



M Grace Messenger

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH

122 Walnut Street
Madison, AL 35758
256-837-8821

GBC HOMEPAGES

<http://www.gbcmadison-al.com>
<http://sermonaudio.com/gbcmadisonal>
<https://www.facebook.com/GraceBaptistMadisonAL>

"Preaching the free grace of God which brings a change of lifestyles, masters and destinies."

DEAN OLIVE, Pastor

— February 2018 Issue —

*"You have dealt well with your servant, O LORD, according to your word."
Psalm 119:65*



NURSERY SCHEDULE

February

04 Troy & Jessica Moseley
11 Peter & Jenny Lovassy
18 Kristin Scarborough & Linda Olive
25 Vicki Johnson & Amber Solan

March

04 Troy & Jessica Moseley
11 Lori Hewlett & Susan Gay
18 Melanie Myatt & Linda Olive
25 Peter & Jenny Lovassy

CHURCH CLEANING

February - Moseleys
March - Williams

A DAY OF MISSION EMPHASIS

February 11



THE WARD FAMILY

Missionaries to Togo, West Africa

Andrew Ward will be:

- Preaching at the 9:30 worship service
- Presenting a powerPoint presentation in Sunday School

God willing, Andrew's family will be with him.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

NORMAL SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Sunday School 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

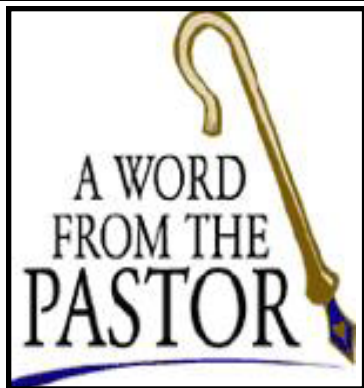
FIRST SUNDAY SERVICES

Morning Worship 9:30 AM
Meal at the Church 11:00 AM
Afternoon Service 12:30 PM

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Bible Study and Prayer Meeting
7:00 PM

*No Sunday School
or Evening Service*



He is So Precious to Me



THE BOOK THAT

A series of questions Geoff Thomas asked pastors and other church leaders.



This interview is with our good friend, **David Ellis**, now living in Stradbroke, England.

The Book that I am currently reading - For study, *Roots*, by J. Alec Motyer. For devotion, *His Love Endures Forever*, by Gary Williams.

The Book that changed my life - *Knowing God*, by J. I. Packer, especially the chapter on adoption.

The Book that helped me in my preaching - *Preaching and Preachers* by D. M. Lloyd-Jones.

The Book that made me say 'Amen' as I read - There are several, but I would include, *Human Nature in its Fourfold State*, by Thomas Boston, and *Devoted to God*, by Sinclair Ferguson.

The last Book that made me weep - Long ago, reading the life of one of the five American martyrs in Ecuador, Nate Saint's story, entitled *Jungle Pilot*, sowed the seeds of a missionary call in my heart.

The Book that i am most ashamed that i have not read - *Bondage of the Will* by Luther!!

The Book that I have most often given to young Christians and new church memeber - *book by Peter Jeffery or Derek Prime.*

The Book that I give to people thinking about becoming a Christian - *Right With God* by John Blanchard.

The Best Book for children - *Leading Little Ones to God.*



APRIL 11 – Missionary Andrew Ward will be preaching in the morning worship hour and will be giving an update about his mission work in West Africa in Sunday School.

FEBRUARY 14 – Missionary Barry King will be at our mid-week service to share what is happening in Grace Baptist Partnership.

FEBRUARY 15-17 – True Church Conference at Grace Life Church of the Shoals.

FEBRUARY 25 - We will have a special presentation by the Gideons. The speaker will be Robert Parker's father.

APRIL 6-8 – Spring Bible Conference with Geoff Thomas of Aberystwyth, Wales.

Spurgeon's Catechism with Scripture Proofs



Question 40: What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

Answer: The rule of which God at first revealed to man for his obedience, was the moral law, which is summarily comprehended in the Ten Commandments.

Scriptural Proof: Deuteronomy 10:4; Exodus 34:28; Matthew 19:17; Romans 2:14-14; 5:13-14; 9:32; Hebrews 3:18-19; 4:2.

Commentary: (from Concise Theology by J.I. Packer): God's moral law is abundantly set forth in Scripture. This law reflects the holy character of God. The moral law is given in summary form in the Ten Commandments.

Jesus summarized the moral law in two great commandments, love God and love your neighbor (Mt 22:37-40), on which, he says, all the Old Testament moral instructions depend. The moral teaching of Christ and his apostles is the old law deepened and reapplied to new circumstances.

Scripture shows that God intends his law to function in three ways. Its first function is to be a mirror reflecting to us both the perfect righteousness of God and our own sinfulness and shortcomings. Its second function is to restrain evil. Its third function is to guide the regenerate into the good works that God has planned for them (Eph. 2:10).

The Christian is free from the law as a supposed system of salvation (Rom. 6:14) but is "under Christ's law" as a rule of life (1 Cor. 9:21). We are not justified by the law but we are to obey God's commands.



Thomas Brooks Puritan Quotes GREAT DEBTS

"Our sins are debts that none can pay but Christ. It is not our tears, but His blood; it is not our sighs, but His sufferings, that can testify for our sins. Christ must pay all, or we are prisoners forever."

The Amazing Gospel

D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones

“Thus saith the Lord: ‘Behold I will bring again the captivity of Jacob’s tents, and have mercy on his dwelling-places; and the city shall be builded upon her own heap’” (Jer 30:18)

The gospel is something which comes from God: ‘Thus saith the Lord’. I shall deal with this principle more in detail later on. What I desire to indicate here and now is that if we fail to realize that the gospel and all it professes is primarily an activity on the part of God and not on the part of man, we have entirely failed to understand it. Of course, man has something, and indeed much, to do in the scheme of salvation but all that is secondary. Man only begins to act after God has first acted and has rendered man capable of action.

What is the Bible after all but an account of God’s activity and action in the matter of human salvation. It is not a manual of instructions designed to tell us how to save ourselves, it is a revelation and a proclamation of what God has done in order to bring that salvation to pass. Salvation then is something which is already complete and entire in God’s hands. It is something which he has to give and which he is willing and ready to give. He has done the work, he has taken the action and you and I, if we are Christians, recognize and acknowledge gladly and with thanksgiving that we are what we are and have what we have solely and entirely by ‘the grace of God.’

This comes first. Before you begin with your good deeds, before you begin to prepare

your programs and plans and set out after your high ideals – stop! Have you listened to what God says? Do you understand this, ‘Thus saith the Lord?’ Are you planning in accordance with what he announces or are you drawing merely on your own ideas and imaginations? That which starts with man and his attempts to find God, instead of starting with God’s way of finding and saving man, is not the gospel. Had you realized that? The gospel starts with God and comes from him.

And because of that we are able to announce as our second controlling principle that the gospel is essentially supernatural, both as regards its nature, and also its mode of action. It is a miracle. ‘The city shall be builded upon her own heap.’ Salvation according to the Bible is something large, something vast. And there is no better test which can be applied to anything that professes and offers itself as the gospel as this test of greatness or of scope. It is so great according to New Testament writers that no terms are quite adequate to describe it except such terms as rebirth, renovation, regeneration. It is something which makes all things new. The gospel is not merely meant to make us a little better and to hold out ideals for us. It does not offer itself as a mere veneer on our lives. It is something which completely and entirely changes us. It is face to face with this truth that all the vapid idealisms and moralizings that so frequently pass as the gospel today are seen to be so hopelessly inadequate.

But because the gospel is essentially miraculous and supernatural it follows that it is not only large and vast in its scheme and its action, it must also be something that comes as a surprise to man and which in its

essence is incomprehensible to man. It is marvelous, astonishing and invariably moves all who truly see it to a cry of wonder and amazement.

Here again we have but to recall one of those great exclamations of a man like Paul as he contemplates the gospel. ‘Great is the mystery of godliness,’ he cries (1 Tim. 3:16). Then again, ‘O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!’ (Rom. 11:33). And with him all the saints at all times and everywhere have owned themselves as being ‘lost in wonder, love and praise’ as they contemplate the gospel.

But if the gospel is merely something that exhorts us to live a better life and to be good and kind, if it is but a social and ethical scheme, something which primarily asks us to do something rather than an announcement of what God has done, it cannot possibly evoke such a response. It then becomes just one among a number of philosophies and schemes of life which we may affirm, but it definitely ceases to be something which breaks in upon us and overwhelms us with its majesty and its graciousness.

But such is always the effect of the gospel which announces God’s action. He amazed Abraham and Jacob and David and the prophets and all the New Testament saints as we have already seen. Does what you have always regarded as the gospel do that to you? Has the word of God come to you and has it filled you with ‘wonder, love and praise?’ The apprehension of God’s action always leads to that. (This article first appeared in the February 1995 edition of the Banner of Truth magazine)