spirit is promised to them who baptize as well as to those who are baptized.

How many times have I heard shouts of rejoicing at a baptizing! Many, many times I have seen God's power manifested when new converts followed the Saviour's command about baptism. I remember in 1931 in the great revival on the court house square in Sherman, Texas, when some 2,000 people gathered around that brilliantly lighted scene and 28 converts, the first fruits of that revival (for we baptized many times), followed Jesus into the watery grave and followed Him in the likeness of His resurrection. A Mr. Welsh, fifty-eight years old, a hard sinner, a gambler, a profane, drinking man, turned with deep emotion and said to his wife, “If I had extra clothes, I would have this whole thing settled tonight!” “Well,” she said, “we can have your clothes tomorrow night.” And they did and I baptized him. On Christmas Eve, he died, after winning many other souls to Christ. The Holy Spirit came upon the people and blessed the testimony of the converts as the Lord had promised, so that a soul was saved.

In this same meeting, an old man about sixty arose from the water and shouted, “Hallelujah!” seized me about the neck, kissed me on the cheek, and then weeping for joy he went to the tent nearby which was used as a dressing room.

In Decatur, Texas, in a marvelous revival which God gave us, a woman came down into the baptistery of the tabernacle, whispering to herself. “Oh! Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!”

“Sister, say it aloud. if you like,” I said.

“Praise the Lord!” she cried, “I have been wanting to do this

for nineteen years!” When she was baptized, I heard her down in the dressing room saying over and over softly, “Oh, Praise the Lord!”

God meant for Christians to be happy, and you will be, dear friend, if you obey the Lord so He can fill you with the Holy Spirit. When I was baptized, a twelve-or thirteen-year-old boy, in that railroad reservoir at Dundee, Texas, the Holy Spirit came upon me with sweet assurance and joy. He was not in form like a dove so others could see, but there was no doubt in my heart that He came. The Father spoke from Heaven to me, saying, in some manner as He did to Christ at His baptism, “This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased.” The people did not hear that voice, but I did, for it was a still small voice that spoke in my heart. Rejoicing goes with baptism when we do it God's way! If you want to be happy, dear Christian, then follow the Lord Jesus who said. ***“Thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.”*** (Matt. 3:15). ■

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

• **GRANDMOTHER FLORIST REFUSES ATTORNEY GENERAL'S COMPROMISE** - The following is excerpted from “Flower Power,” Todd Starnes, Fox News, Feb. 23, 2015:

“Barronelle Stutzman, a Washington State florist who declined to provide flowers for a gay wedding, has rejected a deal by the attorney general's office that would've forced her to betray her religious beliefs--much like Judas betrayed Jesus. ***‘You are asking me to walk in the way of a well-known betrayer, one who sold something of infinite worth for 30 pieces of silver,’*** Stutzman wrote in a letter to state Attorney General Bob Ferguson. ***‘That is something I will not do.’***

Ferguson had offered to settle the case if she paid a \$2,000 penalty for violating the Consumer Protection Act, a \$1 payment for costs and fees, and agreed not to discriminate in the future. ***‘My primary goal has always been to bring about an end to the defendant's unlawful conduct and to make clear that I will not tolerate discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation,’*** Ferguson said in a prepared statement.

On Feb. 18 a judge ruled Stutzman had violated the law by refusing to provide flowers for the same-sex wedding of a longtime customer. The state had not only gone after the flower shop but also Stutzman personally. Alliance Defending Freedom (ADF), the religious liberty law firm representing Stutzman, said legal bills could be as high as seven figures. ***‘He's using the full power of his office to personally and professionally destroy her,’*** ADF attorney Kristen Waggoner told me.

But the 70-year-old Southern Baptist grandmother said she will not violate her religious beliefs--no matter what. If that means losing her house – so be it. ***‘I certainly don't relish the idea of losing my business, my homes and everything else that your lawsuit threatens to take from my family, but my freedom to honor God in doing what I do best is more important,’*** Stutzman wrote in a letter to the attorney general. She said the attorney

general simply does not understand her or what the conflict is all about. ***‘It's about freedom, not money,’*** she said. ***‘You chose to attack my faith and pursue this not simply as a matter of law, but to threaten my very means of working, eating and having a home.’***

• **HOME SCHOOLERS TWICE AS LIKELY TO BE STRONGER IN THEIR CHRISTIAN FAITH THAN PUBLIC SCHOOLERS** - The following is excerpted from “Study finds homeschoolers less likely to leave faith,” Christian News Network, Feb. 16, 2015:

“The recently-released findings from an in-depth study of nearly 10,000 young adults show that Millennials who were homeschooled are ***less likely*** to leave the faith than individuals who attended private or public schools. Late last month, Generations with Vision and the National Home Education Research Institute published the results of their Gen2 Survey. The study explores the correlations between different educational methods and the spiritual decisions of Millennials who were raised in the church.

Using a sample size of 9,369, 18 to 38 38-year-olds who were church-ed while growing up, the Gen2 Survey collected data on Millennials' educational backgrounds, worldviews, and religious beliefs. The study found that individuals who were homeschooled, attended church regularly, and had good relationships with their parents were most likely to remain involved in the Christian faith. ... 87% of study participants who were homeschooled said they have strong Christian beliefs.

Statistically, homeschooled young adults were six times as likely to be believers and seven times as likely to be stronger in their Christian beliefs as Millennials attending private schools. Homeschooled Millennials were also two times as likely to be stronger in Christian beliefs as those who attended Christian schools or public schools.

Kevin Swanson, director of Generations with Vision, said the Gen2 Survey is ‘vitaly important,’ because ‘it comes just as the largest numbers on historical record are migrating away from the Christian faith. Some other surveys indicate as many as 70-90% of millennials and mosaics are leaving the Christian church,’ Swanson said. ‘This is a major spiritual collapse.’ One of the best ways to fend off the widespread secularism and apostasy of our culture is through homeschooling. Swanson contended.

‘If your children are disciplined in a Muslim mosque or by NBC, ABC, CBS, or Facebook for 35 hours a week, they can generally be expected to take on the faith that disciplines them,’ he asserted. ‘If they are disciplined by parents or pastors for 35 hours a week, they will generally walk in the ways in which they are disciplined. It really is that simple.’”

