

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: Janet Bridges
 6:30 P.M. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Kristi Hooper
 Cradle Roll 2: Andrea Hooper
 Wed. Evening Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Kelsey Moreno
 Cradle Roll 2: LeAnna White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of June 22, 2014

Sunday School ----- 14
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 29
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 27
 Wed. Eve. Service, 06/25/14 -----

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of June 22, 2014

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 970.00
 Total Received for Week of 06/22/14: \$ 970.00
 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 JUNE, 2014:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 329.66
 Amount Received thusfar during June, 2014 ----- \$ 0.00
 Amount STILL NEEDED by 07/05/14: \$ 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 ----- Organist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Shayne Hooper, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Shirley White, Charity Crawford

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY
REMINDER

Volume XIX

June 29, 2014

Number 22

JOIN US WEDNESDAY EVENINGS FOR -



A Study in the Book of the Revelation

Those who attend will learn the answers to these and many other important questions from the Bible:

- * What time is it on God's prophetic clock?
- * What is the Rapture, is it real, and, if, so, when will it occur?
- * What is the Tribulation, is it real, and, if so, when will it occur?
- * Will those who are Christians at the time of beginning of the Tribulation live through all or part of it?
- * Who is the Antichrist?
- * What will the one-world government be like?
- * What will be the characteristics of the one-world religion under the Antichrist, and is mankind being prepared to accept that religion now?
- * Will the United States of America exist as a nation at the time of the Battle of Armageddon?
- * What about children who aren't yet Christians at the time of the Rapture - what happens to them?

Join Us at 7 Pm on Wednesdays, Won't You?



What Is Rationalism & Why Is It Dangerous?

Humanistic rationalism has produced the Spirit-quenching pragmatism found in much of the 21st-century Evangelical church.

In answering this question from a reader, I must first qualify what I am about to say. I am going to address the fallacy and dangers of humanistic rationalism. We must never forget that authentic Biblical Christianity is nothing if not rational ? but it is based on Divine reason, not human reason.

Humanistic rationalism is the effective opposite of Christian presuppositionalism. It is the philosophy, developed beginning in the 1700s, which says that man can make sense of the universe using his reason alone, without any recourse to God or to His revelation in Scripture. Christians must not only reject humanistic rationalism; we must also understand where it has led much of the present-day church.

Kierkegaard's "Leap Into the Dark"

Danish philosopher-theologian **Søren Kierkegaard** (1813-1855), the father of postmodernism, rejected rationalism. Ironically, his rejection of it led to even worse thinking among many Christians. Kierkegaard correctly understood that humanistic rationalism leads to the loss of all meaning. But he did not fully accept the supernatural nature of the Bible as the Divine revelation of understandable, objective, propositional truth.

Even so, since he had a nominally Lutheran upbringing, Kierkegaard wanted to have the comfort of "faith" as a source of some sense of meaning in an otherwise meaningless world. "Faith" for Kierkegaard then became irrational - a "leap into the dark" as he called it. By elevating the subjectivity of this counterfeit of Christian "faith," Kierkegaard effectively rejected the objectivity of propositional truth in Scripture - one of the great truths reclaimed by the Protestant Reformers. Thus, Kierkegaard actually rejected the authority of Scripture, and helped set the stage for the postmodernist deconstruction of Scripture by succeeding generations.

Nietzsche's "Test of Wills" and the 21st-Century Church

Kierkegaard was, ironically, the forerunner of existentialists such as Friedrich Nietzsche, who came full circle into a worse form of humanistic rationalism coupled with evolutionary philosophy. Nietzsche believed that human reason is rationalization, merely the expression of what each man wants, and therefore a contest of weak versus strong wills. What man calls truth, according to Nietzsche, is simply a matter of what the strongest man or group of men wills. *Whatever man can make work in order to achieve his purposes - that is truth.*

How did all of this affect the history of the world? It has

poisoned the government of nations, *and it has spiritually enfeebled much of today's Evangelical church.*

In the political realm, humanistic rationalism became the basis of National Socialism and the horrors of Nazi Germany. It also became the basis of the philosophy that says that the constitutions of nations are "living documents" - wax noses to be pragmatically twisted to suit the aims of those in power.

But the Worst Effects Are in the Church. The Spirit-quenching pragmatism of the nominally Evangelical church of the 21st century is also the product of the influences of humanistic rationalism and its existentialist philosophy. Today many Evangelical leaders, whether they admit it or not, really agree with Nietzsche. They believe that what is most important is **not** what Scripture says, but what "works" - what attracts the most people, what builds the biggest "ministry", what produces the most "vibrant" worship, what most "affirms" people and makes them feel good. Viewed in terms of Nietzsche's test of wills, the strong-willed pragmatists in the Evangelical church have largely triumphed over weak-willed Christians who have remained silent or lodged only ineffectual protests. By force of will, the pragmatists have established a new Nietzschean "truth" - *the philosophy of the Purpose-Driven Church.* (And the Emergent Church Movement - TWW).

True Christians Must Also Reject Irrationalism

True Christians must reject this. But Christians must also reject irrationalism. Today, much of what is passed off as Evangelical preaching is couched in this kind of language: *"Don't think too much about Christianity and the Bible, just 'believe' and feel good about it, and let church leaders take you in any direction they please, without protest."* This is not Christian faith rooted in Divine reason. *It is existentialist pragmatism couched in Christian jargon.*

Genuine Christian faith is **not** a blind, irrational "faith" in the nebulous, the uncertain, the changeable. It is **not** the practical rejection of the authority of Christ and His Word, no matter how much church leaders may say they are not rejecting Him. *Genuine Christian faith is submission to the authority of God, Who is consummately rational.*

It begins with submission to the divine record of creation, attested to by God Himself:

"Then the Lord answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy?" (Job 38:1-7)

It requires belief in the Divine record of the person and work of Jesus Christ, attested to by human eyewitnesses whose testimony is recorded in Scripture:

"For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received from God the Father honour and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount. We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

- II Peter 1:16-21

"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life; (For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;) That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full" (I John 1:1-4).

God's Remedy for Humanist Rationalism: "Quench Not the Spirit"

The danger of humanistic rationalism is that it denies the reality of God's revelation, and the pragmatism it produces denies the power of it - even in the church.

The early Corinthian church, though it began well, soon fell prey to such deception. The Apostle Paul wrote his first epistle to them to correct their deadly error:

"For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,

and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent. Where is the wise? where is the scribe? where is the disputer of this world? hath not God made foolish the wisdom of this world? For after that in the wisdom of God the world by wisdom knew not God, it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.

For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

or 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.

But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.

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" (I Corinthians 1:18-2:5).

Paul also warned the Thessalonians, in his first letter to them, Chapter 5, verse 19, saying, *"Quench not the Spirit"*.

How does the church do that? Paul immediately goes on to say, *"Despise not prophesyings"* - literally, do not diminish or debase Divine revelation in your thinking.

And next, *"Prove [test] all things; hold fast that which is good"* in light of God's infallible and uniquely authoritative Word.

As we have said so often in the statement that summarizes the focus of this ministry:

The church of Jesus Christ must be the Scripture-driven church. God's inspired, inerrant Word must be our sole authority, and our infallible critic, in every area of life and ministry.