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The Trumpet

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



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One of the most frequently asked questions in Christian circles is, “Are you saved?” Usually the person asking the question wants to know if the other person has come to trust in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. But the word saved can mean a number of different things in Christianity. It can refer to the overall work of God that takes us from where we are dead in our trespasses and sins to our home in glory. Most often though it refers either to justification, sanctification or glorification.

Justification is what happens when we first trust in Jesus. Our sin is imputed to Christ and His righteousness is reckoned to us. Faith is the means God uses to effect that transfer. You may ask how does a sinner who is dead in their sin (Eph. 2:1 & 5) have faith? Faith is a gift from the Lord (Eph. 2:8). With justification a sinner is declared righteous, innocent of all he or she has done. You may say, “but I have done those deeds and I have failed to do what I should have, how can God call me righteous?” The answer is by counting the perfect righteousness of Christ to your account just as if you had lived the sinless life He did. When you are justified you have been saved from the penalty of sin. That means you will spend eternity with Jesus Christ in heaven rather than eternity in hell.

The moment we come to faith in Jesus we begin the process of sanctification, becoming more and more like Him. Before you came to faith nothing you did was acceptable to God. As the scripture says, all our deeds are as filthy rags. But when you come to faith you are saved from the power of sin. Though we still fail to obey

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the Lord perfectly there is no sin we have to commit. We are no longer dead in our sin but alive in Christ. As Ephesians 2:4-5 says, *But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).*

The question is will we ever get to the point where we never sin – not in this life. But we will when we get to heaven. We could never be allowed before a holy God if

The Bible doesn't tell us how the Lord will do this but it tells us we will be glorified, saved from the presence of sin. The triune God that loves you saves you not only from eternal damnation; He saves you finally and completely from sin. What a glorious day that will be!

Bob Neubauer

Thursday Prayer Meeting

Whether you have attended First Southern for years or just started to fellowship with us, you need to know about our Thursday Prayer Meetings! Beginning at 6:00 PM and ending at around 6:30 PM, our weekly prayer meeting gives you an opportunity to sit with like-minded believers who will support you in your personal prayers as well as prayers for our church, our community, our state and our nation.

It is no secret that our church is also in transition as we draw closer to calling a pastor to succeed Pastor James Gregory. Our weekly prayer meetings are unifying our entire body in our pursuit of God's will and Divine direction for all the ministries of the church. It has been a great blessing to see our prayers answered as well. Prayers for the sick; prayers for lost souls – including our children and grandchildren; prayers for the coming elections. We are even praying for you! That's right! We lift prayers to God for everyone attending our church. Please come. We want you to know that we're missing you. Perhaps more importantly, you might be missing out on blessings God intends you to receive!



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 October pickup and finish filling boxes.



PUTTING ON THE FULL ARMOR OF GOD

APOLOGETICS - FROM BOB NEUBAUER

Baptism in the Early Church - Part 2

When dealing with church history one thing we should do is to recognize that believers in the early church were who they were. That is there were no Southern Baptists in church history until by historical standards a short time ago. So, remember that anyone trusting in Jesus Christ alone for his or her salvation is a Christian even though we will differ on some things.

What we do find in all the earliest Christian literature outside of the New Testament is that baptism was always done following profession of faith and by immersion. Sure there were things that by our standards are idiosyncrasies such as baptism done face first rather than back first but there is nothing in the Bible that specifies one way over the other. But the important things that validate what we believe today in Baptist churches is that baptism followed a profession of faith and was by immersion.

The early Christian apologist Justin Martyr did practice baptism by immersion following profession but in his writings said some things that over time led to infant baptism. Development of doctrine was not something that happened quickly, it took decades and even centuries. On various occasions sound doctrine was the result but on others errors were the conclusion. The primary reason for error was the failure to practice sola scriptura, scripture alone, as the basis for what the church believed.

Ironically throughout church history most scholars have admitted that the meaning of the word baptism is immersion. Where do we find this definition? Some sources or individuals who so defined baptism are: the Didache, the author of the epistle of Barnabas, Tertullian, Cyprian the bishop of Carthage, Basil and Gregory of Nissa. Moving ahead in time Martin Luther in 1519 recognized that immersion would be the best way to baptize though that would change later on with him. John Calvin admitted that the term baptism meant to immerse. And the second generation reformer Francis Turretin said that the word baptism meant immersion. But even though the meaning of the term was admitted various practices and beliefs emerged. Once infant baptism began to be practiced there were those who thought infants should be immersed. The most widespread practice attached to baptism was trine baptism. The individual would be immersed after the name of the Father, and again after the name of the Son and for a third time after the name of the Spirit. Interestingly one of the canons of the Council of Nicaea said that if a bishop or presbyter failed to practice trine baptism he would lose his position in the church. Don't confuse the canons of the councils with the creeds. We

hold to the Nicaean creed that affirmed the deity of Christ, but it is unlikely that any protestant holds to any of the cannons.

In some places one removed his or her clothing for baptism and then put on clean clothes afterwards to symbolize taking off the old and putting on the new. Often fasting was associated with baptism. The idea was likely to help prepare the individual for participation in this very important ordinance. In addition the person performing the baptism and the witnesses to it often also fasted.

Initially, variations in the practice of immersion were only because of insufficient water or because the person to be baptized was ill or had some physical limitation that precluded immersion. But with the rise of infant baptism sprinkling became more and more common especially in the western church. Even today in a lot of Eastern Orthodox churches infant baptism is by immersion. The baby is naked and is baptized actually six times because the infant is baptized head first then feet first for the Father, for the Son and for the Spirit. Having said all that, what brought about the changes in baptism to where it is no longer on profession of faith? The two main things involved are first a retreat from sola scriptura (scripture alone) and rise of apostolic tradition – things supposedly passed down from the apostles. Also, mankind chafes against almighty God being in charge of salvation. We all want to have something to do with it

Starting near the end of the 2nd century and on into the 3rd and 4th there were people who delayed baptism until the very end of life. This was because it was believed that baptism rather than picturing our cleansing from sin actually accomplished it. And it was also believed that if you sinned after being baptized there was no longer any forgiveness for that sin. The most famous example of this was the emperor Constantine who delayed his baptism until he was dying. At the same time you started to get instances of infant baptism. The first person to write a book on baptism was Tertullian; it dates to between 197 and 200 ad. Tertulian had a large influence on the church. While he is not considered a father of the church by Roman Catholicism because he ended his life outside of the Roman communion, he is so recognized by Protestants. He favored the delay of baptism until children were old enough to ask for salvation.

Because of the belief in baptismal regeneration that developed in the early church and in light of the huge rate of infant mortality young children would often be baptized one or two days before their death. What does this mean for us; what should we be thinking about with respect to all these things that happened in the early church? Notice that people are allowing their circumstances to influence their doctrine rather than having scripture determine their doctrine. Please do not think that we are immune to making this same kind of error. Careful contextual interpretation of the Bible is absolutely essential to any individual and any church.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

October

- 5 TVSBA Annual Meeting (9:00 a.m.)
- 6 Pot Luck Fellowship (12:45 p.m.)
- 6 OCC Kickoff
- 7 Church Council (6:30 p.m.)
- 8 Ladies' Ministry Team Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 10 Men's Bible Study (6:30 p.m.)
- 12 Baby Shower - Sara Postelnick (10:00 a.m.)
- 17 Nominating Committee Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 19 Awana Ministry Conference (9:00 a.m.)
- 24 Men's Bible Study (6:30 p.m.)
- 25 UISBC Annual Meeting
- 27 Business Meeting (5:30 p.m.)
- 28 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)

November

- 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 11 Veterans' Day Offices Closed
- 12 Deacons' Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 17 OCC Collection Day
- 19 Sunday School Teachers' Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 23 Thanksgiving Banquet (5:30 p.m.)
- 27 No Awana
- 28 Thanksgiving Day

Meet Your Deacons & a Family Ministry Partner

John Ring, Deacon

My wife, Michele and I moved to Mountain Home with the USAF in the fall of 1992, from which I retired after nearly 22 years in aircraft maintenance. Our daughters, Andrea and Lisa, completed grade school here at North Elementary and are both adults with families of their own, giving us four grandchildren. They both completed junior and senior high attending Shiloh Christian School, which initially met in our church. Michele was the school's first teacher and principal for 14 years. She now

works from home as the administrative assistant for the Treasure Valley Southern Baptist Association with nearly 30 churches. I served on staff here at FSBC from July of 1996 through March of 2017 as Administrative Assistant and Minister of Music. I've been working as an education advisor at MHAfB for five years now. Michele and I currently minister to 3-5 year olds in Awana and 3rd-6th graders in Sunday school. I also serve on the maintenance committee and sing with the praise team. Michele works with the hostess and ladies' ministry committee and arranges the flowers at church. We were both saved in our teens and married in August of 1975. Our passion has been to serve wherever the Lord wants us to serve in His church. We also like camping, playing games and shopping at garage sales, flea markets, and thrift stores.

I'd like to introduce one of the couples who serve as Family Ministry Partners (FMPs) here at FSBC to assist Michele and me with the families with whom the Lord has blessed us to minister.

Lyle & Grace Ferch

Lyle and I have been here in Mountain Home for almost three years and have enjoyed being part of the First Southern Baptist Church. We came here from Goldendale Washington where Lyle was a dentist and I was a teacher. I subbed at the public schools and taught at our church's Christian School. Some of the ministries we've been a part of are Gideons, Awana & our Grace Brethren Church Sunday School. Also for many years we hosted a weekly church group where we discussed and applied the pastor's Sunday Sermons. Lyle and I have raised a large family and enjoyed the sporting and family events that came with it. Lyle enjoyed classic cars and we both loved photography. We have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the church community here in Mountain home.



Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner

Back in the days before many churches had wireless microphones, a preacher was wired for sound with a lapel mic, and as he preached, he moved briskly about the platform, jerking the mic cord as he went. Then he moved to one side, getting wound up in the cord and nearly tripping before jerking it again. After several circles and jerks, a little girl in the third pew leaned toward her mother and whispered, "If he gets loose, will he hurt us?"



October Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Jim Clark
4 Jane Jacome
8 David Heath
8 Dan Hazelbaker
9 Naomi Martinez
12 Jonathan Sanchez
13 Sara Postelnick



16 Sarah Gregory
16 Chris Boesl
24 Doug Laffoon
27 Neisa Yadon
27 Sylvia Williams
29 Isaiah Grohs

November Birthdays

8 Sue Southwick
9 Natalie Sanchez
9 Cookie Lyerla
14 Kyle Martinez
16 Kendra Farnham
19 Matthew Strong
20 Michelle Hampton

20 Paisley Yadon
22 Chantel Hampton
22 Richard Kanady
26 Blake Rosenbaum Jr.
28 John Booth
29 Daylin Brennan
30 Agnes Simler

Early December Birthdays

2 CC Chase
7 Elijah Grohs



7 Samatha Simler

16 Don & Becky McCall
17 Allen & Kathleen Keillor

25 Dan & Martha Hazelbaker
29 Mike & Sai Crouse