

July 2022

The Trumpet

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



Volume 16 Issue 7

Pastor's Pen

There are many people who believe the Bible is a great roadmap to living a life that pleases God. Through devotion, prayer, and practice, they endeavor to live a life consistent with Psalms 119:11, “*Thy word have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against thee [God]*”. There are many scriptures that remind us of the great benefit of benefit of wholly and completely conforming to the word of God. We are told to study and apply it, to let it be a lamp and a light to our feet and path. We are reminded that is an inspired and inerrant book of truth and absolutes. Yet, there are many other people who claim to believe in the Bible, but only when it suits them and does not convict them.

In his book, *The Body*, Chuck Colson writes (pg. 124), “At the height of her fame as the other woman in the Ivana and Donald Trump breakup, Marla Maples spoke of her religious roots. She believed in the Bible, she told interviewers, and then added the disclaimer, but you can't always take [it] literally and be happy.” The truth according to Marla is when God’s Word highlights and exposes your sin, disregard the Bible. Allow me to say this: disregarding the Bible doesn’t make it any less true, inspired, inerrant, or infallible.

Referring to the Holy Bible an unknown writer said, “This Book is the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding; its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you, and com-

Inside This Edition

Pastor's Pen	page 1
Hostess Committee	page 2
Putting on Full Armor of God	page 3
Calendar	page 5
Public Relations	page 6
Birthdays and Anniversaries	page 7

fort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's character. Here paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand subject, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. Follow its precepts and it will lead you to Calvary, to the empty tomb, to a resurrected life in Christ;

yes, to glory itself, for eternity.”

The Bible is a priceless treasure given to us by a loving God who is also the Heavenly Father to all those who come to faith in Jesus Christ. In the Apostle Paul’s counsel to his young protégé, Timothy, is sound advice to every generation, **II Timothy 2:15**, “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needs not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*” Also, in **II Timothy 3:16-17**, “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*”

In His Grip,

Pastor Jim Gregory

Hostess Committee

Michelle & Tina took over the Hostess Committee duties for two months while I was gone and did an excellent job. We have recently had a number of families join our church and several of the wives have volunteered to join our committee. Thomas Wescott and the men do an outstanding job of setting up and taking down the tables and chairs for our fellowship meals. Michele always provides a great variety of table decorations for every activity. Chris Boesl leads a team of ladies that wash a huge number of dishes. There are a couple of things that everyone can do to help things go well with our fellowship meals. First, it would be greatly appreciated if all dishes arrive for the potlucks ready to serve. Second, please remember to put your name on each of your dishes. Once again we want to express our thanks to Pastor Jim for the fantastic commercial grade kitchen. It is such a joy to work with.

Carol Ellis - Committee Chair

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

The Restraint of Evil

In light of the murder of 19 children and two teachers in Uvalde Texas many questions arise. Why did this happen? How could God let this evil invade this school? Certainly our hearts go out to the families of the murdered children. We may never know the specific reasons for the crime but we can address the situation in light of the growing number of similar events in our country.

Our country is one that began its history being dominated by the Christian faith. While we were not a theocracy like Israel, the majority of people were believers and virtually everyone held a Christian world view. That is to say there was general agreement on what acts were good and what were evil, murder, stealing, lying, adultery and all other condemned by God's Word. The Bible was the principle book read not only at home but in school. Society as a whole was regulated by God's law. It's not that evil did not exist – then as now every person was born a sinner and the Devil was active. But crime was punished and the threat of punishment, despite what some would say today, was a deterrent to wrongdoing.

It is God who ordained civil government for our good. At its best government orders society for the benefit of all. Laws are enacted so that criminal behavior is punished. This must be because unless sin is restrained it will destroy a nation. Many in society will say that people are basically good and that bad behavior is an anomaly. But consider what happens when there is a natural disaster. Marshal law has to be instituted because otherwise good people will become looters, taking advantage of the access to homes and businesses brought about by the calamity. In addition to the police & courts our families, neighbors and businesses put an unspoken curb on our actions. By contrast when people go on vacation some of those normal restrictions are lifted and people do things they would not do at home where people know them.

While we have always had crime in this country the level of crime is incredibly greater today than it was 70 years ago. People had guns then as they do now and guns were used in the commission of crimes but we did not have mass killings we are seeing today. So what has changed? It is the culture that has changed not people having guns. If the problem was guns then all the police would have to do is arrest the guns. The guns could then be indicted and tried for the crimes in court. The reason men and women are tried for their crimes is that they are the real cause of the crimes, not the guns. It is true that guns are often the instrumental cause of people being killed but as has been pointed out taking away from law abiding citizens will not help since they don't commit the crimes.

The question is why has the culture changed? God does not take lightly our response to His truth. Especially at the start of the United States our nation was flooded with sound preaching and knowledge of God was held by many. Though no one was perfect godly living was common. As time has gone on the America people have turned away from God's truth and embraced worldly wisdom. And so the Lord has removed His hand of restraint on evil, gradually at first, but in the last decade the pace has rapidly accelerated. We have seen efforts to defund the police. We have seen district attorneys refuse to prosecute crimes. We have see criminals released on little or no bond. We have seen mayors not take action to reduce crime which has produced record numbers of murders in many cities. Yet we cannot say that the God of all righteousness desires evil. And we know the Yahweh is all powerful and so could prevent any action by those who perpetrate wickedness. So how do we answer the critics of the faith who say that if the Lord could prevent these things He must?

We respond by saying that every person is a sinner and therefore deserving of punishment from God. God would be perfectly just if He destroyed the entire human race. All sin is deserving of His justice, even our peccadillos. Thus when a non-Christian is hurt or killed he or she gets justice, in fact perfect justice, from God. No one will ever receive too much or too little punishment from the all knowing God. And if a believer dies he or she goes to heaven. Yes there is sorrow for those left behind after a Christian's death but all of God's people will be together with Him in eternity where the Lord will wipe away all tears. Probably part of how He will do that is to enable us to see all that has happened from an eternal perspective. We will see sin for how evil it actually is. We will gain an understanding of how great God's mercy to us truly is for each of us will see his or her sin for all its blackness. Sin as has been well said is cosmic treason.

What then are we to do to combat the flood of evil that has invaded our nation? There are not any new answers. We preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ at every opportunity. How infrequently do we hear the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord for our sins proclaimed from pulpits in our country? While we have to work to strengthen our churches we must evangelize. No one comes to faith apart from hearing the gospel. And since most people today do not have a church background it is more difficult to get unbelievers to even consider what we have to say. Most people did not grow up in church as previous generations did. They do not believe that the Bible is God's word. So we must lay a foundation before we can even present the need for Christ. It is true that only God can save but He has chosen to use us as His witnesses. While only some have the gift of evangelism we can all learn the basics and if we are privileged to lead someone to the Lord there is nothing we will ever do more meaningful in our lives and is something we will rejoice in throughout eternity.

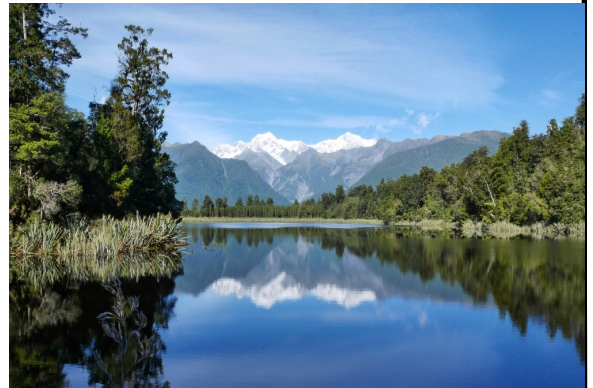
MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 4 Independence Day - Offices Closed
- 7 Evangelism Made Easy (6:30 p.m.)
- 14 Evangelism Made Easy (6:30 p.m.)
- 18 Bible Recap Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 19 Church Council (6:30 p.m.)
- 21 Evangelism Made Easy (6:30 p.m.)
- 26 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:00 p.m.)
- 28 Evangelism Made Easy (6:30 p.m.)
- 31 5th Sunday Sing

Be Still My Soul

The first lines of one of the great hymns of the faith say, *Be still my soul the Lord is on thy side.* Truer words have never been spoken. In times where so many things seem in disorder, in times where Christians are persecuted for even mentioning the Savior's name, in times where evil is promoted as good we need to remember that God is on our side. Despite appearances God is working all things for good for those who are

called according to His purposes (Romans 8:28). We must rest in that great truth and as the song tells us be patient, for our Lord has a timing for everything. The apostle Peter wrote that with the Lord a day is as a thousand years and a thousand years is as a day, meaning that He is not operating on time as we do but has from all eternity determined what He will accomplish. Believers must remember that whatever we suffer is God ordained for a good purpose and that in the end we will be with Him in glory forever. Those that harm Christians will in eternity suffer just punishment while we rejoice. Comfort yourselves with these words.



Public Relations

Translates in Real Life Interaction With Our City

Have you ever wanted to share Jesus, but feel unprepared? The Public Relations Committee wants to help you with the tools to make it easy to invite your friends and neighbors to church. The month of July we will emphasize the Church Business Card/Truelife card that you can give to anyone who crosses your path.

Each Sunday in July we will give you suggestions and easy options for giving the invitation to our church, with the option of checking out the TrueLife answers and as the Lord opens doors, be prepared to share the message of new life and hope to our Mountain Home Community!

Every Thursday in July, starting on the 7th at 6:30 p.m. we will provide basic levels of engagement and encourage and equip all of the church to be ready to give a testimony of what God is doing in our lives, so that we may **be shod with the preparation of the Gospel of Peace.**

Check out the truelife.org website now, and listen to any of the answers, so that you can know, first-hand, what you are offering. Look at the list of categories and subjects offered and learn the answers yourself about many of life's hard questions. The videos are usually less than 10 minutes and come from Seminary Professors and Pastors, and theologians from the SBC family.



The PR Committee has included these cards in the Welcome bags that the Chamber of Commerce gives to new people in the community and continue to work on our own website: mountainhomebaptist.org, and church Facebook page. If you have technology skills or graphic design skills, please contact me to be a part of the PR team.

Blessed to serve with you,

Sarah Gregory

I Peter 3: 14-15 But even if ye should suffer for righteousness' sake, blessed *are ye*: and fear not their fear, neither be troubled; ¹⁵ but sanctify in your hearts Christ as Lord: *being* ready always to give answer to every man that asks you a reason concerning the hope that is in you, yet with meekness and fear.

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. Many of us remember when the Lennon sisters were on the Lawrence Welk show. Most however are not aware there was a time when the Lennon family was experiencing great financial difficulty. There were 11 siblings which made it hard to earn enough money to support the family. Eventually the problems were solved but at one point Welk considered having a fund raising concert. It was going to be called Lennon aide.
2. Two ariels meet on a roof, fall in love and get married. The reception was brilliant.
3. I know a guy who is addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop anytime.
4. I tried to catch some fog. I mist.

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Victor Nostrom
 3 Kim Juris
 5 Shilo Nagel
 10 Sharon Siebenberg
 12 Rose Hare
 12 Tyrone Parsons
 12 Elizabeth Harrison
 15 Piper Phillips
 17 Uriah Clark



18 Larry Sears
 18 Wayne Clark
 18 Karen Williams
 19 Lyle Ferch
 22 Linda Heath
 26 Julie Harper
 28 Sarah Hare
 28 Jeannie Zarych
 29 Jonni Clark

14 John & Norma Harper
 16 Wesley & Holly Phillips
 8/3 Clifford & Rose Hare
 8/3 Daryl & Cookie Lyerla
 8/4 Don & Flo Scheffler



23 Jake & Michelle Sisson
 30 Steve & Diane Noland
 8/6 Amos & Kathleen Payton
 8/5 Blair & Meghan Byrem
 8/7 John & Seven Sanders

Early August Birthdays

5 Jon Juris