

SOUTH HEIGHTS BAPTIST'S WEEKLY

REMINDER

Volume XVI

August 26, 2012

Number 38

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: Volunteer Needed!
 Cradle Roll 2: Volunteer Needed!
 Wed. Evening Service ---- Cradle Roll 1: LeAnna White
 Cradle Roll 2: Seth White

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...

Week of August 19, 2012

Sunday School ----- 21
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 39
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 21
 Wednesday Evening Service, 08/22/12 ----- 20

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of August 19, 2012

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 483.90
 Insurance Fund----- \$ 3.00
Total Received for Week of 08/19/12: \$ 486.90

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

INSURANCE FUND REPORT FOR AUGUST 2012:

Monthly Requirement ----- \$ 273.08
 Amount Received for August, 2012 ----- \$ 103.00
Amount Still Needed by 09/05/12 ----- \$ 164.08

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
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Shayne Hooper, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Dwayne English, Shayne Hooper ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Shirley White



*The late Dr. Ron Dunn
1936-2001*

Ministry of Circumstances

by the late Dr. Ron Dunn
(continued from last week)

The two bottom points of the triangle support the purpose of God. I want you to label this point on the right The Predestination of God. The predestination of God assures us of the purpose of God. The purpose of God is that I am to be like Jesus. The predestination of God guarantees that will happen. Let's look at verse 29 of Romans 8: "*For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son...*" Now, I am not going to try to explain the mystery of predestination. The reason is that I do not know the explanation for it. This is one of those areas where you must know without understanding. I do not understand predestination but I know it is a fact because the Bible teaches it. The word predestinate means to mark (choose) beforehand.

In Eternity, God designed me before I was ever born. That design was to be like Jesus. God is not going to leave it up to me to become like Jesus because He knows I'll never make it. So God guarantees that His purpose will be fulfilled. He guarantees it like this: in eternity past before any of us were even born, God knew us and he drew a circle around us and said "I am going to guarantee you are going to be like Jesus." The *predestination* of God guarantees the *purpose* of God. That purpose of God is supported by the predestination of God. Friends, if you have been saved--like it or not--someday you are going to be like Jesus. There is no power in heaven or earth or hell that can ever prevent you from being like Jesus. You mark it down. Regardless of how discouraged you may be today, one of these days you are going to be exactly like Jesus. Why? Because in eternity past before you were ever born, God drew a circle around you and said "You are mine."

Paul, writing to the Philippians in chapter 1, verse 6, says: "*Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform [it] until the day of Jesus Christ.*" Friend, God never leaves any work undone. What God starts, He always finishes. One of my favorite passages is the sixth chapter of the Gospel of John. In verse 37, Jesus said: "*All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" In verse 39, he says, "*And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.*"

Jesus said "The Father has given me some people. Everybody that He gave me is going to come to me." You say, "*If I believe in predestination, that discourages evangelism.*" Oh no, that encourages it! Everyone that the Father has given the Son are going to come to Him. If they don't come to Him, they have not been given. They cannot come until they have been given to Son of the Father. He says that "*him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.*" You say, "What if we sin?" He will in no wise cast you out because the Father gave you to Him. He says he will raise you up at the last day. Upon that last day, Jesus is going to stand before the Father and say, "Father, everyone you gave me is here and accounted for. Not one is lost and not one is missing." The predestination of God is God's guarantee that someday you and I will be exactly like Jesus. "*Beloved, now we are the sons of God. It doth not yet appear what we shall be*" (we don't have any idea what we are going to be). It's incomprehensible to see what we will be like in Heaven, but I do know this: We shall be like Him for we shall see Him as he is. Every man that has this hope in his heart is purifying himself just like Jesus is pure. The purpose of God is to be like Jesus. The predestination of God guarantees it.

I'm glad that I have a Lord like this. I am guaranteed. It says in Romans, verse 30: "*Moreover whom he did predestinate, them*"
(continued inside)

LISTEN TO -



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he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified.” That’s past tense. Have you ever noticed how much of the book of Revelation is written in the past tense even though it is in the future? Have you ever noticed that Isaiah 53 is written in past tense even though it is prophesying an event that wouldn’t happen until 700 years later? Do you ever wonder why God wrote prophecy in the past tense? Even God himself can’t change it once it is history. You and I understand that God can do anything, but I am speaking after the infirmity of your flesh. He writes in the prophetic past.

George Washington was the first president of the United States. There’s not anything you can do about that. You can’t change that. There’s not a thing you can do about it. God is saying that it is so certain and so secure that you are already glorified. It has already happened. It’s in the **past tense**. God guarantees it. Right now I’m glorified. I don’t look much like I’m glorified. Sometimes I don’t sound too glorified. But friend, when God looks at me, He says I’m glorified. How can I lose my salvation if I’m already in heaven—glorified?

God is a present tense God. There is no past and no future with God. Let’s suppose that I’m standing on top of a building. I remember years ago hearing Dr. J. P. McBeth use this illustration - it made such an impression on me. On top of the building, I am watching people walk. I am watching a fellow. I saw where he started. I see where he is going. I see where he is. Right now, that fellow is right below me. Now, where he was is his past; where he is going is his future. But from my vantage point where he was is my present; where he is going is my present; and where he is is my present. From my viewpoint, it’s all **now**. From God’s viewpoint my whole life is all now. I look back to where I was ten years ago, and that is my past. But that is God’s now. I wonder where I’m going to be ten years from now. That’s my future but it is God’s now. You see, God is the eternal now; there is no past or future. It is all present. God can say you are already glorified. The purpose of God is to be like Jesus. The predestination of God assures the purpose of God.

Let’s come to the third point of the triangle. Remember that these two bottom points support the **purpose** of God. The third point of the triangle is the **providence** of God. The purpose of God is to be like Jesus. The predestination of God assures that purpose. **The providence of God accomplishes that purpose.**

The purpose of God, which has been guaranteed by predestination, is in the present life being accomplished by God’s providence. What is providence? Purpose is to **design** beforehand. Predestination is to **choose** beforehand. Providence is to **provide** beforehand.

Providence is made up of two words: **pro** (before) and **video** (to see). **It means to see beforehand and to plan accordingly.** The providence of God is this: God saw every situation I would be in before I was ever in it, every circumstance I would ever encounter before I ever encountered it, He saw beforehand everything that would happen to me, and He planned accordingly.

If I know what is going to happen, I can make provision before it happens. That’s why you buy a burial plot, isn’t it? You know if the Lord tarries, you are going to die. Knowing therefore what is going to happen, you can provide for it. God knows everything that is going to happen—every detail, every turn in the corner, every rut in the road. In eternity past He looked down, saw everything that was going to happen to us, and made provision for it. I may be surprised at what happens to me tomorrow, but God isn’t. He has already made provision.

Notice verse 28 in Romans 8: **“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God...”** That’s the **providence** of God. The purpose of God is to be conformed to the image of God. The predestination of God guarantees it. The providence of God is God right now, today, working all things together to accomplish that good. Notice that he says ALL things are working together - working together has the idea of all things fitting together like pieces in a puzzle, meshing together like gears. When you work a big jigsaw puzzle, you dump it all out on the table, and it looks like you will never be able to work that thing.

For Christmas, we got some big jigsaw puzzles. There was one that looked absolutely beautiful on the cover of the box. We bought some of this stuff you spray on it to make it stick so you can keep it and put it in a frame. We worked on it for days and days and days and got it all finished, but there was one piece lost. It ruined the whole puzzle. We looked under rugs, in pants pockets, in closets, everywhere for that one missing piece. Now, every time we start working a jigsaw puzzle, I have a fear the last piece may be missing. I know a lot of Christians who go through life worrying that the last piece may be missing. Friend, it won’t be because God is fitting everything together to accomplish that purpose! You put it down, and rest on it! The providence of God is Him taking everything in my life and causing it to mesh together to accomplish that purpose of making me like Jesus.

- more next week

A WORD ABOUT THE ATTEMPTED THEFT AT THE CHURCH THIS PAST FRIDAY -

This past Friday, while the Pastor was out running an errand, someone tried to steal the outside Air Conditioning units for the Fellowship Hall and Education Wing that houses our Sunday School classes, Nursery, and restrooms. While they were not successful in removing them, they did cut the copper lines, and all the freon escaped from both systems, so that now, neither work.

Preliminary estimates on the repairs are around \$1,500 for both systems, providing nothing else was damaged. We are getting formal estimates this coming week, and will keep everyone posted about this issue. Our insurance will not cover these losses, as the \$1,500 is below our deductible, so we are asking our folks to pray about two things:

1. Please pray for the people who attempted to steal these units - that God would use this situation to reach their

hearts and save them, and -

2. Please pray that the Lord will give us the mans to repair or replace these units, as need be.

- Thank You!

NEWS OF INTEREST TO CHRISTIANS

• **NEW YORKERS: “LET CHICK-FIL-A BUILD RESTAURANTS”** - The following is excerpted from “NY Voters Poll,” Christian Post, Aug. 16, 2012: “Most New York City voters say Chick-fil-A should not be blocked from getting permits over its traditional stance on marriage, according to a new poll. Amid debate over Chick-fil-A President Dan Cathy’s statement last month against same-sex marriage, 82 percent said there should be no impact on the fast-food chain’s ability to get permits, a Quinnipiac University poll revealed Wednesday. Also, 83 percent said elected officials should not try to discourage people from eating at Chick-fil-A. ‘New Yorkers may disagree with what you say, but they defend your right to sell chicken,’ said Maurice Carroll, director of the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute, in a statement. The survey was conducted among 1,298 New York City voters. It follows comments by several mayors and other elected officials that they don’t want Chick-fil-A in their cities.”

• **AL QAEDA ADVERTISING FOR SUICIDE BOMBERS** - The following is excerpted from “Al Qaeda’s Suicide Bomber Want Ad,” Business Insider, Aug. 15, 2012: “The Hebrew daily Yedioth Ahronoth reports the global terror group has resorted to online classifieds to find new recruits to pull off the ultimate attacks. The ad was apparently posted to a restricted forum known to be frequented by radical Islamists and offered simply a position titled ‘Suicide Bomber.’ The position was listed in Arabic, the location as ‘global’ and offered a jihadist workshop to those with ‘mental maturity, physical fitness, dedication, obedience and the tenacity to see the mission through.’ With several email addresses known to belong to Al Qaeda frontmen operating in the Arabian Peninsula, Yedioth Ahronoth says the ad also asked for a resume, listing age, health, languages, available passports, and oddly-- ‘previous experience.’”

• **ATHEISTS CLAIM CROSS AT 9/11 MUSEUM MAKING THEM SICK** - The American Atheists have filed a lawsuit demanding that the steel cross at the 9/11 museum be removed, as it violates the U.S. Constitution and is causing them “depression, headaches, anxiety, and mental pain and anguish” (“Despite Atheists’ Absurd Claims,” American Center for Law and Justice, Aug. 17, 2012). The Ground Zero Cross is composed of a surviving crossbeam from the Twin Towers and is displayed as one of 800 artifacts. The 9/11 museum is defending the display, arguing that the cross became a symbol of hope to many during the recovery effort, and “there is no legal authority for the proposition that a museum is prohibited from displaying an item with historical, cultural or artistic significance merely because that item also has religious significance.”

• **MUSLIMS DEMAND THEIR OWN NATION IN**

NORWAY -The following is excerpted from “Muslims Demand Breakaway Islamic Nation,” Examiner.com, Aug. 19, 2012: “The Norwegian news portal VG Nett is reporting that a Muslim terrorist group, Ansar al-Sunna, is threatening that if a section of the nation’s capitol isn’t transformed into a sharia-complaint Muslim nation, an attack rivaling 9/11 will be launched upon the Scandinavian nation. ...

As translated by Michael Laudahn: ‘If Norwegian soldiers can take planes to Afghanistan, then Osama and Mohammed can also take planes to Norway ... This is not a threat, only the words of truth. The words of justice. ... We do not want to be a part of Norwegian society. And we do not consider it necessary either to move away from Norway, because we were born and grew up here. And Allah’s earth belongs to everybody. But let Grønland become ours. Bar this city quarter and let us control it the way we wish to do it. ... We do not wish to live together with dirty beasts like you.’”

• **IRAN’S FUTURE** - Iran, which was called Persia until 1935, is a friend of Russia and a vicious enemy of Israel. In September 2008, Israel’s ambassador to the United States, Sallai Meridor, warned that Russian arms sales to Iran and Syria are “destabilizing and dangerous for Israel” (“Israel Irked by Iran-Russia Military Ties,” PressTV.ir, Sept. 13, 2008). Russia is a major player in providing Iran with nuclear technology and high-tech armaments. In 2009, Iran’s defense ministry hailed the nation’s military ties to Russia (AP, Feb. 20, 2009). Earlier this month, Iran’s president, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, said “the ultimate goal of world forces must be the annihilation of Israel” (Jerusalem Post, Aug. 2, 2012). On August 17, Ahmadinejad called Israel a “cancerous tumor” that will soon be destroyed, and the next day a top Iranian military commander said he would welcome an Israeli strike against Iran’s nuclear facilities because it would give his nation a reason to retaliate and “get rid of the Jewish state forever” (“Top Iranian Commander,” TheBlaze, Aug. 18, 2012).

According to Bible prophecy, the armies of Persia will join Russia’s attack on Israel and suffer destruction with her. **“And say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, O Gog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal: And I will turn thee back, and put hooks into thy jaws, and I will bring thee forth, and all thine army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords: Persia, Ethiopia, and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet. ... And I will plead against him with pestilence and with**

blood; and I will rain upon him, and upon his bands, and upon the many people that are with him, an overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire, and brimstone” (Ezekiel 38:3-5, 22).

