

July 2021

The Trumpet

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



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Pastor's Pen

Francis Bellamy (1856-1931) was a minister from Boston, who was ordained in the Baptist Church of Little Falls, New York. He wrote the original Pledge of Allegiance in August 1892. He was also a staff member of *The Youth's Companion*, the leading family magazine of its day. On September 8, 1892, the Pledge of Allegiance was published for the first time anywhere in *The Youth's Companion*. At the dedication of the 1892 Chicago World's fair on October 12, 1892; public-school children, for the first time, recited the Pledge of Allegiance during the National School Celebration on the 400th anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America.

On June 14, 1954, by a Joint Resolution of Congress, 243 (Public Law · 83-396), the words "under God" were added to the Pledge of Allegiance. The words came from President Abraham Lincoln's famous Gettysburg Address "... that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth ... " (The Pledge was initially adopted by the 79th Congress on December 28, 1945, as Public Law 287). President Eisenhower signed the Pledge into law and gave his support to the Congressional Act, which added the phrase "under God," to the Pledge saying:

In this way we are reaffirming the transcendence of religious faith in

Inside This Edition

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| Pastor's Pen | page 1 |
| Hostess Committee | page 2 |
| Putting on Full Armor of God | page 3 |
| Calendar | page 5 |
| Post Revival letters | page 6 |
| Birthdays and Anniversaries | page 7 |

America's heritage and future; in this way we shall constantly strengthen those spiritual weapons which forever will be our country's most powerful resource in peace and war.

President Eisenhower then stood on the steps of the Capitol Building and recited the Pledge of Allegiance for the first time with the phrase, "one Nation under God." The foregoing is provided to give a true and factual history of the phrase

"under God." Let us not forget when the law was passed in 1954 adopting the phrase it was not an infringement upon the first amendment of the Constitution, neither is it today!

May God bless America...one Nation under God!

In Christian Love,

Pastor Jim

Resource for this article: America's God and Country, William J. Federer

Hostess Committee Report

We were Finally! FREE of the Covid 19 restrictions and got to celebrate our 1st Potluck Sunday June 6th!! The new kitchen is really Great! Pastor Jim graciously did the architectural drawings and donated countless hours to bless us with our commercial grade kitchen! His vision of having our "family" go down both sides of the wide counter really alleviated the long lines and wait time!

We had roughly 61 people who enjoyed what we have been missing for way too long!! I want to thank the men who set up and took down all the tables and chairs, and those who vacuumed.

Thanks also to Michele Ring for her always special decorations, and to all the ladies for their work. Many thanks to Chris Boesl who washed mounds of dirty dishes for us! Last but definitely not least, I want to express my appreciation for all the extra special food that you, the members of First Southern, provided!!

Carol Ellis

Hostess Committee Chairman

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 July please bring in school supplies.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Contradiction – Paradox – Mystery

In many people's minds there is often confusion between contradiction, paradox and mystery. And in secular culture the three are frequently treated as if they mean the same thing. While that may apply to things outside the Christian faith it most certainly does not pertain to Christianity. Let's give definition to those terms and then look at how they affect believers understanding of their faith.

Contradiction means that two things cannot be and not be at the same time and in the same relationship or way. For example, if you had a rubber band you could shape it as a circle or a square but not at the same time. No matter how quickly you reshaped it you could not achieve a square circle. On the other hand you could take a cone and by viewing it from a different perspective see it as a circle. It could therefore be a cone and a circle at the same time but not in the same way.

With a paradox there are two things which at first glance appear to be a contradiction, but the conflict can be resolved with close inspection. Here is an example: Recent evidence has conclusively shown that cholesterol levels do not correlate with human lifespan. Despite this new evidence, doctors still advise patients with high cholesterol to take medication and engage in physical activity to reduce cholesterol levels. So, why do physicians continue to proscribe cholesterol medication if patient's lives are not prolonged? That is a paradox that is resolved with more information. The reason doctors still proscribe cholesterol medications is because they improve the quality of life. And quality of life is just as important as its duration. The important thing to remember about paradox is that the apparent conflict can be resolved through close consideration and sometimes with additional information.

Mystery involves something that cannot be fully understood though it does not involve contradiction. We can describe something in great detail without fully knowing what it is. We all use electricity every day. We can talk about it extensively and work with it to make our lives better, but we do not fully understand what it is. Another example is gravity. It is not possible for anyone to exhaustively know what it is though we all experience it. We see astronauts in space floating in their vehicles because there is no gravity but do not understand completely why they float and we on earth do not.

How do the three terms relate to the Christian faith? Do we have paradoxes in scripture? Without question we do. To illustrate, how is it that for us to die to self is actually gain? Or how is it that to lose everything for Christ's sake is to secure all? Believers are very familiar with these paradoxes and their solution. And it is

common for the text itself to include the solution to the paradox. Even if the text doesn't provide the solution a solid understanding of the faith will give a solution without much difficulty.

Mystery is also a term we find in our Bibles. Most often it refers to something that was not known in the Old Testament but has now been revealed. That salvation would be for the whole world and not just the Jewish people is perhaps the greatest example of a revealed mystery. Mystery can also refer to those things that we do not completely understand. While we can state the doctrine that Jesus is both God and man at the same time, none of us has an exhaustive understanding of the God/man. That Jesus is very God and very man is as great a truth as there is. But explaining it is so difficult that in 451 AD the great ecumenical council Chalcedon did so more by saying who Christ was not than by who He was. In order to deal with the Monophysite and Nestorian heresies the council said He was one person with two natures, without mixture, without confusion, without division and without separation, each nature retaining its own attributes. The Monophysite heresy said that the two natures joined to create one God-man nature while Nestorianism said if there were two natures there must be two persons. We can like the council deny these fatal errors but are still left with the mystery of how that can be.

The most important thing to know in this discussion is that there is paradox and mystery in the Bible but there is never contradiction. The trinity is without question the most common claim of contradiction made against our faith. Believers have had to deal with this attack from the inception of the faith. We hear it today both from the average person on the street as well as the intellectual community. United Pentecostals will say we believe in three gods, but they are not alone in that charge. Others will just say that the claim that God is three and one at the same time is an obvious contradiction. Any right understanding of the trinity begins with the statement there is only one God. Within the one being of God are three co-equal, co-eternal persons. There is one what, God and three who's, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. God is one in substance, three in person. If we were to say that God is one in substance (one what) and three in substance (three what's) at the same time we would have a contradiction. Or if we were to say God was three in person (three who's) and one in person (one who) at the same time we would also have a contradiction. However saying that God is one in substance and three in person does not violate the law of non-contradiction. But only God understands how that can be. So when we get to eternity will we completely understand the trinity. No! God is infinite and we are finite and while we will greatly increase our understanding the finite will never exhaustively comprehend the infinite. Fear not - even now we can understand it well enough to know that it is not a contradiction. This is the classic example that there is mystery in scripture, but not contradiction. And do remember that it is this one triune God that loves you and has saved you.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 4 Independence Day
- 5 4th of July observed - Offices Closed
- 6-9 Vacation Bible School - Emmanuel Baptist
- 11 The Lord's Supper 11:00 a.m.
- 12 Deacon's Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 17 Women's Fellowship (10:00 a.m.)
- 18-24 TVSBA Youth Camp
- 27 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:00 p.m.)
- 28 TVSBA Executive Meeting

(more post revival)

From Dr. Patterson,

Dear Pastor Jim,

Please accept this expression of my most profound appreciation for allowing us to come for revival. Your church proved again what I have known is true – when a church wants to experience revival and actually have a response, they have to get involved in the preparation. Your church did that; and, as a result, the Spirit of God visited among us. What a joy it was to be there.

God be good to you in the days ahead!

Until He comes,
Paige Patterson

Post Revival

We've received the following from the speakers at our recent revival.

From Dr. Kelley,

Dear Jim and Sarah,

It's been a long time since I've been in a church that prepared so carefully and so well for a revival meeting. My goodness. We had church! Thank you for letting Rhonda and I come and be part of it. Rhonda loved the ladies tea, and I loved my time at the base. We so enjoyed our special lunch with you. Thanks, also, for your wonderful hospitality and for your very generous love offering. God is up to something at Mountain Home under your leadership, and we pray it will continue to grow!

Yours and His,
Chuck Kelley

From Dorothy Patterson

My dear Sarah and Jim,

What a week – genuine revival, prayed and worked for, and we were blessed! The snack basket was amazing. As you noticed, we consumed most of it! = fresh blueberries, pineapple and POM juices, chip, breakfast bars, chocolates, jerky and more. We had several meals and lots of snacks. We also enjoyed the meals at Stoney's and the fellowship with you and with the team. Our accommodations were exactly what we needed.

Sarah, you did a beautiful job with the ladies' Tea: every detail of decoration, meal/menu and fellowship made a perfect occasion. The receptions each evening were a wonderful time for us to get to know your people.

The gifts are treasures – hand-crafted birdhouses and the antler pen – to remind us to pray for you. Your thoughtfulness knows no bounds.

How grateful I am for the home you've given my doll collection. The cabinet was beautifully appointed. God continues to open doors in amazing ways!

Dorothy (More on page 5)

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. These days it is easy to tell the bank robbers from everyone else. The bank robbers are the ones not wearing a mask.
2. What was it the old time comedian said? You can lead a horse to water, but if you can make him lie on his back and float then you got something.
3. Who are the two witnesses in Revelation chapter 11? They are killed and then resurrected. Early church fathers thought they were probably Enoch and Elijah. Some thought that Moses was one of the witnesses. One writer suggested Abel and his brother. Of course if that happens they'll really be raising Cain.
4. Today not only Murphy's law (anything that can go wrong will go wrong) applies, but O'tooles corollary which says Murphy was an optimist.

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Victor Nostrom
5 Shilo Nagel
10 Sharon Siebenberg
12 Tyrone Parsons
12 Rose Hare
17 Uriah Clark
18 Larry Sears



18 Wayne Clark
18 Karen Williams
19 Lyle Ferch
26 Julie Harper
28 Sarah Hare
28 Jeannie Zarych
29 Jonni Clark

14 John & Norma Harper
30 Steve & Diane Noland
8/3 Daryl & Cookie Lyerla
8/5 Blair & Meghan Byrem



23 Jake & Michelle Sisson
8/3 Clifford & Rose Hare
8/4 Don & Flo Scheffler
8/7 John & Seven Sanders

Early August Birthdays

5 Rose Pursell