

February 2020

The Trumpet

“The trumpet shall sound...and we shall be changed”
(I Corinthians 15:52)



Volume 14 Issue 2

Pastor's Pen

On February 9, 2014 my Dad graduated to heaven. His passing was not unexpected. The mesothelioma cancer was aggressively attacking his body. His physical condition had deteriorated to an untreatable level. We were told, “there are no medical options available”. At that point, the strategy for his care shifted from treatment to comfort. When the Lord called him home it was bittersweet. Sweet because his suffering had ended, and he was in the presence of God. Bitter because his absence left a void in my life that no man can fill.

When I reflect on the life and legacy of my dad, I realize there are many characteristics and attributes that defined him. As a friend, he was honest and loyal. As a husband to my mother, he was faithful and loving. As a father, he was caring and heroic. As a man of God, he was authentic and faithful. There are many accolades that can be ascribed to him, but the one that would mean the most is, as a Christian, he finished well.

Finishing well was paramount to Dad. It was the central theme woven into our upbringing like a fine thread into an artistic tapestry. My dad constantly counselled us kids to pay close attention to the way we conducted our lives; to live in such a way that when we get to the end, we have nothing to be embarrassed about or ashamed of. He taught us to honor God and obey the Bible.

Some might think because I'm a pastor that would be easy for me. Unfortunately, my position does not guarantee my finish. I can share with you a long list of pas-

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tors and godly man and women who started strong but did not or will not finish well. A long list of brethren who have given into temptations that ruined their marriage, their family, their church, and their life. We find this same truth concerning some of the patriarchs of the bible. King Solomon started well, asking for wisdom to lead the chosen people of God. But we read in I Kings 11:4, *“It came to pass, when Solomon was old, that his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God,*

his God, as was the heart of David his father.” Interesting that you can be blessed by God with untold wealth and wisdom (King Solomon) and a still not finish well. Conversely, you can have murder and adultery on your record (King David) and still finish well. So, if the position of pastor or king does not guarantee our finish the question becomes; what does? I believe the Apostle Paul answered that question in II Timothy 4: 7 where he writes, *“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith...”*

Finishing well requires running the race that is set before us with our eyes fixed on Jesus. Finishing well requires fighting a good fight against worldly compromise while living in obedience to the word of God. Finishing well requires being faithful when faced with trials, temptations, struggles and challenges knowing you can do all things through Christ who strengthens you. Finishing well is being able to say on your death bed, as my dad said to me, “I’m not dying; I’m getting ready to see my Savior.” Live in such a way that when you die it can be said of you, “He (or she) finished well!”

In His Grip,
Pastor Jim

Greeters Ministry

Brother Jerry Martin, Evangelism Coordinator for the Utah-Idaho Convention spoke to us recently in a Sunday morning message while filling in for Pastor Gregory. He said that Christmas is actually EVERY DAY for Christians because [Christmas] means Christ worship which Scripture adjures us to do both corporately and privately (Heb. 10:25; I Thess. 5:18; 1 Cor. 10:31). He also made the statement that music/singing isn’t all there is to worship. Other elements include giving, prayer, thanksgiving, witnessing, service. Let me challenge you, my brothers and sisters (as the Lord has challenged me) to be aware of the opportunities and the Holy Spirit’s leading to share a word about or from the Lord with family, friend, (continued on page 5)

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry formed by Franklin Graham that takes Christmas gifts and the Gospel to underprivileged children all over the world. We are collecting items to fill shoeboxes in November. Each month we will highlight a different item to bring in. But, please remember we will take all types of donations at any time! For February please bring in toothbrushes.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Essentials of the Faith – Doctrine of Angels

The scripture tells us that human beings are not the only intelligent sentient beings created by God – Colossians 1:16, “For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on the earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things have been created through Him and for Him.” Angels are personal beings who obey God (Ps. 103:20). While they do not have God’s characteristics, they are above man in our current state. They were even above Jesus when He was on earth (Hebrews 2:7). They are able to inform and instruct us, yet they do not understand redemption (I Peter 1:12). One third of the angels fell with Lucifer (Rev. 12:9) who was apparently one of the chief or archangels along with Michael and Gabriel. Michael role as an archangel is to lead the armies of angels against the angels of the Devil (Rev. 12:7). Gabriel’s role was that of proclamation (Luke 1:19, 26-27). Lucifer was given control of the earth where he is still at this time ruler (John 16:11) The two thirds of the angels who did not fall with Lucifer are sent out as ministers to those of us who will inherit salvation (Heb. 1:14). They are, it should be noted, not God and should therefore never be worshiped.

Though angels are spirits (men are souls), they may take on a human body. Hebrews 13:2 tells us that some have entertained angels without knowing it and this is one reason to be hospitable to strangers. Of course, in our culture today we need to be careful. The culture in Biblical times was not as depraved as it is today.

One question is whether those beings referred to as Sons of God in Genesis chapter six are angels. This is a disputed text among qualified conservative scholars. The other principal options are that they are the godly line of Seth or some kind of royal beings. Strong support is found in scripture for angels being the correct interpretation. The exact Hebrew term used in Genesis 6 is used in Job where the beings in question are without question angels (Job 1:6, 2:1, 38:7). The term is also used in Daniel 3:25 but in the Aramaic language. Genesis 6 tells us that the sons of god took wives. Jude 6 & 7 say that the angels who did not keep their estate behaved in gross immorality akin to what happened in Sodom and Gomorrah. II Peter 2:4 speaks of the angels that sinned being cast into Hell. While this interpretation is not absolutely certain it certainly has strong support. There are sound conservative interpreters of scripture who disagree on the interpretation of the phrase “sons of God” in Genesis 6. Therefore, we must not make this a point of contention between brothers in the faith.

While one third of the angels fell with Lucifer two thirds did not and are referred to as “holy” (Mark 8:38). They are also called chosen or elect in I Timothy 5:21. The angels that fell with Lucifer will be cast into Gehenna (hell) and will thus suffer an eternal death. But God’s angels cannot die (Luke 20:36). While the work of God’s angels is positive toward believers it is just the opposite towards those who never come to faith. Towards Christians the angels:

1. The law was given through angels (Acts 7:53, Galatians 3:19, Hebrews 2:2).
2. Guide the affairs of nations (Daniel 10:13, 12:1).
3. Watch over the interests of churches (Revelation 1:20).
4. Assist and protect individual believers
 - A. Lot, his wife and children (Genesis 19:12 - 13 & 16).
 - B. Elijah (I Kings 19:5)
 - C. Daniel (Daniel 6:22)
 - D. Peter (Acts 12:7)
 - E. Guard us (Psalm 91:11-12)
5. Angels bear believers to glory (Luke 16:22)

When Christ returns, Angels will accompany Him (Matthew 25:31) and they will carry out God’s judgment (Matthew 13:41-43, 47-50). They restrain judgment for the sake of God’s servants (Revelation 7:1-3). They will gather together God’s elect (Matthew 24:31, Mark 13:27).

Our greatest single enemy is Satan, who is the fallen angel, Lucifer. God made Lucifer not Satan. He was perfect until sin “was found in him.” We do not know the origin of sin because the Bible does not tell us. And when the scripture is silent on a subject we should not speculate. It is easy to get into serious error by conjecturing about something regarding which God has not given us information. The things revealed belong to us, but the secret things belong to God (Det. 29:29). He is a person not a force of evil and is treated this way by the writers of scripture. He exhibits personnel traits as we do, he has a will, but it is always and only for evil. But, he is unlike God in that he can only be in one place at a time. It is highly unlikely that you will ever be tempted personally by the Devil. His activities are reserved for the greatest of Christians. You may however be tempted by one of the other fallen angels. Satan does tempt and harass Christians. He also works to keep unbelievers under his control. But he cannot stop the purposes of God.

The question is: what should our attitude be? We should be aware of his activities, give him no place, but do not rebuke or rail against him. We should be clad in the armor of God. But though we are aware of him, our focus should be on serving God. Because if we have our attention on the Lord, Satan cannot harm us.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 4 Ladies' Ministry Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 6 Ladies' Bible Study Starts
- 9 Lord's Supper (11:00 a.m.)
- 9 Loving Our City Discipleship Training (5:30 p.m.)
- 17 President's Day - Offices Closed - No MDO
- 20 TVSBA Executive Board Meeting (6:00 p.m.)
- 23 Loving Our World Discipleship Training (5:30 p.m.)
- 25 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:00 p.m.)

(Greeters Ministry - continued from page 2)

co-workers, neighbors, business acquaintances, and strangers (1 Pet. 3:15). One non-scary way to do that is to join our **FSBC greeters/ushers ministry**-- serving no more than one Sunday morning/week. Task options include greeting those who arrive, giving a bulletin, helping find a seat or a Sunday school class, the nursery, a re-

stroom, etc., talking further with visitors to make a connection, answering questions they may have about our church, and gathering and recording basic information about them that would assist pastor and those who later make follow-up home visits. We also help elderly, those with children, or encumbered individuals carrying a load to get from their cars into the building. Ushers, of course, also collect the offering at the end of the service. If you are feeling led to join us, just interested or have questions please contact me via email at jring75@gmail.com.

John Ring, Greeters Committee Chairman



Youth Ministries Report

The Mission of First Southern Baptist Church of Mountain Home Youth Ministry is to provide a Christ-centered ministry so young people can:

- Know Jesus
- Grow in Jesus
- Love according to Jesus
- Go tell about and serve in Jesus

Providing a Christ-centered youth ministry where young people can know Jesus means leading them to recognize their sin, repent from their sin and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ as the means of salvation.

Providing a place for youth to grow in their relationship with Jesus means teaching them to hear the Word of God, rightfully divide the Word of God, actively participate in worship, develop the discipline of prayer and grow their faith through relationships with other believers.

Providing a place for youth to love like and become like Jesus means directing them to pattern their lives after Christ and His teachings, learn from mature believers, live according to God's Word and be encouraged in their faith by one another.

Providing a place for youth to go tell about and serve Jesus means equipping them to understand the importance of service, see Christ in themselves (fruit of the spirit), realize each persons' gifts and learn how to use them to the glory of God and to know the Gospel message and how to deliver it to the lost.

Eric Nagel – Youth Ministries Director

Church Council

On January 6th the council met for two hours with a focus on the upcoming year. The first phase of the remodel project is complete, and we are looking to begin the second phase this month which will see the kitchen and fellowship hall undergo some major revamping along with the creation of a new classroom. Each member of council is responsible for bringing the needs of various ministries and committees before the council. The Education Director is Patrick Holt, the Support Ministry Director is Jim Clark, the Children's Ministry Director is Jessica Nagel, the Administrative Director is Garry Harper, the Operations Director is John Crowe and the Stewardship Director is Bob Neubauer. Pastor Gregory is planning a series of meetings this month covering the needs of the church for the coming year.

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. CBS is planning a revival of its soap opera *As The World Turns* for the second coming of the Lord Jesus. Its new title will be *As The World Burns*.
2. Marathon runners with bad feet suffer the agony of defeat.
3. A Plateau is a high form of flattery.
4. Different languages have their own words for the honorific for men. English has Mr. Spanish has Senor. French has Monsieur. And German has Heir. That reminds us of the famous German tactician, Heir Brush.
5. I always offer two dinner choices, take it or leave it.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Annabelle Brooks
 4 Mark Barnes
 6 Alice Williams
 7 Jaydin Blair
 9 Cortana Farnham
 9 Daniel Kelly
 10 Gavriel Nagel
 10 Don Nesbitt



Happy Birthday

12 Callandor Farnham
 14 Amber Blair
 14 Michelle Sisson
 17 Patrick Holt
 17 Roland Simler
 19 Vincent Brooks
 23 Margaret Berry
 28 Michele Ring

1 Bob & Rose Pursell

19 John & Shannon Crowe



Early March Birthdays

4 Sam Artz
 4 Ruth Heinen

9 Aurora Farnham