

Seven Volumes of Penny Pulpit Essays 2013 -2019

Pastor Edward Rice



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By Pastor Edward G. Rice

A Rural Pastor With A Royal Message

Published in Loving Memory of Dresden's Grandest
Bible Student, Betty Smalley, gone home Jul 2005

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom;
teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns
and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

Colossians 3:16

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Table of Contents

<u>Seven Volumes of Penny Pulpit Essays 2013 -2019</u>	1
<u>Msg #1301 The Liberal Soul</u>	1
<u>Msg #1302 The Outline of All Outlines</u>	2
<u>A Question On the name of GOD</u>	3
<u>Msg #1303 Judgment of our Progressive Direction</u>	5
<u>Msg #1304 Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?</u>	6
<u>Msg #1305 Love & Marriage Illustrated</u>	7
<u>A Response: God's Hebrew is Like Technicolor</u>	8
<u>Msg #1306 Valentines Day God's Way</u>	9
<u>Msg #1307 Home is a Rigid Body</u>	10
<u>Msg #1308 Child Rearing's Two Laws</u>	11
<u>Msg #1309 He's Coming Soon, There's No Doubt</u>	12
<u>Msg #1310 Stewardship, of Every Breath</u>	13
<u>Msg #1311a Saint Patrick Was A Baptist</u>	14
<u>Msg #1311 Scruples in Your Stewardship</u>	15
<u>Msg #1312 A Passover Lamb Without Blemish</u>	16
<u>Msg #1313 Easter and April Fools</u>	17
<u>Always Critical of a Critical Text</u>	18
<u>Msg #1314 America's Inordinate Affections</u>	19
<u>Msg #1315 Jephthah's Awful Vow .. NOT Awful</u>	20
<u>Msg #1316 The Devolution of Democracy</u>	21
<u>Msg #1317 Judges, the Main Thing</u>	22
<u>Msg #1318 The Profound in Parable</u>	23
<u>Msg #1319 Happy Mothers Day</u>	24
<u>Msg #1320 Stubborn Stiffnecked and Rebellious</u>	25
<u>Msg #1321 Beware of Darkness</u>	26
<u>Msg #1322 All The Words of God</u>	27
<u>Msg #1323 Good Theology is not Reformed</u>	28
<u>Response Msg #1323 Good Theology is not Reformed</u>	29
<u>Msg #1324 Are You Just IN the Light?</u>	33
<u>Msg #1325 A.S.K. Really?</u>	34
<u>LETTER TO THE EDITOR</u>	35

<u>Msg #1326 Believing IN the Christ</u>	38
<u>Msg #1327 Keeping the Wine Press Pressing</u>	39
<u>Msg #1328 You Need to Have a Pastor</u>	40
<u>Msg #1329 See The Depth and Believe</u>	41
<u>Msg #1330 England and Athens</u>	42
<u>Msg #1331 Scholar-wanna-bees and Balderdash</u>	43
<u>Msg #1332 Great Plainness of Speech</u>	44
<u>Msg #1333 A-Ask, S-seeK, K-knock, ASK Him</u>	45
<u>Msg #1334 Moved With Compassion</u>	46
<u>Msg #1335 Coming for His Church</u>	47
<u>A Baptist Brider Question About Msg#1335</u>	48
<u>Msg #1336 Dual Trumpets</u>	52
<u>Msg #1337 Key Hebrew Holy Days</u>	53
<u>Msg #1338 Tabernacling Through Sukkut</u>	54
<u>Msg #1339 Alexandrian Doctrine, Alexandrian Bibles</u>	55
<u>Msg #1340 Is This Our Last October Here?</u>	56
<u>Msg #1341 The WORD in Six Triplets</u>	57
<u>Msg #1342 Prophetic Truth and Accuracy</u>	58
<u>Msg #1343 Discerning The Biblical Rapture</u>	59
<u>Msg #1344 Forgiven Much and Thanksgiving</u>	60
<u>Msg #1345 Thanksgiving for Relationships</u>	61
<u>Msg #1346 Premeditated Thanksgiving</u>	62
<u>Msg #1347 National Thanksgiving Prayer</u>	63
<u>Msg #1348 Be Outspoken And Not Dumb</u>	64
<u>Msg #1349 Believing It All</u>	65
<u>Msg #1350 Mary's Worship, My Worship</u>	66
<u>Msg #1351 We Worship The Christ</u>	67
<u>Msg #1352 The Rip-Tide of Sin</u>	68
<u>Penny Pulpit Essay Prelude What's Significant?</u>	69
<u>Msg #1401 So Great Salvation</u>	70
<u>Msg #1402 Repentance Toward God</u>	71
<u>Msg #1403 Contending For The Faith</u>	73
<u>Msg #1404 Got Life? Eternal Life?</u>	75
<u>Msg #1405 A Secure and Significant Valentine</u>	76

<u>Msg #1406 Homes In Need Of Manliness</u>	78
<u>Msg #1407 Relationships: Salvage Before Severing</u>	79
<u>Msg #1408 Listening Skills</u>	80
<u>Msg #1409 Reflections on Isaiah</u>	82
<u>Answering Mail – Kingdom of Heaven or of God</u>	83
<u>Msg #1410 Isaiah the Prophet</u>	85
<u>Msg #1411 Christ is the Answer, 4 Good, Bad & Ugly</u>	86
<u>Msg #1412 Compromise NOT, Confederate NEVER</u>	87
<u>Msg #1413 The Hobby Lobby Battle is The Lords</u>	89
<u>Msg #1414 Great Deception and The Hand of God</u>	90
<u>Msg #1415 Your Alabaster Box</u>	91
<u>Msg #1416 You Gotta Love Easter</u>	93
<u>Msg #1417 The Seven Spirits of God</u>	94
<u>Why do Jewish males cover their heads?</u>	95
<u>Msg #1418 Awesome Name in an Awesome Chapter</u>	96
<u>Msg #1419 Mothers Day and Healing</u>	97
<u>Msg #1420 Babylon is Fallen, is Fallen</u>	98
<u>Msg #1421 Healing and Anointing Oil</u>	99
<u>Msg #1422 The Kingdom is Within You</u>	100
<u>Msg #1423 Unjust Stewards, Mammon, Law and Grace</u>	101
<u>Alexandria Egypt, Septuagint, and Horse Carts</u>	102
<u>Msg #1424 Fathers and Sons</u>	104
<u>Msg #1425 Israel Will Rise Triumphant</u>	105
<u>Message = Getting out of a Vice Grip</u>	106
<u>Msg #1426 Seven Messages to the Seven Nations</u>	108
<u>Msg #1427 Jesus Wept</u>	109
<u>Msg #1428 Work for the Night is Coming</u>	110
<u>Msg #1429 The Resurrection and The Life</u>	111
<u>Msg #1430 Take Away the Stone</u>	112
<u>Msg #1431 Only The Son Descended and Ascended</u>	113
<u>Msg #1432 Onward Christian Soldier</u>	114
<u>Msg #1433 LORD, Shepherd, Lord and Christ</u>	115
<u>Msg #1434 Being a Friend of God</u>	117
<u>Msg #1435 Sanctification and Friendship</u>	119

<u>Msg #1436 Who is Your Friend?</u>	120
<u>Msg #1437 The Faith of a Friend</u>	121
<u>Msg #1438 Men Teaching, Praying, and Propheying</u>	122
<u>Msg #1439 Developing Intimate Friends</u>	123
<u>Msg #1440 Don't Be Left Behind</u>	124
<u>Msg #1441 The 7 Year Tribulation is not Allegorical!</u>	125
<u>Msg #1442 The Millennial Reign of Christ</u>	126
<u>Msg #1443 The Golden Streets Soon Coming</u>	127
<u>Msg #1444 Three Vails Removed in Christ</u>	128
<u>Msg #1445 Thank the Healer</u>	129
<u>Msg #1446 In Everything Give Thanks</u>	130
<u>Msg #1447 Thanksgiving with Integrity</u>	131
<u>Ferguson Misnomer In The News</u>	132
<u>Msg #1448 Calvary</u>	133
<u>Msg #1449 The Odd Announcement</u>	135
<u>Msg #1450 Preliminary Preparation Preaching</u>	136
<u>Msg #1451 The Christ Child's Presentation</u>	137
<u>Msg #1452 The Grandest Opposition Ever Conceived</u>	138
<u>Msg #1501 A Man A Plan</u>	139
<u>Msg #1502 The Word and Faith</u>	140
<u>Msg #1503 Faith and Hope</u>	141
<u>Msg #1504 Charity Suffereth Long and Wrong</u>	142
<u>Msg #1505 A Crucible Called Marriage</u>	143
<u>Msg #1506 Purpose and Union for Valentines</u>	144
<u>Msg #1507 Leadership School</u>	145
<u>Msg #1508 Two Shall Be One</u>	146
<u>Msg #1509 Jesus Our Perfect Example</u>	147
<u>Msg #1510 Christ Our Perfect Passover Lamb</u>	148
<u>Msg #1511 Christ Our Perfect High Priest</u>	149
<u>Msg #1512 Spiritual Warfare</u>	150
<u>Msg #1513 This Week Know Your Friend</u>	151
<u>Msg #1514 Resurrection After Three Days</u>	152
<u>Msg #1515 The Un-Copyright Book of Books</u>	153
<u>Msg #1515 Addendum on Copyright Considerations</u>	154

<u>Msg #1516 The Book of Books</u>	156
<u>Msg #1517 The Eastern Religions</u>	157
<u>Msg #1517b The Eastern Religions Cont.</u>	158
<u>Msg #1518 Three New AD Religions</u>	159
<u>Msg #1518b Three New AD Religions Cont.</u>	160
<u>Msg #1519 Practice Pure Religion Religiously</u>	161
<u>Msg #1520 When I See the Blood</u>	162
<u>Msg #1521 Seven No-Mores or Forevermores</u>	163
<u>Msg #1522 The Unrighteous Are Without Excuse</u>	164
<u>Msg #1523 The Stairway to God</u>	165
<u>Msg #1524 Got A Spiritual Birth Day?</u>	166
<u>Msg #1525 Meekness on Fathers Day</u>	167
<u>Msg #1526 Sodomy is now the law of the land</u>	168
<u>Msg #1527 Life Changing Trials</u>	169
<u>Msg #1528 Militant Fundamentalists</u>	170
<u>Msg #1529 What's a BAPTIST?</u>	171
<u>Msg #1530 What Can a Remnant Do?</u>	172
<u>Msg #1531 What the Remnant Aint</u>	173
<u>Msg #1532 The New Testament's Crescendo</u>	174
<u>Msg #1533 Biblical Dispensationalism</u>	175
<u>Msg #1534 They That Wait</u>	176
<u>Msg #1535 Ephesians' Introduction</u>	177
<u>Msg #1536 A Dispensation's Word Study</u>	178
<u>Msg #1537 Enlightened Eyes of Understanding</u>	179
<u>Msg #1538 You Hath He Quickened</u>	180
<u>Msg #1539 Dispensational Changes Delineated</u>	181
<u>Msg #1540 The Revelation of Jesus Christ</u>	182
<u>Msg #1541 Preach the Gospel</u>	183
<u>Msg #1542 Consider Biblical Prophecy</u>	184
<u>Msg #1543 Only 144 Thousand Witnesses?</u>	185
<u>Msg #1544 The Truth about Chiliasm</u>	186
<u>Msg #1545 Between the Lines</u>	187
<u>Msg# Augment- Nephilim - Conspirator Phobia</u>	188
<u>Msg #1546 Abram, the Father of Faith</u>	189

<u>A Msg#1546 Response to the Calling of Calvinism</u>	190
<u>Msg #1547 Thanks for Fundamentalists</u>	191
<u>Msg #1548 Thanks for Relationships</u>	192
<u>On Lordship Salvation vs Easy Believism</u>	193
<u>Msg #1549 Preach The Christmas Message</u>	196
<u>Msg #1550 Yes, Virginia, There is a Christmas</u>	197
<u>Msg #1551 What All Did Mary Know?</u>	198
<u>Msg #1552 The Ending</u>	199
<u>Msg #1601 Sunday Day One</u>	200
<u>Msg#1602 Monday Day Two</u>	201
<u>Msg#1603 Tuesday Day Three</u>	202
<u>Msg#1604 Wednesday Day Four</u>	203
<u>Msg#1605 Thursday Day Five</u>	204
<u>Msg#1606 Friday Day Six</u>	205
<u>Msg#1607 Valentines Day At Last</u>	206
<u>Msg#1608 Not to Faint</u>	207
<u>Msg#1609 The World is Judged</u>	208
<u>Msg#1610 Be A Well Studied Soldier</u>	209
<u>Msg#1611 The Bible Brings the Day Star</u>	210
<u>Msg#1612 Palm Sunday and the Tenth of Abib</u>	211
<u>Msg#1613 After Three Days and Three Nights</u>	212
<u>Question on Msg#1613's Three Days and Three Nights</u>	213
<u>Msg#1614 In Remnants Not Mega-Majorities</u>	214
<u>Msg#1615 Don't Attack Jeroboam</u>	215
<u>Msg#1616 Jumping Jehoshaphat</u>	216
<u>Msg#1617 I Will See You Later Mom</u>	217
<u>Msg#1618 A Psalmists Four Instructions</u>	218
<u>Msg#1619 Foreshadowing Christ</u>	219
<u>Msg#1620 Baptized for the Dead?</u>	220
<u>Msg#1621 Why KJB Only?</u>	221
<u>Msg#1622 Job's Redeemer and Resurrection</u>	222
<u>Msg#1623 Agape Phileo and and Oikeia Kind of Love</u>	223
<u>Msg#1624 Great Plainness of Speech</u>	224
<u>Msg#1625 A Fathers Righteousness</u>	225

<u>Msg#1626 Where To Get Truth</u>	226
<u>Msg#1627 USA Birthdays and Judgment Overdue</u>	227
<u>Msg#1628 A Christian's Belief</u>	228
<u>Msg#1629 Don't Even Ask</u>	229
<u>Msg#1630 Lift Up, Defy, and Stand</u>	230
<u>Msg#1631 Pour Out Living Water</u>	231
<u>Msg#1632 No Worries With Four Commands</u>	232
<u>Msg#1633 Big Mistake? Press On Anyway</u>	233
<u>Msg#1634 Presidents Change, Jesus Doe's Not</u>	234
<u>Msg#1635 Surviving As a Non-Attainer</u>	235
<u>Msg#1636 I Shall Not Be Moved</u>	236
<u>Msg#1637 Day 9-11 and Peace of Jerusalem</u>	237
<u>Msg#1638 An Ark in the House</u>	238
<u>Msg#1639 Angels All Around Me</u>	239
<u>Msg#1640 The Rapture</u>	240
<u>Msg#1641 The Tribulation</u>	240
<u>Msg#1642 Armageddon</u>	241
<u>Msg#1643 The Kingdom Age</u>	243
<u>Msg#1644 The New Heaven, The New Earth</u>	244
<u>Msg#1645 Your Family Altar</u>	245
<u>Msg#1646 Your Family Prayer Time</u>	246
<u>Msg#1647 Your Family Thanksgiving</u>	246
<u>Msg#1648 Your Family Singing</u>	248
<u>Msg#1649 Unto Us a Child is Born</u>	249
<u>Msg#1650 The Son of the Highest</u>	250
<u>Msg#1651 Wise Men Still Seek Him</u>	251
<u>Msg#1652 Wrapped in Swaddling Clothes</u>	252
<u>Msg #1701 Day One Relationship #1</u>	253
<u>Msg #1702 Abide IN Him</u>	254
<u>Msg #1703 Nine Fruits of the Spirit</u>	255
<u>Msg #1704 Saturday's Woman's Rights March</u>	256
<u>Msg #1705 The Abider's Promise</u>	258
<u>Msg #1706 Spring Time and Love</u>	259
<u>Msg #1707 Holding Her Heart</u>	260

<u>Msg #1708 What Every Christian Should Be</u>	261
<u>Msg #1709 Your Praise And Worship Team</u>	262
<u>Msg #1710 The Good, Great, and Chief Shepherd</u>	263
<u>Msg #1711 Despise Not Prophecysings</u>	264
<u>Msg #1712 Stepping Out of the Box For God</u>	265
<u>Msg #1713 Faith Without Works</u>	266
<u>Msg #1714 Before This Coming Palm Sunday</u>	267
<u>Msg #1715 A Picture of A Passover Lamb</u>	268
<u>Msg #1716 Resurrection Morning</u>	269
<u>Msg #1717 A Precious Type of Christ</u>	270
<u>Msg #1718 A Disturbing Type of Man</u>	271
<u>Msg #1719 Not by Law, Works, or Penance</u>	272
<u>Msg #1720 Independent Baptist Needed</u>	273
<u>Msg #1720a Independent Baptists Unedited</u>	274
<u>Msg #1721 What Independent Baptists Preach</u>	275
<u>Msg #1722 The Bewitching of America</u>	276
<u>Msg #1723 Use Your Talents, or Die?</u>	277
<u>Msg #1724 Trust God's Words</u>	278
<u>Msg #1725 The Good Samaritan</u>	279
<u>Msg #1725.5 Humor In Church</u>	280
<u>Msg #1726 The Fate of the Rich Man</u>	281
<u>Msg #1727 Wanted: Full Time Reconcilers</u>	282
<u>Msg #1728 Only Those Who Believe, See</u>	283
<u>Msg #1729 The Foolishness of Preaching</u>	284
<u>Msg #1730 Be Ye Also Ready</u>	285
<u>Msg #1731 Deep Water People</u>	286
<u>Msg #1732 Going to a City</u>	287
<u>Msg #1733 With a River of Life</u>	288
<u>Msg #1734 The Romans Road</u>	289
<u>Msg #1735 Know Christ, Know Peace</u>	290
<u>Msg #1736 Redemption Remembered</u>	291
<u>Msg #1737 The Baptist Canon</u>	292
<u>Msg #1738 Yom Kippur Portrays Christ</u>	293
<u>Msg #1739 Worthy is the Lamb</u>	294

<u>Msg #1740 The Two Trumpets Will Sound</u>	295
<u>Msg #1741 Tribulation – Judgment – Repentance</u>	297
<u>America is headed for More Tribulation</u>	298
<u>Msg #1742 Armageddon</u>	299
<u>Msg #1743 The Millennial Reign of Christ</u>	300
<u>Msg #1744 A New Heaven and New Earth</u>	301
<u>Msg #1745 So-Great-Salvation and its Villains</u>	302
<u>Msg #1746 Called to be Faithful Till Death</u>	303
<u>Msg #1747 Thanksgiving</u>	304
<u>Msg #1748 Saul's Type-A Personality</u>	305
<u>Msg #1749 There is Much in a Name</u>	306
<u>Msg #1750 The Incarnation of Christ</u>	307
<u>Msg #1751 Have a Very Merry Marriage</u>	308
<u>Msg #1752 Jesus Comes to Our House</u>	309
<u>Msg #1753 Down But Not Out</u>	311
<u>Msg #1801 Counting The Cost</u>	312
<u>Msg #1802 God Save America</u>	313
<u>Msg #1802b Worship Canceled</u>	314
<u>Msg#1803 The Three Veils</u>	315
<u>Msg#1804 Rebekah</u>	316
<u>Msg#1805 A Marriage Mirror</u>	317
<u>Msg#1806 One Flesh Communicating</u>	318
<u>Msg #1807 Children Killing Children</u>	319
<u>Msg #1808 John's First Epistle</u>	320
<u>Msg #1809 All In the Family</u>	321
<u>Msg #1810 Is It Really Real</u>	322
<u>Msg #1811 Denominations 101</u>	323
<u>Msg #1812 The Passover Lamb</u>	324
<u>Msg #1813 A Victorious Resurrection and More</u>	326
<u>Msg #1814 Sinless Perfection - NOT</u>	327
<u>Msg #1815 Genuine Believers and 1John 3:16</u>	328
<u>Msg #1816 Genuine Revelation and 1John</u>	329
<u>Msg #1817 Tell Them, Tell Them, and Tell Them</u>	330
<u>Msg #1818 Ascension Thursday</u>	331

<u>Msg #1819 A Virtuous Woman</u>	332
<u>Msg #1820 Pentecost</u>	333
<u>Msg #1821 1John Five In Reality</u>	334
<u>Msg #1822 The Bell Tolls</u>	335
<u>Msg #1823 The World, The Word, and The Witness</u>	336
<u>Msg #1824 The Word Was Made Flesh</u>	337
<u>Msg #1825 Decisions Decisions</u>	338
<u>Msg #1826 A More Sure Word</u>	339
<u>Msg #1826b Some Giant Questions Answered</u>	340
<u>Msg #1827 Plenary Inspiration</u>	342
<u>Msg #1828 Suffer a Little</u>	343
<u>Msg #1829 Do What Jesus Did</u>	344
<u>Msg #1830 Nuggets</u>	345
<u>Msg #1831 The Potters House</u>	347
<u>Msg #1832 Hope in Christ</u>	348
<u>Msg #1833 Learn From Jacob's Mistakes</u>	349
<u>Msg #1834 Repentance Is Required</u>	350
<u>Msg #1835 Extreme Christianity?</u>	351
<u>Msg #1836 A Marriage Relationship With God?</u>	352
<u>Msg #1837 Daniel Revealed In Revelation</u>	353
<u>Msg #1838 Redemption Draweth Nigh</u>	354
<u>Msg #1839 Mind Your Own Business</u>	355
<u>Msg #1840 Faith Promise Missions Giving</u>	356
<u>Msg #1841 Enduring Unto the End?</u>	357
What's Allegorical in Msg #1841?.....	358
<u>Msg #1842 The Big Picture of Bible Prophecy</u>	363
<u>Msg #1843 The Biblical Millennial Reign</u>	364
<u>Msg #1844 Well Pleasing or Overthrown</u>	365
<u>Msg #1845 Signs for Saul</u>	366
<u>Msg #1846 A National Day of Thanksgiving</u>	368
<u>Msg #1847 Black Fridays</u>	369
<u>Msg #1848 The First Advent in Scripture</u>	370
<u>Msg #1849 Bethlehem Ephratah</u>	371
<u>Msg #1850 Shepherds-Pastors</u>	373

<u>Msg #1851 Wise Men Worship the Son</u>	374
<u>Msg #1852 A 2nd Advent Manner of Life</u>	375
<u>Msg #1901 Strength, Courage, Meditation</u>	376
<u>Msg #1902 Seven Woes Form God</u>	377
<u>Msg #1903 Matter Created From Nothing</u>	378
<u>Msg #1904 He Created The Stars Also</u>	379
<u>Msg #1905 Truth is Fallen</u>	380
<u>Msg #1906 Three Rs of Arranged Marriages</u>	381
<u>Msg #1907 Three Knots in Child Rearing</u>	382
<u>Msg #1908 Prodigal Sons</u>	383
<u>Msg #1909 What is Pneumatology?</u>	384
<u>Msg #1910 AAAs of Repentance</u>	385
<u>Msg #1911 Except ye be converted</u>	386
<u>Msg #1912 ET Come Home</u>	387
<u>Msg #1913 I'll Punch Your Lights Out</u>	388
<u>Msg #1914 A Walk Thru Ten Gates</u>	389
<u>Msg #1915 Alive After His Passion</u>	390
<u>Msg #1916 Notre Dame</u>	391
<u>Msg #1917 Check Your Starting Gate</u>	392
<u>Msg #1918 Building and Growing</u>	393
<u>Msg #1919 Keep Building, Keep Growing</u>	395
<u>Msg #1920 On Eight Blocks of Faith</u>	396
<u>Msg #1921 False Teachers and Scoffers</u>	397
<u>Msg #1922 Being a Friend of God</u>	398
<u>Msg #1923 Christ's Love Will Stand, Will You?</u>	399
<u>Msg #1924 Biblical, Godly Fathers</u>	400
<u>Msg #1925 Christ's Love Will Stand, Part II</u>	401
<u>Msg #1926 Protestant Apostasy Roots</u>	402
<u>Msg #1927 Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem</u>	403
<u>Msg #1928 Paint Your Church Sign?</u>	404
<u>Msg #1929 The Genesis of Sin I</u>	405
<u>Msg #1930 The Genesis of Sin II</u>	406
<u>Msg #1931 The Genesis of Sin III</u>	407
<u>Msg #1932 The Kingdom of God is Nigh at Hand</u>	408

<u>Msg #1933 Just Preach Jesus as Christ</u>	409
<u>Msg #1934 Gifts Measured By Your Faith</u>	410
<u>Msg #1934a Speak Up At State Fairs</u>	411
<u>Msg #1935 Things to Behold</u>	412
<u>Msg #1936 Twenty Christian Characteristics</u>	413
<u>Msg #1937 Living Peaceably</u>	414
<u>Msg #1938 Living Peaceably With Government</u>	415
<u>Msg #1939 The Last October?</u>	416
<u>Msg #1940 Then Shall be Great Tribulation</u>	417
<u>Msg #1941 Rapture then the Marriage Supper</u>	418
<u>Msg #1942 Seven Years, Jacob's Trouble</u>	419
<u>Msg #1943 The Battle of Armageddon</u>	420
<u>Msg #1944 Die Once or Die Twice, Choose Wisely</u>	421
<u>Msg #1945 Leaving Your First Love</u>	422
<u>Msg #1946 Amazing Praising</u>	423
<u>Msg #1947 Thanks for Waiting</u>	424
<u>Msg #1948 Study First-Advent Scriptures</u>	425
<u>Msg #1949 Shepherds as Heralds</u>	426
<u>Msg #1950 House of Bread, Ashes to Fruitfulness</u>	427
<u>Msg #1951 Wise Men Know Scripture</u>	428
<u>Msg #1952 America's Religiosity and Abandonment</u>	429

Preface

Pastor Rice is a USAF retired systems engineer turned Baptist Preacher who brings a fresh practical and Biblical look at what the Bible says. Weekly messages preached at Good Samaritan Baptist Church are condensed into



devotional essays and sent out as weekly Penny Pulpit Columns for local publications. This collection of messages was preached over 7 years, from 2013 to 2019. They contain the wisdom of God in 364 essays over multiple topics. Pastor Rice has been at Good Samaritan Baptist Church, Dresden NY, since September of 1997. Previous, while serving twenty-three years in the USAF, he has been a Sunday School teacher, youth pastor, junior church director, music director, bus captain, associate pastor and father of 3 boys. His practical teaching of God's Word is captured each year in 52 weekly Penny Pulpit publications. Each title shows the year and week number that the message was preached, i.e. Msg#1328 was preached the 28th week of 2013. This compilation of messages, used with a computer search engine, is an excellent resource for Bible students, preachers, and missionaries. They are available in pdf format at www.GSBaptistChurch.com

Published in Loving Memory of Dresden's Grandest
Bible Student, Betty Smalley, gone home Jul 2005

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom;
teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns
and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.*

Colossians 3:16

Msg #1301 The Liberal Soul

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For our Church to be faithful to the commission Christ gave we must take part in sending foreign evangelists preaching the gospel around the world. We have the Picketts in Manitoba, and support, in a small part, a dozen other missionaries around the globe. We want to do more in 2013. We are blessed with folks who give sacrificially and specifically to these missions. Paul's letter to the Philippians closes with six encouragements about their outreach. 1) Stay Faithful - "Now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful." (4:10) 2) Stay Content - "For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." (4:11) Paul told Timothy "But godliness with contentment is great gain." Christ instructed us "Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?" 3) Stay in Communication - "Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only." (4:15) 4) Stay Fruit Bearing - "Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account." (4:17) 5) Stay God Pleasing - "But I have all, and abound: I am full, ... an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God." (4:18) and finally 6) Stay God Believing - "But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (4:19) Philippi had here a great encouragement to stay liberal in their missions obligation. So do we. "The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself."

An Essay for week #01, Sun, January 6, 2013

Msg #1302 The Outline of All Outlines

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A marvelous thing about the outline of God's revelation to Isaiah is that it is an outline of God's revelation to mankind, the Holy Bible. First described is the descent of man as he wanders from the place that God intended for him. "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for Jehovah hath spoken: I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me." Next it is made clear that there is a judgment pending. "The lofty looks of man shall be brought low, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and Jehovah alone shall be exalted in that day." Third, God desires to pardon mankind. "Come now, and let us reason together, saith Jehovah: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Fourth, God does have a point of no return. "If ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword; for the mouth of Jehovah hath spoken it." Fifth, God will send a Daysman Redeemer. "Zion shall be redeemed with justice, and her converts with righteousness." Indeed, He has sent his Only Begotten Son, ... "For unto us a child is born..." Sixth God will always save a remnant. "Except Jehovah of hosts had left unto us a very small remnant, we should have been as Sodom, we should have been like unto Gomorrah." And lastly, one day God will restore all Israel, and then all the redeemed of mankind. "And it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of Jehovah's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it."

An Essay for week #2 Sun, Jan 13, 13

A Question On the name of GOD

On 1/22/2013, Devon wrote: Good Morning Pastor Rice! ^_^

Pastor, I've never had an issue believing God's Word (1 Cor 13:7) since I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour, perhaps living it but definitely not believing it. If that's what the Word of God says then I take it as truth (Jn 17:17). Here's my question. Jehovah??? It appears 7x in the Bible either as just Jehovah (Ex 6:3) or as Jehovah-something (Gen 22:14, Ex 17:15, etc.) and I've also been told that "LORD" is English for the Hebrew word Jehovah transliterated. I honestly don't know how to ask this question, but I'll do my best, Why is it like this at all? I certainly don't want to remove 'Jehovah' from the Bible as the NKJV and New Age bibles but I have no explanation for those "Christians" that use these new age bibles when dealing with this issue and building their faith in the Word of God rather than to create quakes of doubt. Pastor, I've been following you for some time now and find you to be a faithful, loving man of God and so trust your teaching when dealing with the Bible (AV 1611). Please help me.
Devon,

Dear Devon,

Thanks for asking. I love this name and every disciple needs to be its student. As you stated the name Jehovah is normally shown in English Scripture as "LORD" with all capitals. Sometimes in compound names it may be shown as "GOD" with all capitals. In the seven times that you mention, (Ex 6:3, Ps 83:18, Isa 12:2, and Isa 26:4, compound in Ge 22:14, Ex 17:15, Jud 6:24) the English translation "JEHOVAH" is used for clarification purposes; i.e. Isa 26:4 states it as "Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH *is* everlasting strength." instead of "Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD the LORD *is* everlasting strength." The latter is indeed how modernist bibles render these more complex references where the actual name of JEHOVAH is more clear and better used. A good ground rule for ALL modernist English translations is that their driving concern was not truth, accuracy or clarity, but to establish and record 60,000 deviations from all previous translations. That is the only way they could get their work to have a lucrative copyright. In these 7 instances they could not use the simple clarity found in the King James Translation and still secure their copy right.

The name JEHOVAH, shown in English as LORD, comes from

the Hebrew word YHWH and is in the Old Testament Scriptures 6,519 times. (6,510 times in English as LORD, 4 times as GOD, 4 times as JEHOVAH, and once as a variant.) The English pronunciation for this unpronounced Hebrew word was derived by inserting the vowel sounds from the other names for God. Most modernist scholars think they have done better by pronouncing it Yahweh. I do not trust modernist ecumenical profit motivated scholars and I use the old English derivation JEHOVAH. C.I. Scofield places a table entitled “God is revealed through His names” after the close of Malachi on page 983. It has been very helpful to me and is repeated here (without his permission, although Scofield and I go way back, ... 1960)

CLASS	ENGLISH FORM	HEBREW EQUIVALENT
Primary	God LORD Lord	El, Elah, or Elohim (Gen 1:1, <i>note</i>) Jehovah (Gen 2:4, <i>note</i>) Adon or Adohai (Gen 15:2, <i>note</i>)
Compound (with El = God)	Almighty God Most High, or most high God everlasting God	El Shaddai (Gen 17:1, <i>note</i>) El Elyon (Gen 14:14, <i>note</i>) El Olam (Gen 21:33, <i>note</i>)
Compound (with Jehovah = LORD)	LORD God Lord GOD LORD of hosts	Jehovah Elohim (Gen 2:4, <i>note</i>) Adonai Jehovah (Gen 15:2, <i>note</i>) Jehovah Sabaoth (1Sam 1:3, <i>note</i>)

I trust this helps. It was a blessing for me just to review it here. Keep up the faith and contend for the faith, and God bless.
Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1303 Judgment of our Progressive Direction

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Oh that thou wouldest rend the heavens, that thou wouldest come down, that the mountains might flow down at they presence, ... to make thy name known to they adversaries, that the nations may tremble at they presence! ... For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him.” Isaiah chapter 64 is only two chapters before the end of the book. We are approaching the final chapter of God's book as well. God desires to pardon; God sent His Redeemer; mankind is in rebellion; mankind is without excuse. Even so come Lord Jesus. There will soon be a one world religion. It will be pitted against Judaism. There will soon be an one world government. It will be pitted against Israel. Replacement Theology, wherein the Universal Church claims all the promises made to God's elect, is equally pursued by Catholic and Reformed theologians. John Calvin teaches Christians are the new-improved elect, and replacements for Israel. Christians dare not be ignorant of Satan's tact in the Church. The liberal progressive agenda, deceptively outlined in the inauguration speech this week, declares “In the Voting Machine We Trust.” It will cast out the constitution and install progressive Darwinian government; cast out capitalism and install socialism; cast out decreed morality and install popular morality subject to majority vote. The one world government will be voted in by an American people ignorant of this agenda which currently owns 52% of voters. Our president considers 52% as a mandate to press on with progressivism. Christians dare not be ignorant of the liberal Darwinian progressive agenda documented by Woodrow Wilson and today aggressively pursued by the Democratic party and the press.

An Essay for week #3 Sun, Jan 20, 13

Msg #1304 Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

What is a Christian to do when all the world is against him, when world religion pits themselves against the preaching of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, when even our freedom founded government calls wrong right and right illegal? Isaiah 12 puts it like this, "In that day thou shalt say, O LORD, I will praise thee: though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away, and thou comfortedst me." The born again believer has a brand new position in Christ. We might be a minority, but we alone have Him as our comforter. God is my SALVATION. Only four times in the Bible is the personal name of God even translated into English. Verse 2 is one of those. The name was used 6,519 times and never pronounced in Hebrew. In reading the Hebrew, even today, the name '*Adonai*' (English "LORD") is always pronounced when "*JHVH*" is encountered in Scripture. So too the King James translators carefully did the same as they put this word in English. It is not to be used lightly or in vain. We can trust and not be afraid because "the LORD JEHOVAH" is my strength and my song; HE also is become my SALVATION! Praise His holy and revered name. Well water is refreshing and life giving. We use it for cleansing as well as drinking. When verse 3 says "Therefore" we should remember what it is there for, and when it says "With joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation," we should visit those wells daily. Five things to do in that day 1) Praise the LORD, 2) call upon his name, 3) declare his doings among the people, 4) make mention that his name is exalted and 5) Sing unto the LORD. Let's get going.

An Essay for week #4 Sun, Jan 27, 13

Msg #1305 Love & Marriage Illustrated

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God punctuates the book of Jeremiah with illustrations that fit well into an application for our pre-Valentine's Day look at love and marriage. The opening is markedly simple. "Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Jeremiah, what seest thou? And I said, I see a rod of an almond tree." This rod of an almond tree portrays the rod that budded when God made his selection of Aaron as his high priest. Our application is found in a counselor's question to the fighting couple in his office "Sir, why in the world did you ever marry this woman?" It is a good place to start. Remember your engagement and marriage. Remember what it was to be infatuated and in love and take her by the hand and go back there with your wife for an afternoon or two. The followup illustration is the seething pot! What a description of judgment awaiting the unfaithfulness of Israel and Judah. It is scathing! You made a vow to be faithful to that sweet thing till death do you part. The consequential judgment for your infidelity is likewise scathing. Most need to get a dictionary out for Valentines Day and see what it means to say "And so I plight thee my troth!" Jeremiah 13 is God's curious illustration about linen underwear. Suffice it here to say that marriage is the most intimate thing that will ever touch the bosom of man, and it is holy, yeah, holier than the linen underwear in God's illustration here. Again, flee fornication. Lastly, Jeremiah was taken to the potters house "and behold he wrought a work on the wheels." You two are one-flesh and a godly work in progress. Don't muck up the vessel with your selfishness. Let love have her perfect work.

An Essay for week #5 Sun, Feb 3, 13

A Response: God's Hebrew is Like Technicolor

When we stood on the Southern Steps of the Temple in Jerusalem we stood where Jesus stood, we walked where Jesus walked, we sat and listened where his disciples sat and listened; Yeah, on the very same stones. It took my Bible from black and white to living technicolor. It seems acceptable to make such analogy and use that illustration. But when I said studying Greek and Hebrew did the same thing for me, I was amazed at the backlash from King James Onlyites who expected I had abandoned and threatened their reverence for the King James English. One might be a little sensitive for infidels who say “A better translation is ...” I get that. But being called a hypocrite and turncoat for loving the experience of learning Greek or Hebrew is a little cultic. Holy Scripture is not purified the 7th time in the English as some have errantly supposed. The King James does not supersede nor exceed the Original Languages. Reading the original languages does indeed bring a vibrant new life and aspect to the Scripture just as much as standing on the Sea of Galilee and boarding a replica of the fishing boat Peter stepped out of enlivens a new awareness of Scripture. It is still like going from black and white and stepping into living color. I can declare so while still testifying that the King James is a perfect English translation of God's original languages. That is not hypocritical! Satan teamed with Brook Foss Westcott (1825-1903) and Fenton John Anthony Hort (1828-1892) to malign and destroy the Greek manuscript line and produce every bastardized modernist English bible in existence. That does not make the study and use of Greek the culprit! Those in the King James Only camps need to set aside their Greek & Hebrew phobias. Just because a Pastor uses a Strong's Concordance or loves the study of Hebrew that does not make them compromised; indeed it makes him competent. Does everyone need to stand on Mount Moriah or Mount Calvary to grow? Give me a break! I stand by my colloquial quote. Learning Greek or Hebrew is still like adding living color! Let's all mature a little bit.

And you still have time to join that Hebrew study group, we have 10 on board.

Msg #1306 Valentines Day God's Way

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God's instructions for our marriage relationships are succinctly outlined by Apostle Peter and Paul writing identical instructions to two audiences. Peter states that wives are to submit to their husbands and husbands are to dwell with and honor their wives. At the same time Paul writes the identical outline to the Church at Ephesus stating wives submit, husbands love. The perfect example in both outlines, for both parties is our Lord Jesus Christ who submitted even unto death, and loves with an everlasting, unconditional, selfless love. Indeed Paul holds up the supreme intimacy of the marriage relationship for a human visualization of how very much Christ loves his Church. The two relationships serve to build foundations of understanding for each other. In Jeremiah 42 Johanan and a remnant of Jews come to the man of God and solemnly promise to do whatever God reveals to Jeremiah as the proper behavior in their situation. God reveals what he desires for them, Jeremiah preaches it to them plainly and in chapter 43 Johanan and his proud men refuse to do it God's way; calling God's preacher a liar and a false prophet. That is a pretty astonishing account except for those who have seen it over and over. The femin-Nazi of our day boldly declare God's Word the liar and the preacher of the Gospel a false prophet. God is very clear about the husband wife relationship in marriage. So who are you going to trust? Each of us has that rebellion against God's truths dwelling in our nature. "Well I tried that submission stuff and it just will not work for us." Really? Do you suppose then that God was mistaken when he made his command so very clear? Do it God's way and you can find marital bliss. Happy Valentines.

An Essay for week #6 Sun, Feb 10, 13

Msg #1307 Home is a Rigid Body

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Before spring arrives, before generational hormones start to bloom, before the birds and bees start their annual visit it is altogether fitting to establish some of God's rules about love and marriage, home building and child rearing. An awesome key is in Lev19. There it states "Ye shall be holy: for I the LORD your God am holy. Ye shall fear every man his mother and his father, ..." Fear of mom and dad is essential in child rearing, but that needs some good understanding. In geometry only the three sided polygon forms a rigid body. Love, security, and significance, the rigid body frame for a Godly home must have these three sides. These must first be present in ones marriage relationship. A dysfunctional marriage relationship has dysfunctional parenting. Love is not a gushy way of feeling, it is a command of God, a command to be selfless and unconditional. If you refuse that for your spouse your child will know. They are very perceptive. Security comes into the marriage relationship with the clause "until death do us part." If you will not make or pursue that vow with your spouse your child will taste insecurity in their nurturing. Imagine life where you are significant to nobody. A child who sees a parent insignificant to their spouse knows the flavor of insignificance in their own life. God intends that a child be in the protective custody of a mom and a dad who are locked in a rigid body of selfless unconditional love, with until death security, and "I sincerely care about you" significance. Being a good parent will first involve building that rigid body. Let's get building. Grayer heads can teach some rigid body geometry to their grown children and grand children. It is essential for our Godly homes.

An Essay for week #7 Sun, Feb 17, 13

Msg #1308 Child Rearing's Two Laws

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Parenting; when a child misses God's two 'must-learn' commands they never get to the 'should-learn' list. God targets children with only two commands, fear your mother and father, and obey your mother and father. (Lev 19:3, Eph 6:1) These capture the heart of the parent child relationship and are the most persistent challenge of child rearing; but still the most needed objective. God commands it of your child and a parent's highest priority needs to be training these two commands into their character. Hanging commands on a wall-plaque in their room will not get it done. It will take consistent, persistent discipline in daily life to get it done. That is the ingredient most lacking in this generation and installing it into the next will require a major change in how most do their parenting. The strong-willed child which doctors may excuse is nothing more than a child who has more will, more time, and more patience than their parent, ergo they win every struggle and are in control. God's dual commands will not excuse a so-called strong-willed child. A child who does not fear and obey his parents has lazy, inept, or dysfunctional parents. Put that child in the hands of a military drill sergeant or a state shock-camp officer and they'll dig ditches and fold their underwear into a perfect four inch square with no less than a sir-yes-sir. The fault and problem is not with the child, it is with the parent. Do it God's way, instill these two commands into your child. You can do so only with God's 5 step program of Proverbs 19:18, 22:15, 23:13, 23:14, and 29:15 to get to 29:17 and avoid 17:25. That will often require a parent's major change, but changing is better than involving that shock-camp officer later on.

An Essay for week #8 Sun, Feb 24, 13

Msg #1309 He's Coming Soon, There's No Doubt

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Events in our progressively liberal nation make Christians yearn for the second coming of Christ and the Kingdom's victory over secular atheism which unites with Rome and Mecca to war against right and Israel. Jesus said it would be like it was for Sodom and Gomorrah. That was unimaginable 50 years ago. When Jesus saw his disciples thinking that the Kingdom should immediately appear, he gave the parable of the noblemen gone into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and to return. Therein he teaches us to "Occupy until he comes." He teaches us that the citizens of this world will not have him to reign over them, despising his return. Lastly he teaches us that we have resource from him and are to use it all for our Lord, our Master and our coming King. The pound given to each servant in this parable is different from the talent in a previous parable. Here each of ten servants get one pound and are expected to show a gain in a day of reckoning. The amount of reward they receive in that day depends on how resourcefully they used the pound. For the servant there is coming a day of reckoning "For I say unto you, That unto every one which hath shall be given, and from him that hath not, even that he hath shall be taken away from him." "Occupy until I come" Jesus said. For those who would not have Jesus Christ to reign over them, citizens of this world who are not citizens of His Kingdom, He must say "Bring them hither and slay them before me." Be ye ready, for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of God is returning as King of kings and Lord of lords.

An Essay for week #9 Sun, Mar 3, 13

Msg #1310 Stewardship, of Every Breath

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Three principled lessons from Jesus' stewardship parables are that servants have resources and responsibilities, that there is a day of reckoning coming and that no man knows the day nor hour of that day. His parable recorded in Matthew 25 is of keen interest for two reasons. It is emphasized that different servants are assigned different amount of resources. To one of "his own servants" he gives five talents, to another two and to another one. It indicates that the talents are given according to every mans "several ability." As a lad I was taught in my Regular Baptist Church that this parable was about me using my trumpet playing 'talent' for the Lord. Use it or loose it, being emphasized as its theme. When I read the parable on my own I was absolutely appalled to find that the servant that did not use his talent for the Lord was cast into outer darkness where there was weeping and gnashing of teeth! Wow! My Sunday School teachers were teaching me that if I didn't play my trumpet in our worship service, "there would be hell to pay!" This is obviously NOT what Jesus was teaching in this parable. The "hell to pay" teaching of Jesus must here coincide with his gospel message that "Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Rom10:13) Ergo the single talent given to this unprofitable servant can be nothing more than the breath of life and the light of Christ which "lighteth every man that cometh into the world." (John1:9) "For God trieth the hearts and reins of every man." (Psalm7:9, Jer11:20, 17:10) and he that believeth on Christ is not condemned but he that believeth not is condemned already. (John3:18) Got breath? You better use it for your Lord.

An Essay for week #10 Sun, Mar 10, 13

Msg #1311a Saint Patrick Was A Baptist

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit Special Edition by Pastor Ed Rice

There was a 4th century Baptist Missionary to Ireland named Succat Patricus and over one hundred years ago church historian W.A. Jarrell put into print that Patrick was not a Catholic priest, but rather a Baptist missionary. Other zealous historians of the 1800's wrote, "Rome's most audacious theft was when she seized bodily the Apostle Peter and made him the putative head and founder of her system; but next to that brazen act stands her effrontery when she 'annexed' the great missionary preacher of Ireland and enrolled him among her saints."¹ From the History of the Welch Baptist we know there were Baptist Churches on the British Isle since 63 AD and from Succat Patricus' own writings we know his father, after his conversion to Christ, was a deacon in a Baptist Church. Baptists are distinct from Roman based Religions particularly by a soul's individual and INSTANTANIOUS new birth wherein a soul is Converted (with repentance toward God and faith in Christ), Justified, Quickened, Indwelt and wholly Immersed in Christ. Our derogatory name comes because all infant baptism is soundly rejected; holding to only believers baptism AFTER that personal conversion experience. At age 16 Patrick (that being his given Irish title rather than his given name) was forcibly taken from their Scotland farm to pagan Ireland as a slave. When he escaped and returned his father had died and the farm was lost. "Saint" Patrick was not a Roman Saint, able to answer Catholic prayers, but a saint of Christ who went back to Ireland to preach the saving gospel of his Lord and Saviour. There he established churches which only baptized born again believers, i.e. Baptist Churches. Saint Patrick was not even Catholic, he was indeed a Baptist Missionary and a Roman Catholic misnomer.

An Essay condensed from 9 pages of history by Dr. L. K. Landis and aptly contained in a tract from WILDERNESS VOICE PUBLICATIONS Fellowship Baptist Church P.O. Box 393 Liberal, KS 67901 (316) 624-7601

1 A Short History of the Baptist [1907], Henry C. Vedder, pp. 71-72.

Msg #1311 Scruples in Your Stewardship

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is much to be learned in failure. A little grey matter allows us to learn from someone else's failure without our own stumble. Isaiah 5:1-7 puts Israel's failed stewardship into song. Not much rhyme or meter but like all Hebrew poetry it is profoundly loaded with pertinent depth. "What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it?" Profound! Jesus takes up the refrain in parable in Mark 12:1-12. Self centered, greedy, unscrupulous, pathologically violent men took over God's vineyard. Likewise, a new pope cannot erase the Crusades, John Wycliffe and William Tyndale's blood, nor bloody Mary's smoldering faggots at Smith's Field, John Rogers burning with his Bibles, Thomas Cranmer's execution for standing on the Great Bible, or unmitigated Jesuit Tyranny! Roman 'Christianity' is replete with the unscrupulous! Is yours? Five times Christ repeats the commission he left his saints. "Go ye and teach all nations." (Matt 28:18-20) "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15-16) "It behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: that repentance (NOT 'penance') and remission of sins should be preached in His name among all nations." (Luke 24:46-48) "As my Father hath sent me, even so send I you." (John 20:21) "And ye shall be witnesses unto me" (Acts 1:8) The wide road of corporate 'Christianity' via Catholicism, Protestantism, Calvinism, and/or Denominationalism gives His vineyard a very black-eye. There is a narrow gate and a straight path. (Matt 17:13-14) "Strive to enter in at the strait gate." (Luke 13:24). Robe yourself in scruples. Be a good steward. Take up His resources. Take up the cross. Do what your Lord commands, and occupy until He comes back to say "Well done thou good and faithful steward." Preach the Gospel.

An Essay for week #11 Sun, Mar 17, 13

Msg #1312 A Passover Lamb Without Blemish

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The days leading up to Easter Sunday mark a very precious time for the Bible believing Christian. It has nothing to do with pagan ashes on ones forehead and the Roman practice of lent. It has everything to do with rightly dividing Scripture and God's unfolding calendar. In accord with Exodus 12 where the first passover lamb was selected on the 10th of the Hebrew month Abib, and slain on the 14th day of their first month, even so on the 10th of Abib they selected the last Passover Lamb when they cried, "Hosanna to the Son of David; Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." Then on the 14th day of that month they cried, "Crucify him, Crucify him." Between the 10th day and the 14th day they were to separate the lamb from the flock, watching to be sure it was without spot or blemish before it was slain as their passover lamb. We have ample Scripture to examine the Lamb of God. Scripture reports how he was daily in the temple teaching and healing. On that Palm Sunday after his Triumphal entry he went to the Temple and overthrew the money changers. After cursing a fig tree he arrived at the Temple early on Monday to do the same. On Tuesday morning early the disciples noted the withered tree and a lawyer asked about the first commandment. On Wednesday he took his disciples to an upper room and washed their feet. Don't let some clergy tell you what he thinks, search the Scriptures and find the perfect Passover Lamb and receive him as your Lord and Saviour. If you already have, examine the Lamb again this year and marvel again how he is without spot and blemish.

An Essay for week #12 Sun, Mar 24, 13

Msg #1313 Easter and April Fools

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The excitement and energy of the resurrection morning is best captured in the foot race toward the empty tomb. The casual unbelief and indifference toward the resurrection is best captured in the walk down the Emmaus road. The brazen doubt and skepticism award is won, hands down, by the disciple forever tagged as 'Doubting Thomas.' So I gauge my own response and Jesus responds to each in kind. Three disciples which were close at hand whenever Jesus turned around became Christ's inner circle. It is not revealed how James missed the foot race, but Peter and John only heard that the body of their Lord was missing before the race ensued. Only a glimpse into the empty tomb and a noting of the napkin that was about his head, not lying with the linen clothes caused their assured belief. Inner circle disciples are that way, and the Lord is pleased with quick belief and ready faith. The indifference of the disciples on the Emmaus road is rebuked by Christ, "O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" It is the Scriptures that dispel their foolishness and his breaking of bread that reveals the truth. Doubt and skepticism is given brazen rebuke. "Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless but believing." Quick belief and ready faith please our Lord. And without faith it is impossible to please him. These three recorded reactions to the Christ and His resurrection make a good barometer to measure faith. Can others see your faith? The day after Easter being April fools it should be asked, Whose fool are you?

An Essay for week #13 Sun, Mar 31, 13

Always Critical of a Critical Text

Dear Believer, ... or skeptic.

It cannot be overemphasized in these last of the last days that ANY critical text is edited by critics and is not to be trusted to be the Word's of God. Critic is polite for infidel. Ecumenical counsels bonded together into Bible societies to copyright and profit from what the critics thought God meant to say and some of you are trusting their opinions and using modernist bibles. I thought this travesty was predominately cornered in the Westcott and Hort pollution of the Greek text but was mistaken. New King James fans should pay attention to this note I was compelled to sent to our Biblical Hebrew Study Group:

Greetings in the name of the Lord

I added this note to my Learning Biblical Hebrew journal. I love it when a plan comes together.

Without more research the *Hebraica Stuttgartensia* is recommended for content of Hebrew with vowel points, not for content of Scripture. According to Jerry Rockwell of firstBible International, via "Unpublished Word", Vol 10, Num 1, Spring 2013, and Bleddyn J. Roberts' "The Old Testament: Manuscripts, Text and Versions" (pgs 10-11) and the "Cambridge History of the Bible", NY, Cambridge University Press, 1969, the *Biblia Hebraica* is from the ben Asher Hebrew text, a critical text, and not from the ben Chayyim text that is the basis of the Authorized Version (KJV). In 1524-1525 Jacob ben Chayyim, a Hebrew Christian, put together the Second Rabbinic Bible. The First Rabbinic Bible had disappeared from history and ben Chayyim, like Erasmus for the Greek Text, went seeking evidence of the Hebrew Text, compiling a four volume edition. This Second Rabbinic Bible became the *Textus Receptus* of the Hebrew, is often called the Masoretic text, and was used by the King James translators. (It was NOT used by the New King James translators else they would not get their copy rights) (You know by now that the prefix 'ben' is Hebrew for 'son of', it is good to study Hebrew) This *Hebraica Stuttgartensia*, is recommended because of its easy access to Hebrew students and NOT for its certain origins. Be ye careful.

Pastor Rice

PS Subsequent I discovered that the *Hebraica Stuttgartensia* is a version of the corrupt *Biblia Hebraica* family of error and may be used effectively to study the Hebrew language but not the Hebrew Scripture. Thank you Pastor Bruce Varner. PS That Biblical Hebrew Study Group may be joined by sending me an email and that "Learning to Read Biblical Hebrew Journal" can be accessed in draft at: (this link will need pasted into your browser)

www.GSBaptistChurch.com/Hebrew_study_group/Hebrew_journal.pdf

Keep studying and God Bless.

Msg #1314 America's Inordinate Affections

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

How bad could it get when the people forgo the moral compass of right and wrong, a compass driven by God and dictated in His Word? America has rejected our Lord Jesus as their Christ as in his Luke 19 parable, “His citizens hated him, and sent a message after him saying. We will not have this man to reign over us.” The book of Judges closes with answer to our question. It concludes in verse “In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” But it concludes in His-story with shock and awe that appalls even the most vile. And it came to pass that a Levite lost his concubine who played the harlot and he went to her fathers house to retrieve her. A Levite, a supposed minister of Jehovah God, a teacher of the Law of God and example of his Holy God, had lost definition of marriage, spurned God's written law and lost natural affection while nurturing inordinate affection just like the world around him. Man pursues fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence and covetousness. The closing account in Judges, where this Levite gives his harlot concubine to marauding homosexual sodomites who rape her and leave her dead on his door step contains all these depravities of man. Society's calloused sensitivities are only appalled when 12 pieces of the dead concubine are dispersed throughout. An ugly war ensues when a whole tribe of Benjamin inordinately insists on defending the homosexual's 'civil rights' to sodomize. God has already documented how far man will go when every man is doing what is right in their own eyes. What is a Christian to do? Our commission, Preach the gospel to every creature and occupy until He comes again.

An Essay for week #14 Sun, Apr 7, 13

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Msg #1315 Jephthah's Awful Vow .. NOT Awful

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In Judges chapter 11, Jephthah, the Gileadite, walks across the pages of God's Holy Word to reveal to us truths that God would have us know for certain. It is shallow to dismiss truths because some scholar has improperly analyzed them, and given them a label. Jephthah's awful vow is not awful, nor is it just Jephthah's vow that is in view here. Consider that Jephthah, because of his lowly birth, was rejected of his brethren: rejected and driven out into the land of Tob. There he remained, forgotten, until his people had a great need because the children of Ammon rose up against them. Now they called for Jephthah to come and deliver them. I contend that Jephthah's walk across a page of His-Story, is intended to reveal to us His Heart. One chapter previous, in context, we read: "Moreover the children of Ammon passed over Jordan to fight also against Judah, ... And the children of Israel cried unto the LORD, ... And the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Did not I deliver you from the ... the Amorites..., and from the Philistines?... Yet ye have forsaken me, and served other gods: wherefore I will deliver you no more. It is no small coincidence that God chose the rejected and exiled Gileadite to deliver his people. So what of Jephthah's 'awful vow'? Consider that in Numbers there is command "offer the Levites before the LORD for an offering unto the LORD." Consider that there is only one human sacrifice that is themed in this whole book. Now consider that Jephthah's vow was not awful, but a revelation of God's vow. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

An Essay for week #15 Sun, Apr 14, 13

Msg #1316 The Devolution of Democracy

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Of thirteen judges in the Scripture's book of Judges only Abimelech was chosen by the people in a democratic process. In a society where people do what is right in their own eyes this sheds a curious light on a democratic failure; not pretty. Judges 9 records an Abimelech who is overpaid, overtly ruthless, and power mongering. He killed 70 of his own brothers to further secure his position. Rather than judge or deliver the people, like all the other judges, Abimelech reigns over them making himself a king instead of a judge. He considers his election a mandate to do whatever he wants no matter what the law of the land says. In Washington and in Albany our leadership think they are the omniscient elected public servants who can legislate the all-knowing rightful path. They are furious when our representatives and actual legislatures prevent them getting their own way. In every venue of a society, power corrupts. Our constitutional balance of powers is essential to our existence. The Holy Bible is awesome literature; it has a perfect author. It is interesting that there are only two fables written in the whole of God's Word. A fable is a moral story where animals or inanimate objects do the talking. In Judges 9:8-15 one of the two is used to prophecy the ironic destruction of the demented, elected leader, Abimelech. The moral of the longest chapter of Judges is this, while God chooses and empowers nobodies to be superb judges and deliverers, man, especially those who have thrown off their Creator's rulebook, cannot choose leadership well. Here we are 3,419 years after Abimelech, and instead of learning and applying God's recorded lessons, we have scoffed them to our children and banned them from our schools. That is the devolution of man.

An Essay for week #16 Sun, Apr 21, 13

Msg #1317 Judges, the Main Thing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Simon says, Take four steps back. That game is meant to teach careful obedience to only one master. Taking four steps backward through the book of Judges is meant to teach the same. We started at the end where a depraved society would have no God to reign over them, and every depraved man did what was right in their own eyes. We back stepped through the God selected judge, Jephthah, and found him and his vow a portrayal of what God was feeling and yet promising. A step back found us analyzing Abimelech, the leader chosen by majority vote and mimicking our own dilemma wherein it is said, In the voting machine we trust. One more step back puts us at the beginning of this book called Judges, and the ugly plight of mankind is portrayed in God's words. The people of God, fresh settled into the promised land, flowing with milk and honey, forsook the LORD God of their fathers and served other gods and bowed to them (2:12). They moved the LORD to anger, he delivered them into the hands of spoilers (vr 14), and yet he saved and delivered time and again with his judges. “And it came to pass when the judge was dead, that they returned, and corrupted themselves more than their fathers, in following other gods to serve them and to bow down to them.” Sounds like the Big Bang worshiping, humans came from monkeys reasoning, secular-humanist people I have been called to preach the gospel to! Indeed the book of Judges is a mirror, a mirror that shadows the face of the USA we are called to reach for Christ. Wow, ... discouraged but not in despair, keep the main thing the main thing in these last of the last days.

An Essay for week #17 Sun, Apr 28, 13

Msg #1318 The Profound in Parable

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Matthew 13 accounts seven parables given in rapid succession by Jesus of Nazareth. A parable is a paralleled simple, objective truth that prompts a deeper understanding of a more complex subject. In the hands of a master a parable can effectively do two opposites. For the seeing eye, the hearing ear, and the believing heart the parable is a profound revelation of the subject matter. For the blinded eye, the ear gone dull of hearing, and the heart waxed gross, the parable is a profound concealment of the subject matter. Jesus the Christ was the master teacher, making Matthew 13 and his seven parables profoundly interesting, ... at least to some of us. Jesus the Son of God states it thus "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." The complex subject matter in view is the kingdom of heaven, and it is necessary to keep a wide vista in examining such a wide subject matter. The kingdom of heaven can be entered in this life, and once entered it is within you. Except ye be born again ye cannot enter (John 3), except ye be converted ye cannot enter (Matt 18) and, Neither say Lo here!, or lo there! For, behold, the kingdom of God is within you (Luke 17:21) The kingdom of God is also soon to come to Zion and be set up through his chosen, Israel. Disciples asked their resurrected Lord, Wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? The Only Begotten Son of God responded, Not quite yet. (Acts 1) The kingdom of God is also an everlasting thing, "For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2Pet 1:11) All this makes Matthew 13 all the more profound.

An Essay for week #18 Sun, May 5, 13

Msg #1319 Happy Mothers Day

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In Proverbs 31 King Lemuel's mother knew some things that Scripture communicates well. What every mother needs is a *daysman*. The 'thus saith the LORD authority' declares in Job 9 that her sin, her guilt, her shortfalls and her pending judgment frames a need for an advocate and mediator. Every mother's need can be met in Job's recorded prophecy "I know that my Redeemer liveth." (Job 19) Mom's #1 need is a daysman that saves from judgment. In verse 2 Lemuel's mother curiously describes three things that every mom is to be. She is to be a 'mothering trainer.' Every woman is created by God with moods, parts and hormones equipping her for mothering, not fathering. Second, notice the emphasis in this verse, a mother has a life giving womb. In our sick, depraved, and perverted society every mother needs to know and teach the three parts of conception; an egg, a sperm and a *womb*. Despite the ignorant law of ND there is no conception, child or pregnancy without a womb, and despite U.S. Court rulings, purposely separating a life from a woman's womb constitutes premeditated murder; lessons that need taught to all. Thirdly, in this curious verse, a mother is a wife with hallowed vows. The song, 'First comes love, then come marriage, then comes daddy pushing a baby carriage,'" needs to be revived and rehearsed in our day. Lemuel's mom knew and taught that you cannot be a completed and Godly mother without vows to a father. Vows stating, 'till death do us part,'" instill stability into God's child rearing entity, the home. No court, politician, or democratic vote can revise God's definition or design for the home, and King Lemuel's mother knew and taught these Godly truths. You should too. Happy Mothers Day.

An Essay for week #19 Sun, May 12, 13

Msg #1320 Stubborn Stiffnecked and Rebellious

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The book of Psalms is divided into five volumes and when literary genius is divided in chapters, sections or volumes the third usually captures the heart of the matter. Psalm 78 is in the third volume of the Psalm collection and begins "Give ear, O my people, to my law." This marvelous work of 72 verses goes on to expound the purpose of that law, the blessing of heading the law, and then the stubborn, rebellious, and stiffnecked reaction of man to God's law, and what God was finally going to do about that reaction. It is a tremendous study, worthy of considerable analysis. The leading illustration of stiffnecked rebellion and unbelief is captured in the tribe of Ephraim. The impressive list of things that should have secured complete belief fills 32 verses. There are then 10 verses to cover the 10 plagues of Egypt and then 12 more verses to document Ephraim's unprecedented pigheaded stubbornness and rebellion. Finally in verse 65 there is an amazing and disturbing analogy: "Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine." Now look what God had to do to conquer the stubborn rebellion of man. He "smote his enemies in the hinder parts," he "refused the tabernacle of Joseph," and he chose the tribe of Judah, .. the mount of Zion, ... and the Throne of David. If you will see your stubborn rebellion conquered you will have to approach a Jew that died on Golgotha of Mount Zion and now sits on the throne of David for ever and ever. The gospel is his death, burial and resurrection. Believing is seeing. Jesus said "I am the way, the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the Father but by me."

An Essay for week #20 Sun, May 19, 13

Msg #1321 Beware of Darkness

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On memorial day we commemorate, remember, and honor those who gave their life to secure and maintain our freedom. In this observation it becomes obvious that the battle for true freedom is ongoing. Oppressive darkness swallows freedom all around us. Just this week it swallowed the boyscout organization. They no longer have the freedom to call homosexuality and sodomy an immoral abomination to God, the God that they used to exalt and serve. It is a sad day when immorality triumphs by distorting 'civil rights' and even uses our federal government to provide leverage. We, as a nation are headed back into darkness. Ephesians 5 says you were sometimes darkness. Before one is quickened by Christ, the unregenerate soul, the unsaved individual, is not only 'in' darkness, they 'are' darkness. The quickened are no longer darkness, they were converted to be light, but they have an adversary, and that adversary is darkness. In the Scripture the 'roaring lion' was at Golgotha, Psalm 22; it is the wicked and Godless leader, Proverbs 28; it is the false prophet/teacher, Ezekiel 22; and it is this ever present darkness in man. Ergo, you were darkness, your unsaved loved one still is, your lost neighbor is darkness, and your unregenerate coworker is darkness. Each is that roaring lion seeking whom they may devour. There is a battle going on and you must not only fight for right, you must fight for light. Be sober, be vigilant. They do need salvation; they are 'in' darkness; but be aware, they 'are' darkness. Don't be devoured. The lion takes the weak and stragglers, being those who skip out on Church attendance, Bible study, and prayer time. Ephesians warns us to be careful who we fellowship with, we were darkness, now we are light. Let your light so shine.

Msg #1322 All The Words of God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

All modernists ecumenical Bibles completely leave out 20 verses that have always been in the Holy Bible. They say that Matt17:21 is not supposed to be in the Bible. They take their pen knife and cut it out! Then they take their knife and cut out Matt18:11, 23:14, Mark7:16, 9:44 & 46, 11:26, 15:28, Luke17:36, 23:17, John5:4, Acts8:37, 15:34, 24:7, 28:29, Rom16:24, and 1John5:7, then they take Col 1:14 and cut out the clause "Through His Blood" because they think God did not mean to say that. For over nineteen hundred years believers have considered these 20 verses to be inspired, inerrant, infallible Scripture. But now, modernist ecumenical scholars contend that no Bible in existence today is inspired. They contend that only the original manuscripts were inspired, i.e. only what came from the apostle's pen! All these original manuscripts are lost and, consequently, they say, there is no inspired Word of God in existence. They think, however, that their excellent 'textual-criticism' will be able to restore the originals from the two oldest existing manuscripts from Alexandria Egypt. Both manuscripts came from the pen of Roman Catholic Church Fathers, Clement of Alexandria and Origin of Alexandria. Catholic Saint Origin is considered the Father of Textual Criticism and the Father of the Allegorical Method, whereby Scripture "conceals a secret hidden meaning that only the supremely spiritually astute can see and comprehend." Baptists never have trusted Catholics, especially their textual criticism. Look what they did to the Word's of God in Psalm 12:6 "The words of the LORD are pure words." They pervert this verse to say "The promises of the LORD are promises that are pure"^(RSV). Baptists will never agree with such folly. We use the ONLY complete English Bible with all these verses still intact, the Authorized King James Bible.

An Essay for week #22 Sun, Jun 2, 13

Msg #1323 Good Theology is not Reformed

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When I, a retired systems engineer, pick up another eight volumes of systematic theology expect some profound critiques. Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer steps back from all previous theologians and profoundly presents a view he labels “The Church, the Body of Christ.” When one accepts the dispensational truth of Scripture, and then rightly divides the Word of Truth, the Church, being the body of Christ, occupies a central role of this dispensation, but not all dispensations. When the Covenant Theology of John Calvin and Roman Catholicism exalts the Catholic Church to occupy the central theme of all ages and all time, insisting that it swallow and replace Israel, as God's chosen and elect, insisting that it swallow and replace all the promises made to Israel, to Jerusalem, to Zion, to their regathering, to the literal throne of David, and to their 12 tribes and 144 thousand witnesses, it places an unpardonable strain on not only Biblical prophecy, but on the whole Bible, from Genesis to maps, and especially on the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Now, they say, only a few spiritually enlightened 'clergy' can see and interpret this allegorical, hidden and secret meaning of Scripture. That such nonsense, springing from Roman Catholic Church Fathers, Saint Clement of Alexandria, and Saint Origin of Alexandria, made it intact through the Protestant Reformation, and got grounded into John Calvin's Institutes, is downright diabolical. Chafer steps away from this bias to write a dispensational systematic theology that presents what the Bible actually intimates about the Church, the Body of Christ. It is unfortunate that Baptists, and even Baptist Preachers do not spend significant time studying theology, the greatest of the sciences. Only a little such study would keep Baptists well distanced from the Calvinistic TULIPS and their Reformed Theology that never really got reformed.

An Essay for week #23 Sun, Jun 9, 13

Response Msg #1323 Good Theology is not Reformed

Dear Bro. Rice,

I thought it was unique that you just sent out this penny pulpit. I've been dealing with this very thing. Is it not true that this "TULIP" doctrine came from Jerome a Roman Catholic and did not originate from John Calvin? And there was no Calvinist doctrine amongst true Bible believers in early history was it? And what about Charles Spurgeon, Calvinists or no? Well anyway I'd appreciate anything else you have on Calvinism and any advise you'd be willing to give. God bless you Bro. Rice and your family!

Your missionary in Bulgaria (one of them),

Bro. Danny Kessler

Dear Brother Kessler,

Thanks for writing with your concerns, it is good hearing from you. We have been in revival and faith promise meetings this week and have prayed for the Kesslers in Bulgaria.

Your questions are well put.

Is it not true that this "TULIP" doctrine came from Jerome a Roman Catholic and did not originate from John Calvin?

The T.U.L.I.P. model came from the Presbyterians via some counsel which was convened because the Armenians had contended Presbyterian error in 5 points. True, John Calvin never did hear of the model, much less make it. The model does, however, carefully outline John Calvin's doctrine.

And there was no Calvinist doctrine amongst true Bible believers in early history was it?

Although it would not be called Calvinism, the notion that God predetermines everything that ever happens to an individual, especially the circumstances of his death, originated in Roman Catholic Church Fathers of Alexandria Egypt. It got firmed up via Jerome's Latin Vulgate with three very bad 'P's -penance, priests, and predestination, which then got grounded in Roman Catholic Saint Augustine of Hippo's very bad doctrine. Since Catholic Doctrine contains a Covenant type Theology and its Replacement Theology, and since that theology claims that the Catholic Church is the new Elect of God replacing Israel as such, it is natural that John Calvin's Reformed Theology would be quite messed up concerning the elect, dispensationalism and God's promises to Israel. Short answer, yes it was around since Roman Catholic Church Father Saint Clement, 3rd century, but it was found in Roman Catholic history

not in 'true believers' history.

And what about Charles Spurgeon, Calvinists or no?

Charles wrote a defense of Calvinism which basically states that he could never be an Armenian who periodically loses his salvation. He was, like so many unstudied Baptists, holding onto Calvinism so he would not be called Armenian. A studied Baptist will shed the name of Calvinist as soon as he understands the larger picture. Spurgeon, although a tremendous orator, was enamored with the genius of Saint Augustine and John Calvin, and would not cross his intellectual heroes, even in their most damnable heresies. Sounds like to many Baptist I know.

More detail is given in my attached book, and I will send you my other book under another letter. www.GSBaptistChurch.com/elect/election_predest_man.pdf
A whosoever will in Christ.

Ed

Brother Kessler,

I do not mean to belabor you, but you can tell you have asked some questions with which I struggled for many a year before getting it all resolved in my head, and I appreciate that others have to resolve this issue for themselves. It naturally concerns me when so many Baptists are falling into lockstep with both John Piper and John Calvin.

My greatest enlightening came when I reasoned that God created man with his own individual sovereignty, which we sometimes call free-will, although it is not really completely free. That means that, although God knows all that is knowable, he does not know, in fatalistic certainty, the decisions you have yet to make. In your delegated 'sovereignty', you are 'free' to go any of a number of ways. I know my wife. I know what she is doing tomorrow, next week and next year, but not with fatalistic certainty. God knows us better than we know a spouse, but he does not know us with fatalistic certainty, i.e. our fate is not predestined, ergo, whosoever will may come. You will have to get to a similar understanding to grapple with the exactness of Scripture, the election of saints for service, (not of the lost for salvation) and the 'whosoever will' declarations of God. Let me know how you make out.

A bigger picture analysis of Reformed Theology and its error is attached. I think it should be owned by every Baptist, but I am somewhat biased toward the author.

At www.GSBaptistChurch.com/seminary/master_thesis/thesis_reformed.pdf

Ed

Hi Pastor Rice,

I pray all is well with you, Bev, your children and grandchildren!

The subject of your email caught my attention as it seems many are talking about the same. I am just looking into all the debate but it seems to me that if one considers that God is the Creator of time itself and therefore above it that the debate is silenced regarding predestination since the essence of the concept integrates time. I would be interested to know your thoughts on this consideration!

Blessings to you!

Trudy Avers (formerly Rice)

In other words, God is able to see and orchestrate our world both as a snapshot and video and that view is beyond human understanding. So in time we have been given a choice but all in a snapshot is known and controlled by God - we have no words to describe or comprehend the latter because we are not capable of such a perspective.

Sent from my iPhone 6/18

In other words, God is able to see and orchestrate our world both as a snapshot and video and the snapshot view of an entire video is beyond human understanding. He is also able to intervene for us, thank you Jesus!
Romans 8:28-34, & Ephesians 1:3-14

Dear Trudy,

What a joy to hear from you, and especially to hear you weigh into this doctrine with such a profound understanding. The excellent explanation you gave is well regarded and accurate, but it cannot silence the debate. It is indeed perfectly logical that since God made the space-continuum, and is free to move in it without restriction; and God made the matter-continuum, and is free to move in it without restrictions; that God also made the time-continuum in such fashion that he is free to move in it without restriction. This profound analysis is likely the best that the finite will ever do in comprehending the infinite, and it is good that you worded it so well.

The real debate in this doctrine, however, is this: Does the prevailing error of three Johns, override the prevailing truth of John three? The three Johns are the protestant genius of John Calvin, the

insightful theologian, Johnathan Edwards, and the contemporary Baptist, author, and 5 point Calvinist, John Piper. Of course, John 3 is the mainstay of a myriad of WHOSOEVER WILL Biblical teachings. The three Johns contend in their doctrine that God, before the foundation of the world, choose the individual souls which would be saved from hell, and the individual souls which would be condemned to hell. They are so predestined with an unchangeable fate, and nothing that they may think, say or do will ever change that predestination. There have been several persuasive arguments about the foreknowledge of God, the omniscience of God, and/or what you have addressed, that God is not restricted in time like we and our understanding is.

None of these arguments deal with the real issue; does man have any control of his own thoughts, his own decisions, his own actions, his own destiny? I have little doubt that you would answer the same way that your Bible does, yes, yes, yes, and yes. The error of the three Johns is that their answer is no, no, no and no. All that you said about time, and snapshots in it, is profoundly true. It still remains that a believer be able to word an understanding of 1) the whosoever will economy of salvation, 2) the sovereignty that is surrendered to man, and 3) that God changes his mind, (just ask Moses or Nineveh) especially relating to the truth that prayer changes things. (just ask Hezekiah, Joash, or Jesus.) We only have a finite mind. It is challenged to comprehend an infinite God. We cannot disallow the prevailing truth of John 3, no matter what the intellectuals who preceded us have done with a misguided doctrine of election.

The length of this answer reveals that you have touched a passion of mine. Bev and I are so glad to hear from you. We are doing well. Wishing we could see more of our 11 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren. We also want to encourage you continue your growth in the knowledge of God and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Please write again.

Ed

Msg #1324 Are You Just IN the Light?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

”No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.” Matthew 6:24 aptly expresses the conflict of all ages. The two kinds of fruit in 7:20 and the two types of foundations of 7:26 equally come to bear on all ages but are much more applicable to this age of grace that we now operate in. In this dispensation we experience a completely different economy of righteousness. The New Covenant, that the Lord initiated, is different from anything ever seen in this world. The two masters, two fruits, and two foundations have always been in contrast and conflict, the one contrary to the other. They have been illustrated as oil and water, iron and clay, and light and darkness. But in this new economy of righteousness “Ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light: ... Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.” (Eph5:8,10) Christians are proving what light is. It is not that you were in darkness, but now you are in the light. No, no, it says you WERE darkness, but now you ARE light. Under the Old Covenant when you stood in that light and did right, you received blessing for it. Under this New Covenant, in Christ, you ARE that light, and when you let that light shine on your neighbor, you need to expect hatred and persecution for it. Those who refuse dispensational truth, and think we are all under one grand covenant, cannot rightly divide the word of truth. They stumble on this concept. In the last of the last-days expect this to get worse before it gets better.

An Essay for week #24 Sun, Jun 16, 13

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Msg #1325 A.S.K. Really?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Thus saith the LORD; For three transgressions of Judah, and for four, I will not turn away the punishment thereof; because they have despised the law of the LORD, and have not kept his commandments, and their lies caused them to err, after the which their fathers have walked: ...” It could be that the three-strikes-and-you're-out rule for baseball came from Amos, who rehearsed this theme from God eight times in his first two written chapters. In the seventh chapter, however, when all their strikes were tallied and the promised punishment was begun, Amos said, “O Lord GOD forgive, I beseech thee:...” Both times this happened God records this dumbfounding response, “The LORD repented for this: It shall not be, saith the LORD.” Prayer changes things. Not only does it change 'things', it changes God. This concept and these verses don't set well with theologians grasping at Reformed Theology, but they are a tremendous asset to the Bible believer that needs a God who responds to their prayer and supplications. We have one. Amos never had the promise “whatsoever ye ask in my name, I will do it.” That promise came under a new covenant. We have that promise from our Lord, and Savior. Scripture says “But now hath he obtained a more excellent ministry, by how much also he is the mediator of a better covenant, which was established upon better promises.” If the prayer of Amos, God's prophet, can turn away the fierceness of God's wrath when it was well overdue, how much more can the prayer of a saint, who is under a new covenant, with better promises, refine the heart of God concerning a lost loved one, a neighbor, a state or a country. A. S. K. and it shall be given you.

An Essay for week #25 Sun, Jun 23, 13

LETTER TO THE EDITOR,

The Corning Leader PO BOX 1017 Corning, NY 14830

In his 06/26/2013 letter in your paper Gary A. McCaslin worded well the necessity of stomping out all the conservative Bible believing fundamental Churches that remain opposed to the LGBT agenda. The LGBT community will not be at liberty to practice and promote their complete agenda while these Bible believing Christians have the freedom to practice their faith and preach it on our streets. What they call the “Word of God” is even older than McCaslin intimates. That Roman Emperor had nothing to do with it, nor did the Roman Religion that he formed in the 4th century. The conservative Bible believing Christians, which McCaslin wants to silence, actually believe that those sixty six archaic books written down by forty different men over a period of 1,592 years, are the infallible words of Jehovah God! They believe that twenty seven of those books, written over 1,900 years ago, which they call the New Testament, were penned and authenticated by twelve ordained apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ himself. They further allege that those twenty seven antiquated books authenticate the thirty nine older books that they call the Old Testament. As to how one would silence this vocal few so that the LGBT community can have universal acceptance, with nobody calling them '*sinners*', nor calling '*sodomy*' an abomination to God, I suggest you first go to the history books. They have already been crucified, boiled in oil, thrown to the lions, tortured, beaten, burned alive with their Bibles, imprisoned, and banished. They don't even believe in evolution for crying out loud. I contend, therefore, that it is Gary McCaslin who needs to hear the truth, not the Bible believing conservative Christians. They are indeed founded on the Lord Jesus Christ, the Truth, and the Word, according to God's Holy infallible Word.

Baptist Pastor Edward Rice is a Steuben County Resident

Edward G. Rice

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Gary A. McCaslin's Infernal Letter

Corning, N.Y. — <http://www.the-leader.com/opinions> 26 June 2013

Exodus International, one of the nation's most prominent coalitions of groups promoting harmful "gay conversion" therapy, recently offered a heartfelt apology to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community and announced that it was disbanding. In the same week, the queen of England signed a new charter designed to stamp out discrimination against homosexuals. This is clearly more evidence that the human species is becoming more understanding and inclusive rather than fearful and condemning toward our LGBT brothers and sisters.

Also in the same week, the membership of The Roswell Street Baptist Church of Marietta, Ga., joined the ranks of several fundamental churches who have asked the Boy Scouts to leave their church.

Roswell Street Baptist has sponsored Boy Scout Troop 204 since 1945, but Rev. Earnest Easley said on CNN the church had no choice but to ask the Scouts to leave.

"We cannot and will not put our arms around any organization that stands morally opposed to what God's word teaches," said Rev. Easley.

By "God's word" Rev. Easley is referring, of course, to the Christian Bible, which is literally a small library of books compiled almost 1,700 years ago when the Roman emperor Constantine charged Christian leaders to get their act together and provide him with information on the Christian faith.

Seventeen hundred years ago, people were living in pre-scientific times, which means they literally believed the Earth was flat and the center of the universe. They also believed illnesses were caused by demons and God opened the doors of heaven to make it rain.

Thankfully, science has helped us move beyond these limited understandings of a book that also affirms slavery, disparages the role of women in church and society and was the primary tool used to keep the right to vote from African Americans and women. While the Bible has many wonderful stories of love and compassion, all Bible lessons cannot be simply translated into our 21st century lives.

Churches that continue to discriminate against the LGBT community are using six obscure passages from these ancient texts to shackle their minds to fourth century ideas that have no modern understanding of human nature. Medical, psychiatric, business, educational and legal communities have all set aside their past prejudices of the LGBT population; only conservative churches continue to lag in this natural evolution of thought.

There are few other places where humans are so attached to the past. We all want the latest cell phones when we go to the store, we want the latest medicines when we go to the pharmacist and we want our doctors to treat us using the latest research. We want 21st century trained dentists to fill our teeth but fundamental

churches want to continue allowing fourth century understandings of God, the world and humanity to fill our minds.

Mel White is a former speechwriter for Jerry Falwell. White came out as a gay man and founded Soulforce – an organization committed to freedom for LGBT people from religious and political oppression.

He once stated that, because of high suicide rates for gay adolescents who have been rejected by their church and families, a gay teenager would more likely be safer in the home of an atheist than a church family. This is a truth conservative churches of today need to hear if they ever intend to have any credibility in the future. Gary A. McCaslin is a Corning resident.

Pastor Ed Rice

On 6/29/2013 7:46 PM, jimmy workman wrote:

Pastor, my name is Jimmy and I am a believer in our Lord Jesus Christ and have been since 1964. I am writing regarding your recent letter about the need for the LGBT community to silence Bible believing churches so they may be free to promote their wicked agenda. I agree with the premise of your letter but wanted to point out a misprint that I noticed. Your letter says that ".....which they call the New Testament, were penned and authenticated by twelve ordained apostles of the Lord Jesus Christ Himself." You see the obvious error of course.....there is no book of Andrew or Philip or Thomas etc.

Also Luke, the physician wrote the books of Luke and Acts and was himself not an Apostle. And let me not forget Paul who was the 13th Apostle who wrote most of the New Testament. So you see the error and I'm sure it was unintentional. As I said, I otherwise agree with your letter and can see a time in the not too distant future when true Christians will be handcuffed and taken to jail for preaching the truth from the Word of God. Perhaps our Master will not delay and put all things right soon! If I am wrong in this, please let me know and forgive this brother.

In Christ, Brother Jimmy

Amen! Even so, come Lord Yeshua, my God and King!

Brother Workman,

Thanks for pointing out the mis-communicate'. Sometimes brevity makes for a necessary awkwardness. The mention of the 12 Apostles writing and/or authenticating the NT Scriptures was meant to capture the fact that 1) Paul was indeed the 12th Apostle, as the NT justifies blatantly, 2) Luke, who authored two books, had his works authenticated by the Apostle Paul, 3) Mark, who authored one book, had his work authenticated by the Apostle Peter, and 4) those Apostles who did not directly author a book or epistle, were still participant in authorizing the 27 books called the New Testament. You were very astute to capture and point out these oversights. If I had more editorial space I would have further developed the truths you pointed out, crucial truths about how we got our New Testament Scriptures. Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1326 Believing IN the Christ.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In John10 Jesus spoke of thieves, shepherds, sheepfolds and doors, “but they understood not what things they were which he spake unto them.” It is accurately recorded but one thousand and eighty years latter we can barely get our mind around all that Jesus taught in this chapter. It is, however, paramount that one comprehend his declaration “I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep, ... Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it up again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.” (vr.11, 17, 18) The “whosoever believeth in him” of John3:16, cannot be separated from the substitutionary death of the Lord Jesus Christ, nor his being the “Lamb that taketh away the sin of the world”, nor his resurrection to be one's only living Redeemer, only Mediator, and only High Priest. “While we were yet sinners Christ died FOR us.” The “whosoever” must believe and ask and receive that substitutionary death of Christ for themselves. The gospel message is that Christ died, was buried, and that he rose again on the third day. (1Cor15) Conversion is this truth believed, and accepted, i.e. repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 20:20) If he is not one's Prophet, Priest and King, i.e. Saviour, Mediator, and Lord, they have not yet believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, and are on a broad road that leadeth to destruction. In this day of compromise one needs to clearly hear and clearly preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. John3:16 has great depth; and so does John10.

An Essay for week #26 Sun, Jun 30, 13

Msg #1327 Keeping the Wine Press Pressing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Israel and I come up with solid rationale, and highfalutin excuses, why we cannot be obedient and fruitful in our present circumstance; but God says, "What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it?" (Isaiah 5:4) Apathetic agnosticism (AA) reigns supreme in upstate New York, but if I were only in North Carolina, where there is a Baptist Church every twelve feet, I could, ... and I would, ... If I were back in Ohio, where people welcome door-to-door visitors sharing the gospel, then I would, ... and I could, ... If I were in Florida, where people respond in kindness to street preaching, then I would, ... "My well beloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill." I and/or you are parked right in the middle of God's fruitful vineyard, and are expected to yield much fruit for our Lord's joy and glory. What fruit are we supposed to be yielding? Well there is a wine press right over there, and in the Bible wine is generally symbolic of the joy of the Lord. That's a sweet fruit for our labor. What has he done for his fruitful vineyard? Well he fenced it (vr2), i.e. placed clear boarders in our lives. He gathered out the stones thereof, i.e. cleared sin and every weight which easily besets us. He planted it with the choicest vine, i.e. people still need the Lord even if they wont' readily admit it. And he built a tower in the midst, i.e. he is our strong tower, our refuge, our vantage point, our warehouse and operation center. In the fifties great ministries were built by door-to-door visitation, today, could be, it only builds great frustration. Labor in the well beloved's vineyard anyway, His wine-press makes real joy.

An Essay for week #27 Sun, Jul 7, 13

Msg #1328 You Need to Have a Pastor

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The prophecy that God gave to Jeremiah before Judah fell into punishment and captivity does not portray the office of pastor in very good light. One wonders why he revived and reinitialized the office under his new covenant. Its very first mention in chapter 2:8 show a failure in priest, lawyer, pastor, and prophet. Pastor is a lesser word for shepherd and the job description is given in 3:15: “And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” But the pastors became brutes (10:21). They destroyed God's vineyard (12:10). Precious few remained true to the word of god (17:15-16) and they were hated for this stand. So God said the wind, that was supposed to be the breath of God in them, would 'eat up all thy pastors.' “Woe unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the seep of my pasture! Saith the LORD.” (23:1) The chapter continues “Behold the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch...” That Branch arrived and said “I am the good Shepherd...” (John 10) The office of Pastor was revived and initiated for His churches. We have a perfect example to follow and Psalm 23 describes how our perfect example operates. If you do not have a pastor that can come to your home and counsel, (that excludes all those TV preachers.), a pastor that puts his pants on one leg at a time (that's 'pants' not 'pantaloons'), then you are operating outside the clear boundary of God's Word. Getting into his boundaries always provokes his blessing. God's intent is that his pastors feed his flock with knowledge and understanding, keep them from fear and dismay, and cause that they shall not want. (23:4) It's a tall order.

An Essay for week #28 Sun, Jul 14, 13

Msg #1329 See The Depth and Believe

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A pool in Mammoth Cave illustrates the crystal, clear, cave water. As our group stared through this crystal pool and saw the colorful formations on the bottom, our guide dropped in a penny. It flipped and swirled as it sank and sank, getting smaller and smaller until it disappeared altogether. The pool we stared through was fifty feet deep! The Gospel of John is like that pool. It is crystal clear and you can see all the way to the bottom, but when you research, you find there is great depth in this book. Nothing manifests that truth like chapter ten. It contains a parable, and Jesus said, "They understood not what things they were which he spake unto them." Then he drops in a penny, as it were. He claimed to be the Only Door, fulfilling Psalm 22. He claimed to be the Good Shepherd, fulfilling Psalm 23. But when he claimed to be the fulfillment of Psalm 24 he was met with disbelief. He is still ridiculed in disbelief today. When he said he was the Good Shepherd of Psalm 23 he claimed to be Jehovah God. When he said he had power to lay down his life for his sheep, and then he had power to take it up again, he claimed the same more emphatically. Those not of his fold, who would not hear his voice, called him a liar and a lunatic. Those who say of Jesus the Christ, "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want," they hear his voice, see clear to the bottom of the pool, and inherit His eternal life. Liar, Lunatic, or LORD, each must choose, "For God sent not his son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved."

An Essay for week #29 Sun, Jul 21, 13

Msg #1330 England and Athens

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Pastor Watts, of Bury England, reports that an illustration of England is found in Athens; his text was Acts 17. England now, and Athens then, are very religious people; they know there are gods, and they know they should be worshiped. They provided the world with the KJV, Whitefield and Spurgeon; yet in all things they are yet, to superstitious. England now, and Athens then, are very intellectual; always eager either to tell, or hear some new thing. Darwin's picture is on the ten pound note. England now, and Athens then, are very accommodating people; "May we know what this new doctrine, whereof thou speakest, is?" They brought Muslim prayer rugs to school to teach children to pray towards Mecca. Wanting never to offend they make an altar "TO THE UNKNOWN GOD." Paul corrects and reproves by presenting four points in his preaching. Preaching unto them the God that made the world and all things therein; it is intuitively known, but it needs said out loud repeatedly in a world filled with evolution-fiction. Second, He is a personal God, and can be known personally; despite agnostic beliefs, He is not far from every one of us. God loves us; we are His offspring and His image and likeness. Lastly, Paul preaches that God has appointed a day of judgment, and that He "Now commandeth all men everywhere to repent." The four point message still draws three reactions. "And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked; and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter. ... Howbeit certain men clave unto (Paul), and believed." The world where we minister is not different than the one the Apostle Paul found. The message we preach should not differ, and the response we report will be the same.

An Essay for week #30 Sun, Jul 28, 13

Msg #1331 Scholar-wanna-bees and Balderdash

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, nailed the identity of the fourth guy walking around in his fiery furnace, it was unbelievable: (Dan3:25) so unbelievable that all the modernist translators of our day have disagreed with 1,400 years of Hebrew scribes and scholars, disagreed with fifty-seven skilled multilingual scholars from Cambridge, Westminster and Oxford, disagreed with these superior linguists that worked in six companies for a period of seven years completely funded by one King James of England, and then disagreed with the very Word's of God. This is all very common for the modernist scholar and translator who want to tell you what they logically reason God *meant to say* in His Word. Here, they reason, Neb could not have known that Jehovah God had an Only Begotten Son. What God's Word meant, they say, was "and the fourth looks like a son of the gods." (RSV, NIV, ASV, NASV, NEV, ESV et al.) Bible believers, however, know that 450 years before Neb came on the scene, one David, king of Israel knew and clearly recorded the presence of the Only Begotten Son of God. (Psalm 2) Bible believers know that Neb knew Daniel, and every one who knew Daniel knew all about Jehovah God, Hebrew – *Elohim* (*Hbrw plural, not dual but plural, i.e. three or more*) and his being a triune, Father, Son, and Spirit, Godhead. Modernist "scholars" are without excuse, also knowing His eternal power and Godhead. They pretend that Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon could not know, even after he knew for certain; "But there is a God (*Hbrw Elohim*) in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days." (Dan2:28) Scholar-wanna-bees think Daniel wrote Aramaic and Hebrew scribes didn't get that translated as good as they. Balderdash.

An Essay for week #31 Sun, Aug 4, 13

Msg #1332 Great Plainness of Speech

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Hebrews is a book to Hebrews, to convince the Hebrews that in Christ, they are no longer Hebrews. Its theme is the full sufficiency of Christ. Its introduction is the best of Hebrew poetry. Its first point, which ought to be given the more earnest heed, is Christ's sufficiency in the gospel message. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?" is a redundant question. (Heb. 2:3) This "so great salvation" at the first began to be spoken by the Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted.... ye shall not enter into the Kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 18:3). That is pretty serious if you have not been converted, and conversion is testified to be no less than "Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." (Acts 20: 21) Only you can initiate your conversion by believing the gospel; "how that Christ died for your sins according to the scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." (1Cor. 15:3b-4) Some trite church goers say there is nothing you can 'do' to be saved, but my Bible says unless you are converted by doing what Romans 10:9-10 says, you will not be saved from your sin, nor will you enter his Kingdom. Are you Saved? Have you been converted? If you are, you should get your feet shod with this short gospel message and go out and ask someone else the question. If they get upset, it's because they ain't. The church is apostate concerning the gospel and Christ's "so great salvation." A gospel witness needs to be clear in a dark misguided world. Except ye be converted you can not enter the Kingdom of heaven: use great plainness of speech.

An Essay for week #32 Sun, Aug 11, 13

Msg #1333 A-Ask, S-seeK, K-knock, ASK Him

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the Sermon on the Mount, Christ's opening message to humanity, he gives an English acronym "A" for ask, "S" for seek, and "K" for knock. In a closing message, days before his crucifixion, he declares, "Whatsoever ye ask in my name, I shall do it." Prayer is a vital ingredient of a believers life, and Christ's sufficiency in prayer is in his perfecting of it, his promise for it, and his purpose in it. When God set aside infiniteness and took on the form of finite man, every thing that Jesus did, every miracle, every compassion, every teaching, was thoroughly *baptized* in prayer. Jesus often spent all night in prayer, and if the Only Begotten Son of God needed that, how much more do we? When a unit is surrounded and pinned down in enemy territory, now-a-days, they pick up the radio and call in a barrage of bombs and fire-power that saves their lives and frees them for more maneuvers. When you read Jesus Christ's promise, "Whatsoever you ask in my name," it would be better that that comes to your mind, rather than anything said by "name it and claim it", "blab it and grab it", TV evangelists. Jesus never prayed for a softer pillow or larger house. Thrice he prayed that a cup pass form him, but even there he prayed, "Not my will but thine." The disciples, James and John used his very words to petition him with the desire of their hearts, and he told them, "No, you cannot sit on my right hand." Recall that Paul too was told not to his request. To pray in Jesus' name is to make his purpose our purpose, his cause our cause, hid compassion our compassion. True disciples still pray, "Lord, teach us to pray."

An Essay for week #33 Sun, Aug 18, 13

Msg #1334 Moved With Compassion

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.” Get your Bible and look up Lamentations 3:22, if your Bible doesn't have God's mercy keeping you from being consumed, you have a corrupted, ecumenical, modernist Bible. Put it in the trash and get an uncorrupted King James Bible. Compassion is the theme of this essay, corrupted Bibles is just a sidebar. Christ is all sufficient in salvation 4-me, 2-me and through-me. Christ is all sufficient in prayer 4-me, 2-me and through-me. Christ is all sufficient in compassion 4-me, 2-me and through-me. If Lam3:22 is in your Bible correctly it says we are not consumed *because* of his compassions; that is sufficient! His salvation is his grace, is his mercy, is because of his compassions. His compassions are displayed in Psalm 73:38, 86:15, 111:4, 112:4, and 145:8 where God is “full of compassion.” They are manifest in Christ in Matt14:14, 15:32, 20:34, Mark1:41, 5:19, 6:34, 8:2, and 9:22 where he was “moved with compassion.” Could one call themselves *Christian* without his compassion indwelling them? “And be ye kind one to another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.” (Eph4:32) Again, “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion on of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous.” (1Pet3:8) Certainly we are compelled to have compassion on other believers and to love the brethren, but the love of Christ constrains us to have compassion on the lost, compassion on your enemies, and compassion on the most despicable of all humanity; but for His grace, and compassion, “there go I”. No matter what they pierced, no matter what they tattooed, no matter how reprobate your self righteousness paints them, his righteousness indwelling in you will move you with compassion.

An Essay for week #34 Sun, Aug 25, 13

Msg #1335 Coming for His Church

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The sufficiency found in Christ is present in the promise of His 2nd coming, the purpose of His 2nd coming, and the plan for His 2nd coming. “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go... I will come again... that where I am, there ye may be also.” (John14) The affirmation he left in this promise is powerful, “if it were not so, I would have told you!” The analogy throughout is as a groom coming back to take his bride, and his Church, Greek *Ecclesia*, i.e. a called out, gathered together body of believers, behaves as the chaste kept virgin looking for that day. “For I am jealous over you with godly jealousy: for I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ.” (2Cor 11:2) Those who have “thee/thou” in their Bible, note the use of “you” here, and know the relevance. He will not jilt his Church at the alter. In the mean time that “chaste virgin,” His called out, gathered together body, is likened to stewards with certain talents to be used for their soon returning lord. One cannot miss this analogy in the Holy Scriptures, particularly in the teachings of Christ. Observe that no man knowing the time or his return is in his purpose for his *Ecclesia*. Keep striving for the increase of His Kingdom and keep looking up. Observe also that his *Ecclesia* is not a “universal-catholic” body, it is a local assembled body, independent and autonomous. The former errant idea is purely Roman in conception. Stepping away from Rome will also cause one to understand the plan in his coming; first coming FOR his saints (1Thes4:14-18) then, after a wedding, coming WITH his saints. (Rev19) Keep looking up.

An Essay for week #35 Sun, Sep 1, 13

A Baptist Brider Question About Msg#1335

Dear Brother Rice,

My name is Evangelist ... My questions have to do with the local church and the fact that you made reference to it in your last article ... I hate to admit it, but I may not be as settled on the doctrine of the local church as I could be. Perhaps you could help me. Although I have not held that position, I preach from time to time for good baptist pastors who are without apology Baptist Bride in their position on the church. My thoughts are that if they are right, that is where I want to be.

However, in my own personal study of the subject, I have come upon several passages that seem to conflict with the Baptist Bride position. These verses have kept me from moving to that position. I will list a few of them. I would appreciate your comments and input on them.

I Corinthians 12:13. If I interpret this as water baptism it seems to conflict with the later part of the verse.

Galatians 3:27. If I interpret this as water baptism it seems to put me into the category of the water baptism for salvation crowd.

Ephesians 2:16. It seems to me to be saying that we get into the body of Christ by the cross.

Then I have found the phrase, "one body", at least 10 plus times in Paul's epistles. I speak of passages like Romans 12:5, where Paul identifies himself along with the Christians at Rome as being in one body. I find the word "churches" in the New Testament, but never "bodies."

Of course I believe in the local church, but could it be that the Lord has one church, and that this church is manifested in local assemblies? I ask this because of the instances where the church is referred to in what appears to be an institutional sense, like Matthew 16:18.

Also, I have some practical questions you might address:

If the only way to get in to the body of Christ is by water baptism in a legitimate Baptist Church, doesn't that mean that you are dependent on a man to get you into the Body of Christ? If a man can put you in, that same man potentially could put you out, could he not?

If baptism is required to get into a certain local church, then how can that church take you by letter of transfer, and if they do where is the Scriptural authority for this?

Let me emphasize that I have submitted the above passages and questions because I sincerely want your comments. ...

If you provide some commentary on them that would be helpful to me personally, I would certainly appreciate it.

I realize you are a pastor and very busy, so there is no rush on this, but I will keep an eye out for your response.

Evangelist

Dear Brother,

I expect you know ... and knew the late Evang. Harold Boyd; both are bridgers (well, Harold isn't now) that I have the greatest respect for. I only spent two weeks a year with Brother Boyd, and spent every day with my Bible, so I never really bent that way.

Quite like you I am not as settled on the doctrine of the local church as I could be, but where I have settled, I am very comfortable. Comfortable but not staunch; I would not brake fellowship with anybody over this alone. I do thank you for your questions. I miss Brother Boyd and our open discussion about these things. I agree with each point you contested. I have settled where I am because I will never give an inch to the doctrine of a catholic, or universal, or invisible church.... not one inch. When a person gets saved they enter the family, not the church. They are not part of the church until they unite with a group of believers. Ecclesia does not just mean "a called out body of believers", it means "a called out AND gathered together body of believers." Not only so, but one is not a part of the bride of Christ at this point. The bride is only a bride for one day, and our day is not until He comes for us with a trumpet. Notice that, at that time, all local churches will be raptured and there will be one "gathered together" body of believers, united, universal, and called a "Bride of Christ." Until then we all stay local.

I contend that this position flows the very best with the most Scriptures about the church. I can be pretty hard nosed about it because I am a pastor. Evangelists/Missionaries have got to be very careful what they get hard nosed about, else they will loose churches, especially the ones with hard nosed pastors.

There are a couple references to a universal church that must be dealt with. I read somewhere (I think it was Dr. Carol author of the Trail of Blood) that England could say, "Upon this rock, the jury system of trial by peers, I will build my judicial system." England could say that, even though there never was assembled a universal

mother of all juries. The only thing ever assembled was individual, local, 12 man juries. The context of the original statement still stands. As does Christ's. Understanding that, jelled my position substantially. I wholly reject that there is a catholic, a universal, and/or invisible church in existence today. There will be one right after the trumpet sound that gathers it together, but not right now.

Such a position does not answer all the errors of the Baptist Brider, but it goes a long way toward comprehending their systematic error. Generally, Briders think there are two types of believers, their type, which got into a properly founded and established Baptist Church, (by water Baptism,) and a lesser type, who are in an apostate church if they are in a church at all. Such a division is artificial and concocted at best, and wholly unBiblical at worst. The position I have settled into very comfortably allows that a person gets saved by grace through faith and without water Baptism. He is now in the family of God. He is converted, justified, quickened, indwelt and baptized (wholly immersed) into Christ. That is what salvation does.

Note that he is baptized (not with water) into Christ, that is, he is given a position in Christ, but is not yet made a part of the church, i.e. any local church, as there is not a catholic one. Church membership still remains to be accomplished. Now, you and I know what it means to step out of our position in Christ. It is irrespective of any church membership. When we do step out, we might act like all hell, but, if truly born-again, we still have that position in Christ. Christ longs that we get back into position with him, and we can, with repentance and a prayer. (1John1) We have not talked about church membership or water baptism yet, just salvation, a new family, and a new position. As a pastor, or as an evangelist/missionary we spend significant time prompting Christians to get into their proper position, a position that is form fit to them because they were previously baptized into Christ, where that position was molded into an image, "if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you." (Rom 8) We have gone a little off track here, but our baptism into Christ must somehow fit well in this system of understanding, and it does. It gives us our position in Christ, wherein we can be In-Christ but not necessarily in his church. Note the distinction.

Now, here is this believer, redeemed, blood bought and saved by grace, but saved, let's say, at a Billy Graham like crusade where he is told to go back to his Catholic-Episcopalian-Methodist-Presbyterian church and live for Christ. He is no less saved than you or I, but he is misled. At his church he announces his decision to accept Christ as his Saviour. They look at him strange, send him through their confirmation classes, sprinkle him with "holy" water, and give him a Jr. Boys Sunday School class to teach. He does what Billy told him, and he gets busy serving the Lord. He may or may not know something is wrong, it might take years for him to understand that he is serving in an apostate church. He has not been Scripturally baptized. Is he less born-again than I, or than the most self righteous Baptist Brider that I know? Will he only be a guest at the wedding and not part of the Bride of Christ, because Billy misled him into an apostate church, instead of getting him into a Landmark Baptist Church with all its genealogies properly transcribed in an unbroken trail of Baptist Church record? Is he a second-class citizen of the kingdom? Give me a break! The whole Baptist Bride theological system is fatally flawed! Those hanging around on its fringe only bite off the chunks that they can stomach, and are most comfortable if they can get you to stomach the same amount. Myself, as an Independent Baptist Pastor, who does not really need them comfortable around me, will not bite off a single piece of it. I am pretty settled in my position, and it helps me to realize that the Catholic-Episcopalian-Methodist-Presbyterian church in town has genuine believers in it, and often a word from me, and a prompting of the Holy Spirit which indwells them, (if indeed) and they will get into a proper position and join a Bible believing Church, that might, or might not have Independent Baptist in its name or lineage.

Christ's kingdom has no second class citizens, but it does have citizens which are serving/setting in a wrong church environment. You and I serve better in His Kingdom when we know that, say it out loud, and shun the elitist attitude/position which is inherent in the Baptist Brider doctrine. You need not shun the Brider, some of my fondest peers and mentors, but surely shun the attitude. If one is not too hard nosed they can maintain good fellowship with a misled Baptist Brider, and even use their excellent Sunday School material effectively.

I, again, thank you for asking. I miss Evang. H. Boyd and his probing into my open communion and Baptist Brider anti-positions. My position can always use some tweaking and better definition, and I welcome your further input.

Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1336 Dual Trumpets

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This year Yom Kippur, on the 10th day of the month Tishri (called Ethanim in the Bible) will be on Friday, 13. September. That made last Wednesday the first day of the Hebrew seventh month and the Holy Bible says “Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, In the seventh month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. Ye shall do no servile work therein...” (Lev. 23:24-25) Christian's should know better, but one said, “This week was filled with stupid Jewish Holidays.” I was ashamed and prayed that God would forgive our ignorance of His holy days. The Feast of Trumpets is revelation. “Make thee two trumpets of silver; of a whole piece shalt thou make them: that thou mayest use them for the calling of the assembly...” (Num 10:2) The Sabbath day, the blowing of trumpets and the holy convocation observed on the first day of the old Hebrew's seventh month is prophetic of their regathering, (Isa 18:3, 27:13, 58) ergo it is prophetic of Christ's gathering of His Church as well. (1Thes 4:16-18) Be careful not to go all Romish-allegorical here, there are indeed two literal gatherings portrayed in this feast of trumpets. Christians are ever looking up and listening for one trumpet; a trumpet that will call together His Church into one called out and gathered together body of believers. Consider anew Revelations 4, “After this I looked and behold a door was opened in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were of a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither...” There will be a trumpet that calls to regather all Israel, but about seven years prior there will be one that raptures the Church. These Hebrew holy days are important to Christians.

An Essay for week #36 Sun, Sep 8, 13

Msg #1337 Key Hebrew Holy Days

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Yom-Kippur was observed Friday last week. Hebrew Holy-Days that commemorated the past, more-so prophesied the future. God given feasts and holy days were to be observed “throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance forever.” The Christian need not exactly observe these Hebrew holy days because they daily live them. The Passover lamb, slain on the fourteenth of Abib, was our Passover Lamb, the Only Begotten Son of God, who died on Golgotha in that selfsame hour. The Feast of Unleavened Bread represents the sinless life our Saviour lived. The Day of Firstfruits, Pentecost, wherein Sinai Law initiated the Old Covenant, the Holy Spirit initiated the New Covenant for Christians. Three Hebrew Holy-Days indicated three crucial events of God's redemptive calendar. The next three are no less important. The Day of Blowing the Trumpets finds Christians looking to the clouds and listening for the trumpet that will report “Come up hither,” and Hebrews for the Trumpet that will completely regather their whole nation in the Holy Land; each will sound soon. Yom-Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the day to afflict the soul, when Israel's citizens “stand before God in silence and contemplation, removed from the frenzy of the world,” marks the redeemed life of the atoned for saint, but in an equal foreshadowing, it marks the Day of the Lord when Israel “shall look upon me whom they have pierced, and they shall mourn for him, as one mourneth for his only son, and shall be in bitterness for him, as one that is in bitterness for his firstborn.” Christians living out these Holy Days will not prevent their complete fulfillment for God's Chosen and Elect Nation, Israel. Christ will come for his saints, then with his saints, and will literally reign from God's Holy Hill of Zion.

Msg #1338 Tabernacling Through Sukkut

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and Sukkot walk us into our autumn each year, yet we remain aloof to their prophetic nature and importance. The Feast of Trumpets portrays the regathering of Israel; the Day of Atonement portrays the sorrow of heart that will subdue his nation when they look on Him whom they have pierced; and the Feast of Booths is a joyous festival portraying the day when the tabernacle of God is with men. Third century Clement of Alexandria Egypt hypothesized that God could never fulfill all of this for the annihilated Jew. He built a philosophy that a mother church should lay claim to all of Israel's promises. That philosophy became Roman church doctrine and reached its tentacles into every Protestant Denomination. There is an elitist attraction to pretending that Christians are the new chosen ones, that we are the elect ones, and the Jews are a discarded people that God is done with.

Theology books call such a philosophy *Covenant Theology*. It is an errant, dangerous philosophy straight from Alexandria Egypt. In reality these three feasts have a literal fulfillment yet to come and a spiritual fulfillment presently. For the born-again believer, there was a trumpet calling out the gospel; there was a Yom Kippur where sins are atoned for by The Passover Lamb; and the Bible is clear about His present tabernacling: "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1Cor. 6:19-20) We heard, He atoned, and now tabernacles in our booth. He will yet do all this for His chosen and elect Israel.

An Essay for week #38 Sun, Sep 22, 13

Msg #1339 Alexandrian Doctrine, Alexandrian Bibles

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Even while some of Evangelical Christendom refuses the covenant theology which came out of Alexandria Egypt, a theology which denies the Millennial Reign of Christ as a dispensation, they still cling to an ecumenical bible that comes from Alexandria. Roman Catholic Saint Clement's disciple, Saint Origen of Alexandria (185-232 A.D.), is called both the Father of Textual Criticism, and the Father of the Allegorical Method. He used both 'toolboxes' to disembowel God's promise of a Millennial Reign of Christ from Jerusalem's Mount Zion; predicating his reign in a catholic church instead. Today both 'toolboxes' are used by Bible critics, and the scholars-so-called who trust them, to predicate that there is no verbally inspired, infallible, inerrant Holy Bible in existence. Ergo they think nothing of throwing twenty whole verses into their trash can. What's worse, the allegorical method insists that Scriptures are so obscure that only a Catholic Church Clergy can uncover their true meaning. A hundred years after Origen, when Rome took over the Catholic Church, they killed commoners that would dare read a Bible without them. They still use the allegorical method to poo-poo the Millennial Reign of Christ, the Pre-Tribulation rapture of the Church, and to abscond with all the promises made to God's chosen people Israel; as do Protestants. I say Evangelicals use Alexandrian ecumenical bibles because every modernist English bible is based on two manuscripts from Alexandria Egypt, the Sinaiticus and the Vaticanus Manuscripts. Critics and translators incorporated these into their copyright works with no regard for verbal-inspiration, inerrancy or infallibility, doctrines that they have rejected. Evangelicals think these compromised bibles read much easier than the 15th century English and they discard the inspired, infallible, inerrant Holy Bible and pick up an RSV, NIV, ASV, NASV, NEV, et.al. Its a dangerous world for a Bible believer.

An Essay for week #39 Sun, Sep 29, 13

Msg #1340 Is This Our Last October Here?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

And God said, Let us make man in our image, and after our likeness..." God's purpose for man was, is, and forever shall be, perfected fellowship, perfected worship, and perfected union. Since the fall of man, however, the purposes of man have been selfishness, pride, and ingratitude. Man has always needed the thorough washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost before he could accomplish God's purpose. Titus 3:5 declares that this cannot be accomplished by our own efforts, only by salvation. God has carefully walked man through test cases, called dispensations in the Bible. Periods where our conscious was tested to see if it could bring us back to innocence before God; if formal self governance could purge us of that old nature; if his unconditional promise might renew our mind; or even if His laying down the law at Mount Sinai would cause our reform. These dispensations are gracious demonstrations in our past which ended in a world flood, a Tower of Babel, a bondage in Egypt, and the cruel crucifixion of God's Only Begotten Son. Presently we live in a dispensation. where whosoever will may call on the risen Only Begotten Son, choose Him as Lord and Saviour, and receive His quickening, His justification, His redeeming, His washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. That is the gospel. The Revelation of Jesus Christ reveals that this gracious dispensation will soon close. As all previous dispensations, it closes in failure on mans part. As it was in the days of Noah, as it was in the days of Sodom, "even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." (Luke 17:26-30) The transition to the seventh, and final dispensation will begin with the rapture of His own. Be ready, be saved.

An Essay for week #40 Sun, Oct 6, 13

Msg #1341 The WORD in Six Triplets

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Revelation of Jesus Christ is *from him which is, and which was, and which is to come*, it is likewise *from the seven Spirits which are before his throne*; labeled as *from Jesus (Saviour) Christ (Anointed One, Messiah)*. These 66 six books are the Revelation of God, the Words of God. Jesus is the Revelation of God. He is the Word of God, *who is the faithful witness*, who is *the first begotten of the dead*, and who is *the prince of the kings of the earth*. The Prophecy that tells of his coming says “Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little. Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.” (Psalm2) In The Revelation of Jesus Christ His salutation continues, *Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father; to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.* He had told Nicodemus “For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.” (John3) His salutation announces *Behold, he cometh with clouds; behold every eye shall see him, behold they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.* It closes with this triplet *I am Alpha and Omega, I am the beginning and the ending, He is the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come.* We worship Christ, *the Almighty.*

An Essay for week #41 Sun, Oct 13, 13

Msg #1342 Prophetic Truth and Accuracy

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For us it is a minor thing to comprehend how two witnesses slain in the streets of Jerusalem are seen all over the world for three days. For Martin Luther and other Protestant Reformers it was so incomprehensible that they thought the Revelation of Jesus Christ and its companion book, Daniel, were not inspired or belonging in the Bible, at best calling them allegorical, apocalyptic fiction. Protestants believed so little of these books they carried Roman Covenant Theology right into their reformation where it presently leavens as Reformed Theology. For the Bible believer, however, these books are true and accurate. Daniel has six chapters of history and six chapters of Biblical Prophecy. The first six teach us how to accurately read the last six. The interpretation of Neb's dream, and its exact unfolding in history reveals that the Stone Cut Out without hands, which smashes all previous kingdoms into chaff, is indeed the Christ who will come as King of kings and Lord of lords to a battle called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon. He is the Ancient of Days, with hair like pure wool, and he is the Son of man come with the clouds of heaven to the Ancient of Days. All power is given to him. Likewise, in the literal, grammatical, historical understanding there is a little horn which, in separate visions, replaces three of ten, and comes out of one of four. It waxes great, has eyes of a man, speaks great things, and desecrates the daily sacrifice in the Temple at Jerusalem. He casts down hosts of heaven and is called the King of Fierce Countenance. He persecutes the Woman, Israel for 3 ½ years of a seven year tribulation. Jesus calls him the Abomination of Desolation. I'd sooner believe Jesus than a Reformed Theologian.

An Essay for week #42 Sun, Oct 20, 13

Msg #1343 Discerning The Biblical Rapture

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is not coincidence that those who deny the pretribulational rapture of the Church use a bible that conceals who the Fourth-Man in the fire was, a bible that conceals that it was Lucifer fallen from heaven, it was not our Morning Star; it was not the Day Star which shall rise in our hearts that falls in Isaiah 14:12, and a bible that conceals where *hell* is located in God's Word. If their scholars, translators and Bible critics want to conceal these crucial truths, truths about The Son, the Devil and Satan's final destination, don't expect them to be upfront about the pretribulation rapture of the Church. Three five nines in 1Thessolonians, Hebrews and Romans tell us that we, who are to be raised incorruptible, are not appointed to wrath. The seven years of Great Tribulation is indeed the pouring out of the wrath of God. The Bible says Christ is coming FOR his saints. The Bible says he is coming WITH his saints. One must precede the other. The Bible says Christ is coming to take his Bride to the wedding, and the Bible says he is coming from the wedding. The Bible says he is coming to catch us up in the clouds (rapture) and he is coming when his feet shall stand on the Mount of Olives (Armageddon). In Revelation 4 there is a trumpet sounding from the open door of heaven and it says "Come up hither..." and in 1Thessolonians 4 the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; it will say "Come up hither..." and we will meet him in the clouds. One cannot see these simple truths after trashing 1John5:7 and confusing the Fourth-Man in the fire with Lucifer!

An Essay for week #43 Sun, Oct 27, 13

Msg #1344 Forgiven Much and Thanksgiving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is curious that Mary recites word for word the observation of her sister: "Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died." (John 11:21,32) Attitude shows in our approach to Christ, even in troublous times, even when He is our Lord and Saviour. Martha's attitude was previously addressed by Christ: "Martha, Martha thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen the good part." (Luke 10:41-42) Mary had the right attitude from the start. Let's suppose she was from Magdala, was called Mary Magdalene, and out of her came seven devils. John 11:2 clarifies that her overwhelming gratitude was the object lesson to the Pharisee in Luke 7, where she brought her alabaster box of ointment to Jesus. Martha came to Jesus to correct him, to point out her disappointment in him, and to ask for his help. She, again, needed a reminder of who he was. "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me though he were dead, yet shall he live." Mary came to Jesus, fell down at his feet, and with her sister's very words, she worshiped him. She loved much, because she had been forgiven much. Her sins which were many, were forgiven her. Her attitude caused the shortest verse in the Bible, and Jesus wept. Her great love showed up in a second alabaster box in John 12, and after his resurrection Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene. You and I have been forgiven much. The next time Martha shows up in life, when cumbered about many things, when people don't do things just the way you know they should be done, and frustration wells up inside, you have not fallen at Jesus' feet and remembered who He is.

An Essay for week #44 Sun, Nov 3, 13

Msg #1345 Thanksgiving for Relationships

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The wise have made November a month of daily thanksgiving. The list starts with salvation, he who is forgiven much loves much, and seconds with a relationship: spouse or parent, child or friend. Down the list comes circumstance; way down things. All need thankfulness for our relationships, but all need lessons and reminders about them; noble thoughts, as it were, that prioritize their maintenance. Two profound Scriptures dealing with relationships; Song of Solomon, and Numbers 6. The former treaties requires a book, the first line should say, "You're so vain, you probably think this song is about you," the second, "This Song portrays God's love for Jerusalem." Any student can take it from there. Numbers 6 deals with the God-Israelite relationship and is ideal for a concise study on all intimate relationships, foremost our relationship with our Creator, the LORD thy God. In ten point outline: 1) Thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all they soul, and with all they might. (strength and mind Luke10:27) 2) Know Him and hide His words in your heart. 3) Diligently teach His words to your children. 4) Write His words down everywhere you look. 5) Don't let life cause you to forget about Him. 6) "Thou shalt fear the Lord thy God and serve him, and shalt swear by his name." (vr13) 7) Be monogamous. 8) Don't tempt. 9) Diligently keep His commandments. 10) Do right by Him. (vr18) It is left as an exercise of the student to apply these ten steps to every other relationship that they have. They fit like a glove for a spouse. They fit well for friendships. Parent-Child relationships are temporal, intended that they leave and cleave to a spouse after 20 years, but all our relationships could herein benefit.

An Essay for week #45 Sun, Nov 10, 13

Msg #1346 Premeditated Thanksgiving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“I am doing fine under the circumstances,” said he. “Well, what are you doing under there?” asked I. In these last of the last days if Christians get under the circumstances the Devil has gone in league with human resources to shovel more circumstances right on top, making it seven times hotter than it's want to be. The useful key that gets you out from under, is rehearsed in several Bible Epistles: it is “In everything give thanks.” An examination of this key reveals that it is always accompanied by a song, a praise and a rejoicing. While raising three boys our home had one question that my sweet wife made forbidden: “Well what could possibly go wrong next?” Wisely, I have not broached that question even after that 20 year task was completed. The twilight of life causes realization that the broke cars, broke finances, and broke opportunities pale when you are waiting for a spouse's cancer test to come back. The OT accounts of a cruse of oil that did not fail give adequate strength to deal with physical circumstances that get us down. Simply trusting and casting all your care are practices that mature us. They cause us to grow when facing the trials that are common to man. There are greater cares down the road and God's care pales Obama care. Rehearsing the use of God's key, “In everything give thanks”, and accompanying that with praise, song, and rejoicing, gives maturity that allows multiple circumstances and yea, heavier circumstances, to result in His glory. Indeed that is what the trial of our faith is all about. When tempted to ask that forbidden question, be sure to meet its answer with a premeditated thanks giving. In everything give thanks. To steal a pistachio slogan, “Get cracken.”

An Essay for week #46 Sun, Nov 17, 13

Msg #1347 National Thanksgiving Prayer

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On our national Thanksgiving day, thank the LORD for being born in the greatest nation on the earth. There is a progressive movement afoot which denies her Christian heritage, foils her trust in Christ, and strives for her “evolution” to socialism. There is need of a new movement in America, not of those who would march on an inept Washington, but of those who would kneel. Isaiah said of his falling nation, “Judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter. Yea, truth faileth; and he that departeth from evil maketh himself a prey: and the LORD saw it, and it displeased him that there was no ... intercessor: ” E.M. Bounds, stated it, “God's greatest movements in this world have been conditioned on, continued and fashioned by prayer,... Persistent, prevailing, conspicuous and mastering prayer has always brought God to be present.” Abraham Lincoln, said, “I have been driven many times upon my knees by the overwhelming conviction that I had nowhere else to go. My own wisdom, and that of all about me, seemed insufficient for that day.” America is falling in the street. “It is religion and morality alone which can establish the principles upon which freedom can securely stand. The only foundation of a free constitution is pure virtue,” said our 2nd president, John Adams. On our national Thanksgiving Day, pray for the greatest nation on earth. Robert E. Lee put it, “Knowing that intercessory prayer is our mightiest weapon and the supreme call for all Christians today, I pleadingly urge our people everywhere to pray. Believing that prayer is the greatest contribution that our people can make in this critical hour, I humbly urge that we take time to pray – to really pray.”

An Essay for week #47 Sun, Nov 24, 13

Msg #1348 Be Outspoken And Not Dumb

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For better or worse December is the month wherein the birth of Christ is given great emphasis. There is a message in every accounting of every detail of Christ's birth. Sometimes the certain priest of the course of Abia gets overlooked. Zacharias and Elizabeth walk onto the opening page of the Gospel of Luke, coming with twenty or more years of unfulfilled prayer; Elizabeth was old and barren. There is an emphasis that they were both righteous, both walking right, and both blameless, but years had passed without their prayer answered. There is an emphasis on Zacharias' faithfulness in the priest's office and that this day's "lot" put him before the altar of incense. An altar involves both surrender and sacrifice; incense signifies the prayers of saints. The candlestick stood on the left of the Holy Place, providing all available light in the room; the table of shew bread on the right, and the altar of incense was centered against the veil that shrouded the Most Holy Place. The angel of the Lord stood on the right side of the altar of incense, in the shadow of the altar. He told Zacharias, "Thy prayer is heard," and he was dumb for not believing. When there is a longstanding unfulfilled prayer in your life, remain faithful in your priestly service. This story caps off the truth that God has the greater good in view. Yours will not be as great as a John the Baptist, but a greater good just the same. Also, when the promise of answer appears in the shadow of the altar, believe it, else you will be dumb, and not tell others of the great promise. You gotta love the lead account approaching the story of the birth of Christ. Learn from it and lean on it.

An Essay for week #48 Sun, Dec 1, 13

Msg #1349 Believing It All

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Gabriel's announcement to Mary is so miraculous that one may miss the seven things it communicates about God's Messiah, things which are flat out believed by anyone who would attain the eternal life offered in John3:16. There is a lot in a name and his was JESUS, "for he shall save his people from their sins". This must be added to other names, for unto us a child is born... and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace, ... Emmanuel, which is God with us. That quite captures the next revelation from Gabriel, "And he shall be great." Another title connecting him to the "decree" in Psalm 2, "the Son of the Highest," if one missed that it is reiterated in his next sentence, "Son of God." Forth, "The Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David." In Luke20:42 Jesus messed with the Pharisee's minds with this revelation because David called him Lord. Fifth, this JESUS "shall reign over the house of Jacob." Calvin's reformed theology twists and doubts this revelation, but a Bible believer dare not. Sixth, he will be on the throne forever, and if one miss that, it continues, His kingdom shall "never end." He is presently enthroned in the heart of the believer where he is indeed Counselor, Comforter and Prince of Peace. What a Wonderful revelation from Gabriel. Oh, that seventh revelation reiterated here by Gabriel, a revelation staunchly affirmed by the Fundamentals of the last century, a revelation soft peddled by the American Baptist sect who refused the Fundamentals, a revelation maligned by modernists with corrupted texts of the Bible, it is in Isaiah 7:14, "Behold a virgin shall conceive." I trust this Christmas finds you believing it all.

An Essay for week #49 Sun, Dec 8, 13

Msg #1350 Mary's Worship, My Worship

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As Luke recorded, Elizabeth and Mary could flat out preach about the Lord Jesus Christ, Saviour and Redeemer of mankind. Preaching is the act of backing one into a corner and forcing a decision upon ones audience; anyone who says woman cannot preach is likely unmarried and in need of more clarity. What they meant to say is that Biblically, woman can not hold the office of Bishop/Pastor or be in any position where they usurp the authority of a man. Backing one into a corner with the tongue and imposing a decision, woman can do that just fine. Notice such finesse of Elizabeth and Mary in Luke1:42-55. “Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.” It needs clarified that Mary is NOT the mother of God, she is the Mother of Jesus, and that “Blessed” implies God has done something that mere man or nature can not do. Especially noted by these two pregnant preachers is that every human pregnancy is a soul in the making, a miracle of God, but this one is blest prima facie, i.e. true and authentic without need of further evidence. My soul doth magnify the Lord, my spirit rejoiced in God my Saviour, for he hath regarded my low estate. Any born-again believer can echo Mary's body – soul – and spirit message. Attaining the height and crescendo of Mary's worship is a worthy goal for this Holy – Day celebration. As she states it, the proud are scattered in the imagination of their hearts, the low exalted; the materialistic are empty, the hungry are filled; He hath holpen his Servant Israel. You gotta love that past participle in this Holy – Day celebration; and you have got to make the decision, “What think ye of Christ?”

An Essay for week #50 Sun, Dec 15, 13

Msg #1351 We Worship The Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Concerning the birth of Christ Matthew gives us Joseph's perspective and wise men who traveled from the east, Mark is virtually silent, Luke tells of the taxing decree, crowded inns, angels and shepherds, but John presents tremendous insights that are often overlooked. Before addressing His birth John reveals five of His character traits. In the beginning Christ was with God; in itself, an interesting morsel, that before birth he existed. The Christ was God, and Creator of everything, and He was Life, and He was True Light. When the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, his name was the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father. Today the world has this pretense of celebrating his birth. Roman paganism attempts to enshrine a day of longest dark in an aviance of their holy mass and penance. American commercialism enshrines the purchase of trinkets and gift giving to all. Martin Luther's protestantism honors the evergreen tree more than that purveyor of everlasting life. The humanist manifesto holds out for distraction, a fat red man with tiny reindeer. It is John who clarifies that the Light shined and the darkness comprehended it not. It is John who pens that Christ was in the world and the world was made by Him and the world knew him not. Alas, John writes the sad truth that He came unto His own, and His own received Him not. There are ill and ilks in the world that comprehends not, many traditions and isms in those who received not, but as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. God in the flesh. His name shall be called Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins. Christians worship Him everyday.

An Essay for week #51 Sun, Dec 22, 13

Msg #1352 The Rip-Tide of Sin

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, ... “ (Heb 2:3a) Along the east coast of America there are places where powerful rip-tides flow rapidly out into the ocean. A rip-tide is formed when high tide draws water into lowland areas, and low tide funnels them back through subtle valleys in the sand. An unaware swimmer captured in a rip-tide is helpless to get back to shore. No matter how gallant his effort he is carried further and further out into the ocean depths. Without a savior that will pluck them out of their plight and set their feet back on solid ground, all hope is gone. The swimmer does not initially realize his dilemma. Cries from shore go unheeded. When they suspect their situation may be worsening they swim harder until their whole focus is getting back to the shore. They are certain they can swim the distance because they do not know the power of a rip-tide. The theme of the whole Bible is Salvation. Salvation defines a lost estate, a helpless condition, and a savior who can restore that estate. With Christmas behind us, and a new year before us, it is important to know that no religion, no mass, no penance, and no new leaf can save us from the rip-tide of sin; you need a Saviour. Those already saved from that rip-tide, rejoice in, and openly worship our Saviour and Lord, Jesus Christ. Those still dabbling in sin, and not understanding the power of a rip-tide put their strength in religion, mass, penance, peace on earth, and turning over new leaves. Cries from the shore go unheeded. What your loved one needs are cries from our knees. Salvation is of the Lord.

An Essay for week #52 Sun, Dec 29, 13

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Penny Pulpit Essay Prelude What's Significant?

Starting off a new year requires my opening a new 2014 book of Penny Pulpit Essays. Although not a Penny Pulpit per se, I wanted this essay to be my first entry.

After mom died dad was alone. We regularly drove the three hours to visit him, and he would drone on and on about minutia. Today it was how he had bolted down a replacement motor on his homemade rock polisher and the old quarter- inch bolts were too large, so he used some three-eighths ones he found on that old generator he had kept. This motor had a three-pulley adjustable drive, but he couldn't find the right v-belt until he remembered that junk motor in the back of the chicken coop, and, sure enough, that old belt fit perfectly, so he took a short piece of coat hanger and...

There were significant things going on at my work. The advanced A/D converter contract bids were all in, and we were to visit the leading contractors at MIT, the Mayo Clinic, and Lockheed Martin next week. There were significant things going on at home, Mike was visiting Army recruiters, Shane was talking about Bible college, and Matthew was struggling in school. There were significant things going on at church, the teens were taking that trip Friday, the church bus was broken, and I needed two new Junior Church workers by Sunday.

The least significant thing in my life right now was what size v-belt might drive a three-pulley electric motor. Dad droned on. I didn't pretend to care. We would spend the night and head back home tomorrow; I had a very busy week coming up.

Last month, in my garage, I plugged in dad's rock polisher. The belt is a little loose but has held up well for twenty years. Sometimes the most significant thing in one's life is totally insignificant to me. It is because they are not, in actuality, my "loved one." Going through a day insignificant to everyone around you is the embodiment of loneliness. True, we are significant to God, but I'll guarantee there is someone you know who is longing to capture some of your significance today, no matter how busy you might be with your own importance.

Anyway, I am writing to say that the tree branch that smashed the lawn tractor hood made a crease that funneled all the rain right into the carburetor. So I took a rag and strapped an incandescent light bulb to the carburetor bowl, (You know those bulbs are illegal this year, idiot tree hugging government bureaucrats!) so, after setting all day the whole block of ice was melted out of the carb and I could get a short tube down in there to get all the... Take a note: I have now turned into my father, we do that, you know.

An Essay for day #1 01/01/2014

Msg #1401 So Great Salvation

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When studying everything the Bible says about salvation one discovers very few references to the salvation of ones soul. Most references deal with the salvation of Israel, which is not surprising “For the LORD'S portion is his people; Jacob is the lot of his inheritance.” (Deut32:9) Indeed Israel utilized so many salvation references because they lived more like Jacob than like their new name, Israel. “They lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation, they provoked him to jealousy with their strange gods.” (Deut32:15b-16a) Salvation in battle and/or salvation from an enemy is also a major theme of our Bible, and that is the quintessential theme of David and his Psalms when addressing salvation, being saved, and having a Saviour. Indeed Hannah rejoiced in child birth as God's salvation, (1Sam2:1) Job in upcoming deliverance from his three friends (Job13:16), and Jeremiah cried for his salvation and removal from pit and prison. (Jer18:20) There is, just the same, no salvation as stupendous and central as the salvation of the soul. Indeed, “How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him.” (Heb2:3) It is overwhelmingly miraculous that the individual soul could be Justified before God, and more so that a Gentile soul could be converted to God, born again, and added to his kingdom. It is, however, wrong that your Pastor's Soteriology book has not one paragraph on the salvation of Israel or salvation from our enemies. Consequentially the majority of Christendom only comprehends an iota of the pending salvation of Israel, and has little depth when God daily delivers us from enemy and circumstance. So Great Salvation is so much greater than many ever consider. Selah.; in English “go figure.”

An Essay for week #1 01/05/2014

Msg #1402 Repentance Toward God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Epistle to the Hebrews which so keenly addresses “So-Great-Salvation” and the Priest who secures it for us, stalls momentarily in chapter five. The concern is that readers might not be grounded in the seven first principles of the oracles of God. Three of them listed in chapter six have to do with securing So-Great-Salvation, two are doctrines about “whats-next” after So-Great-Salvation, and two are doctrines of what happens when one misses So-Great-Salvation. They make an awesome outline. Consider here the three necessary ingredients for So-Great-Salvation. “The principles of the doctrine of Christ” is first up. Christ, (Hebrew - *Messiah*, English – *Anointed-One*) is God. Jesus is Christ. The child born “unto us” shall be called “the mighty God, the everlasting Father.” If one does not understand the trinity they are not alone, but if one does not believe in the trinity they cannot believe the principles of the doctrine of Christ and “Whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, ... he that believeth not is condemned already... He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him” (John3) The second principle is “the foundation of repentance from dead works” and close behind is the third “the foundation of faith toward God.” Jesus said “Except ye be converted... ye shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matt 18) Conversion is both repentance and faith detailed in Acts20:21 as “repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ.” Dead works is spelled *penance*, and the Latin Vulgate Bible replaced every occurrence of *repentance* with *penance*. Consequently the religion of Christendom is primarily trusting in dead works. The message preached here is, trust Christ, repent or perish.

An Essay for week #2 01/12/2014

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in ebook GSBaptistChurch.com/ppulpit/eight_volumes_of_penny_pulpits.epub

Msg #1403 Contending For The Faith

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christianity as a whole has very poorly heeded the stern warnings of Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and the brother of James. Despite his warnings Roman paganism crept in unawares. Their penance, priests, and purgatories warred against the faith which was once delivered. America thinks salvation is in beads and baptisms and the world considers the pope not Roman Catholic, but Christian! Protestants fared no better in contending for the faith. Most contend that souls are pre-elect for salvation, or eternally chosen for hell; the rest think salvation is only for those who endure to the end. Both Tom Fooleries are yet creeping in unawares. Evangelicalism flounders around in the wake of this error, and further turns the grace of our God into book selling lasciviousness. An eight volume communique from Dallas Theological Seminary has 400 pages on the doctrine of salvation, but not a chapter on conversion, not a section on justification, not a paragraph on indwelling, and not a word on quickening! Inconceivable. They never mention being wholly immersed (baptized) into Christ, that's conceivable, they are catering to 70+ evangelical denominations! These five ingredients, however, dictate exactly what happens in So-Great-Salvation. All are immediate when one is Born-Again, and none are in the Evangelical's theology books. It is obvious that Christianity has been infiltrated, and So-Great-Salvation compromised. Jude contends that you should contend. Independent fundamental Baptists need to reevaluate just what they are contending for. Certain men have crept in unawares. But salvation is indeed ones Conversion-Justification-Quickening-Indwelling-Baptism into Christ. They all happen in a moment and once they happen (to whosoever believeth) they cannot be undone. "He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." (1John5:12)

An Essay for week #3 01/19/2014

Msg #1404 Got Life? Eternal Life?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

No less than five instantaneous things happen when you get saved. First Conversion, being repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 20:21) Romans 10 indicates what initiates conversion, but conversion is accomplished by God, not by flesh. Second you're Justified, being a declared justification. Perfect Job, from the land of Uz, wanted his words and actions *justified*, or proven right. James, servant of God, wants ones profession of faith to be *justified*, or proven real. But the Justification at salvation is not a proving of right, it is a declaring to be righteous. We are already proven deplorable. Now we are declared just-as-if-I'd-never-sinned. It is declared Justification, which is not of works. One is also *Quickened* in salvation. An old English word not used by Protestants or Evangelicals who think it synonymous with *regeneration*. It is not. One goes from eternal-death to eternal-life, you're quickened when you're saved. It is a good Bible word. Jesus loved using it and the Psalmist put it in verse thirteen times. Once quickened, the only way one could lose salvation is if God reached into the soul and killed what he just quickened. He won't. We are saved eternally. In an instant at the moment of salvation one is 1) Converted, 2) Justified, 3) Quickened, 4) Indwelt, and 5) Wholly Immersed into Christ. If you always believed but were never converted, you're lost. If you never had a head on collision with God, you cannot get saved a little at a time. If you don't know that you are saved, "He that hath the Son hath life, and he that hath not the Son of God, hath not life.... These things have I written unto you ... that ye may know that ye have eternal life." Got Life?

An Essay for week #4 01/26/2014

Msg #1405 A Secure and Significant Valentine

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A youth pastor gets to ask many young couples, “Exactly why do you two want to get married?” The answer rarely changes, “We are in love.” Love has more depth than mere teenagers can understand, but marriage has more depth than most adults ever grasp. Love is three dimensional and two directional . It has a physical dimension, an emotional dimension, and a spiritual dimension. A person is designed to both give love in these three dimensions, and to receive love in these three dimensions. Anything less results in frustration of ones deeper purpose. God sets up marriage for leaving father and mother, and cleaving only to a spouse for love in all three dimensions. For a fulfilled purpose this must include two additional aspects, each having the three dimensions. Leaving and cleaving to only one for giving and receiving love, for giving and receiving significance, plus for giving and receiving security. That's nine dimensions. Missing any one of these dimensions in marriage produces a frustrated, unfulfilled individual. People are complex, relationships are complexer. Deal with it. Imagine going through life, a year, or even a week, being significant to NO ONE. The married need to show physical, emotional, and spiritual significance to their spouse. How significant have you made your spouse feel? Marriage itself is designed to provide physical, emotional, and spiritual security to the husband and wife. How secure have you made your spouse feel? It behooves us all to focus a little more on God's design for our marriages. It is a mirror for his security, significance, and love for us. It is February. A good time to explore and inspect all nine dimensions and both working directions of our marriages. And so to for our relationship with our Creator and Lord Jesus Christ.

Msg #1406 Homes In Need Of Manliness

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Even in a society in blind rebellion against what their Creator dictated for mankind, marriages can find great peace in following his roles in marriage. The curse in Genesis 3 put enmity between serpent and women, pangs of childbirth, and the husband ruling over the wife. For the man, because he listened to the voice of his wife, God put a curse on the ground, thorn, thistle and sorrow in his harvest, sweat on his brow as he produced food, and a return to the dust from whence he came. Mankind rebels against, and strives to alleviate each of these naturally occurring phenomena, but when a couple accepts God's conditions and they live in the roles he has established, there is great fulfillment with God's blessing. God is very clear here; "I will therefore that males pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands ... and females adorn themselves in modest apparel... with good works, learning in silence with all subjection. I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence. For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." For the woman-libber, progressive-liberal, and other nonbelievers, God's bluntness is offensive and not 'PC'. For the modernist, casual christian, and mere evangelical, his clarity is embarrassing. But for the Bible believer who is coming to know God better and trust him more, his words bring perfect peace and a new way of life. Half our homes are raising children without fathers, and fathers present are often girlie men. There is great benefit from a husband's authoritarian leadership, manly testosterone, and strong discipline. Coupled that with a wife who will surrender to God's role for her and a home becomes a paradise.

An Essay for week #6 02/09/2014

Msg #1407 Relationships: Salvage Before Severing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

”Thou hast well said, I have no husband: for thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou now hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly.” (John 4) The subject of severed relationships is painful. Jesus uses it on the woman at the well to cut through a veneer and expose a broken life. On this Sunday, after Valentine's Day, after focusing on maintaining good relationships, attention is turned to the critically impaired relationships. There is nothing as hurtful in life as a severed relationship. The marriage relationship, sealed in a sacred vow, the parent-child or grandchild relationship sealed in blood, so too siblings and even intimate friendships, each of these relationships hold a portion of our soul and spirit in a delicate but certain grip. Each of us have one of these relationships in serious fracture, that is the nature of life. Each of us have or have seen one of these relationships severed; and wished more steps were taken to salvage it. Valentines, perched in the dead of winter, points toward a coming spring which marks an emphasis on love. Use it to put some focus on a fragile, fracturing relationship. It is worth setting aside grudges, pride, and hurt feelings to shower our relationships with selfless love. Anything we can do to keep a relationship from severing is worth a supreme effort. Relationships fail because of unforgiven wrongs, followed by pride, and culminating in a grudge. Jesus, the fixer of all relationships, was innocent, but God in the flesh was wronged, he was rejected, he was reviled, but yet he said, “Father forgive them.” A Christian can do what he did. “For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps.” (1Peter.2:21)

An Essay for week #7 02/16/2014

Msg #1408 Listening Skills

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.(Phil. 2:5) The mind God speaks of here is a mind of comforting love, fellowshiping spirit, and bowels of mercies.(Phil. 2:1) Doing what he asks, fulfills our joy,(2:2) and ignoring what he asks, produces selfish strife and vainglory.(2:3) This concept is of paramount importance when addressing our daily conversations. Crippled communication, the downfall of any relationship, is most exasperated in the marriage relationship. An unconscious judgmental fault-finding attitude invades each of us. We become insensitive, critical, impatient fault-finders and nothing hurts a spouse more than such critically impaired communication. Conscious repair and maintenance of our communication skills comes about by letting the mind of Christ be in you, and fixing your listening skills. Normal listening is only 20% efficient. Thirty if you shut off the tv, radio, video, computer or any other distraction. Forty if you maintain eye contact throughout the conversation. Fifty if you listen with your heart as well as your ears. Sixty if you do not interrupt or jump to conclusions. Seventy if you repeat what you heard her say. Eighty if you break silences to keep them from becoming negative feedback, using approving eye contact, smiles and a squeezed hand with your nonverbal communication. Ninety if you learn to show appreciation and thankfulness for what she just shared with you and avow never to break that confidence to another. And your listening skills will surge to 100% when all your nonverbal responses say, "What you have to say is important to me because you are important to me." All of us could move our listening skills up a percentage or two. Husbands should not surge to the 100% level overnight, you will give her a heart attack.

Msg #1409 Reflections on Isaiah

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is a book in the Bible that contains 66 chapters just like the Holy Bible contains 66 books. It has a theme change after 39 chapters just as the Holy Bible changes from the Old Testament to the New. The redemption of man is the theme of both books. The writings of the Prophet Isaiah are worthy of a detailed study. In it is manifest the very heart and mind of God. In it is manifest the deplorable nature of man. In the shadow of a stiff-necked, rebellious people, called the Children of Israel, you see mankind lurking. Focus, and you also see the Americas lurking there. Meditate on this book, and you can see the dark shadow of your own individual rebellion manifest. God's plight, God's compassion, and God's pending judgment open this book, even as it opens the Holy Bible. The plea to "Come now, and let us reason together..." is prelude to great promises for the redeemed at the end of time. But, alas, between the two, stands God's song "Judge between me and my vineyard. What could have been done more to my vineyard, that I have not done in it? Wherefore, when I looked that it should bring forth grapes, brought it forth wild grapes? And now go to; I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard..." America is clearly guilty of all six woes listed in Isaiah chapter 5. And now our root shall be as rottenness, and our blossom shall go up as dust. Therefore is the anger of the LORD kindled against his people, and he hath stretched forth his hand against them. Recession, Obama-Care, Sodomy, Wars, and rumors of them, "For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still. (Isaiah5:25b)

An Essay for week #9 03/02/2014

Answering Mail – Kingdom of Heaven or of God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Dear Preacher Friend,

Thanks for asking. It is good to hear from you. I have given the subject much thought but little documentation. The scholarly genius of C.I. Scofield has caused many to differentiate between the *Kingdom of God* and the *Kingdom of Heaven*. I have long considered the distinction artificial at best and arrogant in the long run. When attending USAF design reviews a pilot was required to set amongst the engineers. After long debate about tedious details one pilot would often interrupt by saying, “Pull up, pull up, you're in the weeds!” The same should have been said when C.I. Scofield dove into this distinction. The debate has arisen time and again among students of the scholarly, but the Word of God does not make any clear distinction, and neither should we. Only Matthew used both designations referring to the *Kingdom of Heaven*, thirty two times (all the times it is used in the Holy Bible) and the *Kingdom of God*, only five of the seventy times it is used in the Holy Bible. These dual uses fit Matthew's perspective well. He presents Jesus as the King of heaven, while Mark, Luke, and John present him as Servant, Human, and Deity, respectively. These give four unique perspectives of the Only Begotten Son of God. Clearly, Matthew is the only one to use the title *Kingdom of Heaven*, because of this perspective, not because of any hidden allegorical² difference

2 The allegorical method of Biblical Interpretation was founded by a designated Roman Catholic Saint named Clement of Alexandria (150-215 A.D.) ... (A.D. is used purposely here, the modern C.A., sometimes C.E., is the modernist “please don't mention the birth of Christ in my calendar” way of saying A.D. Anno Domini in Dionyseus Exiguus' Latin 'Year of our Lord.' In this researcher's papers A.D. is proudly used without exception, in Virkler's work, not so much, I digress.) Clement of Alexandria believed that Scriptures hide their true meaning so that mere humans might become inquisitive and because it is not suitable for everyone, particularly mere laity, to understand. He theorized that Scripture has both a literal and a spiritual meaning, with the

between the *Kingdom of Heaven* and the *Kingdom of God*. When the *Kingdom of God* is used in Matthew, all five times, Jesus is talking in the first person about his father and his father's kingdom. It is only proper and fitting speech to use this third person designation in these five instances. C.I. Scofield sees these five uses with five allegorical respects, 1) the Kingdom of God is more universal, 2) the Kingdom of Heaven has only an earthly sphere, 3) the Kingdom of God must be entered only by a new birth, 4) only the Kingdom of God is inward and spiritual, and 5) the Kingdom of Heaven will eventually merge into the Kingdom of God. To these five subliminal interpretations I would repeat my friends advice, "Pull up, pull up, you're in the weeds!" To those who would repeat C.I. Scofield's subliminal insights in their attempt to appear as scholarly, I would advise a little more study of the Gospel According to Matthew and its more profound perspective of Jesus Christ as King, ergo King of the kingdom of heaven, which is quite synonymous with the kingdom of God.

An Essay written in week #9 03/02/2014

deepest riches available only to those who understand the deeper spiritual sense. (cf. Henry A. Virkler, *Hermeneutics*, Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007, pg 53) This allegorical method became the only accepted method of Biblical interpretation for the Roman Catholic Church, and, unfortunately, it is the most caustic tool of misinterpretation employed by the Protestant theologian. Baptists have always used the Historical-Grammatical-Literal method of Biblical interpretation from the School of Antioch, rejecting the Allegorical method from the School of Alexandria Egypt. Ref. "REFORMED THEOLOGY'S REFORMATIONS ARE NOT PRODUCING A BIBLICAL SYSTEMATIC THEOLOGY" by this author, pg 19

Msg #1410 Isaiah the Prophet

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Isaiah the prophet walks onto the page of our Bible and records sixty-six chapters which reflect its sixty-six books. Who is this man and are there more of them around? Nestled between the lines of 2Chron26:22 we find Isaiah as a young scribe in the courts of the king. Ussiah was king when Isaiah was born, schooled and so employed. Custom puts him in his late thirties in this verse and the chapter puts him in position to see the moral decay of the king he had known all his life. Isaiah's hero was exiled as a leper till his death, and Isaiah says, "In the year that king Ussiah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple." A prophet is one who takes a message straight from Jehovah God, draws breath and says, "Thus saith the Lord..." Prophets never stray from the words of His Book. Don't use the modernist's bible that has what scholars think God meant to say as taken from the texts of Alexandria Egypt. Isaiah 6 gives seven things that caused Isaiah to be an extraordinary prophet. 1) He saw the Lord on the throne and not a human; 2) he saw greater creations giving God worship and awe, 3) he saw the LORD of Hosts as Holy, holy holy; 4) he saw the earth full of God's glory; 5) he uttered the seventh woe of his book, "Woe is me for I am undone... of unclean lips"; 6) from the altar God anointed his mouth and purged his sin; and 7) Isaiah had the greatest ability of all, avail-ability, saying, "Here am I; send me." Get a checklist number it one to seven, and be a prophet of the Most High God.

An Essay for week #10 03/09/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40309.mp3

Msg #1411 Christ is the Answer, 4 Good, Bad & Ugly

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When I was a lad the mayor of Corning was ushering a visiting dignitary into town. Who seeing a sign which read “Christ is the Answer”, above the city, asked “So what is the question?” The agnostic mayor stammered, then stuttered, then started a campaign to get that sign down. Fifty years later, the sign is there. God's written record through his prophet Isaiah brings that answer to four leading questions. Chapter seven starts with an account involving the good, the bad, and the ugly. In the days of Ahaz the good king of Judah, Rezin the bad king of Syria, is confederate with Pekah the ugly king of Israel. The latter is so ugly that God and Isaiah never refer to this son of Remaliah by name again. This confederacy against good unites the enemy of God with a nation called Israel. Now Israel the ugly was the union of ten sons of Jacob, who 1,000 year previous had a name change. Judah the good, slanderously called “Jew”, was the outcast favored of God dwelling in the favored city of God, Jerusalem. Now these are all sure enough real characters in a real scenario, as it were, chosen brother against brothers who leagued with the world and enemy of God. The answer to this ugly mess is Christ, and he shows up in verse 14, “Behold a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.” God does not just tell what happened in history; in His Story he tells us what happens. Sure enough, the ugly neo-evangelical is confederate with the progressive-liberal world, in an effort to stamp out and replace the Bible believing remnant who dwell in their 1611 King James Holy Bible. Christ is still the answer, and he is coming soon.

An Essay for week #11 03/16/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40316.mp3

Msg #1412 Compromise NOT, Confederate NEVER

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christianity has made ugly compromises with worldliness. It is confederate with progressive-liberals. The believing remnant should now pay careful attention to Isaiah 8. The theme is Maher-shalal-hash-baz, wherein the enemy goes quickly to the spoil and makes haste to the prey. When the compromise and confederacy is made, a generation will not pass before the destruction is wrought, vr4. Here, the grass roots refused the Living water, and rejoiced in Rezin, the bad King of Syria, and Remaliah's Son, the ugly, compromised, confederated, King of Israel, vr6. This chapter places emphasis on "a great roll and the writing on it with a mans pen," vr1. When judgment arrives like an overwhelming flood the remnant of uncompromised believers are given five pieces of advice, when the LORD spake with a strong hand. (1) Make no association, compromise, or confederacy with the compromising majority, vr11-12. (2) Sanctify the Lord of hosts and let him be your fear, vr13-15. (3) Hold tight to your King James Bible, "Bind up the testimony, seal the law among my disciples ... to the law and to the testimony: if they speak not according to this word, it is because there is no light in them," vr16, 20. (4) Wait on the Lord, vr17. (5) Be a peculiar people, be a sign and a wonder unto them, vr18. I would rather be mocked and persecuted as a King James Onlyite, than use a Vatican bible that rips out 1John 5:7 and more. The doom of the compromiser is sealed and rushing in hastily; i.e. Maher-shalal-hash-baz. God illustrates through Israel the horrid consequence of the neo-evangelical compromise. Dr. Kean once said, Three words should be removed from a Baptist's vocabulary "can't", "quit", and "compromise." They all start with "K" so you can just strike them from your dictionary.

An Essay for week #12 03/23/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40323.mp3

Msg #1413 The Hobby Lobby Battle is The Lords.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Conception involves three entities coming together. As immorality devours the thought and intents of American society and “every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually,” a Bible believer needs to be very specific in this understanding. An egg and a sperm in a “test-tube” or a fallopian-tube, without a receptive womb, does not constitute conception. Only the fertile egg cleaving to the womb constitutes conception, wherein another human is formed. In a moral society that little individual has certain inalienable rights and protections. Any purposeful separation of the human life from its sustenance of life is thus immoral. The Hobby Lobby and the Amish Furniture Factory is not contesting religious rights as much as they are contesting a humanist government that would force them to partake in an immoral act. Christians are to always be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in you. (1Pet 3:15) We have no exception for this particular issue. We need to be even the more clear after Roman ideas have muddied the water around the truth. It is not a “religious” issue. It is a moral truth. A truth, not just because of God's Text, but because of the obvious Biology Text as well. With Obama in power and the ACLU lawyers emboldened, Christians face waves of attacks against their freedom. Jehoshaphat, a king no stranger to compromised righteousness, prayed, “O our God, wilt thou not judge them? For we have no might against this great company that cometh against us; neither know we what to do: but our eyes are upon thee.” (2Chron 20:12) You gotta love God's response. “Thus saith the LORD unto you, Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God's. (vr.15b)

An Essay for week #13 03/30/2014

Msg #1414 Great Deception and The Hand of God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Isaiah records national actions and reactions with God's eye. National judgments are recorded for a spectra of nations, two with Godly heritage. These are full scale models of nationalistic behaviors, and the USofA is presently following the second best model, Israel. Mind you, the best of the best, Judah, has its flaws and ends in captivity. With all the Godly heritage and founding, a miraculous redemption from the world, and established as a God fearing nation with laws and constitution, one would expect that she follow justice, truth, and Jehovah God. Yet before 300 years, the whole head was sick. (cf Isa.1:5) "Therefore the LORD shall set up the adversaries... and they shall devour Israel with open mouth. For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still. For the people turneth not unto him that smiteth them, neither do they seek the LORD of hosts." (Isa 9:11-13) In this chapter, and in this model, things turn out bad for Israel's rebellion. It is a mirror for America. They say we have no Creator, just two rocks in a primeval sea doing spontaneous generation! The masses believe them! They say we have no Judge bringing calamity to smite our land, it is caused by "Global Warming" from our burning fossil fuels and breathing out CO₂! The masses believe them! They outlaw light bulbs, shut down coal plants, and pursue "Green Energy" as their lord and savior. "Through the wrath of the LORD of hosts is the land darkened... For all this his anger is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still." (vr. 19,21) This message is not to the deceived masses, they are quite deceived. God says instead, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves."

An Essay for week #14 04/06/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40406.mp3

Msg #1415 Your Alabaster Box

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Jesus' last walk to Jerusalem is wrought with drama, Pharisees and lepers, Lawyers and blind men, Scribes and short publicans climbing trees. Not to mention disciples fighting over their greatness as they chased little children away from their Lord! The trip culminates with the two high drama events of John 12. The only one who really understood why Jesus was come to Jerusalem was Mary who once again anointed him with an ointment from an alabaster box. She was forgiven much, and she loved much. She also had a relationship with her Lord and Saviour. A relationship found lacking in the 12 disciples. Even today it is only a few who comprehend the importance of the Christ's selection on that Palm Sunday. The Passover Lamb anointed by Mary six days before Passover was, on the 10th of Abib, four days before Passover, exactly as recorded in Exodus 12, separated from the other sheep with the cries of the crowd. Their cries of "Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest," (Matt 21:9) were soon followed with the question, "Who is this?" (Matt 21:10) Then after four of the most recorded days in human history, the same crowd cried "Crucify him!" It behooves a believer to study this trip, this week, and that relationship with great vigor. Set aside all Roman and Reformed theology and study him in the events of this week. Therein one can find a relationship akin to what Mary had. It is a rare thing in "Christianity" today, it was then. It is worth falling in love anew with the Passover Lamb. Let this Easter be one where your alabaster box is broken, and your expensive ointment is poured out.

An Essay for week #15 04/13/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40413.mp3

On 4/16/2014 10:38 AM, Tim Shumer wrote:

- > Hey Ed, appreciate your steadfastness. I hope all is well at your church and especially with your son on the field.
- > Just curious, what day of the week do you believe Jesus was crucified on? I accept Edersheim's explanation myself, but I know good men differ.
- > Blessings,
- > Timothy

Tim,

Thanks for writing. We are doing exceptional now that Passover has arrived.

I am certain that the 8th of Abib (old name of the first Hebrew month, cf Exod 12) was 6 days before Passover as John recorded in chapter 12, when Mary anointed Christ at dinner on a Friday, (i.e. not on a Sabbath day for my few Roman colleagues) The 10th of Abib was the day the Passover Lamb was separated from the others, (Exod 12) and was perfectly portrayed in his Palm Sunday entry into Jerusalem, (i.e. not on a Sabbath day for my many Baptist colleagues). That inevitably makes the 14th day of the month, when the Passover Lamb was slain, fall on the Thursday, not on the Baptist's traditional Wednesday, and not on the Roman's traditional Friday. That unites with the testimony of the disciples on the Emaus Road, who said on a Sunday, "This is the third day since he was crucified." (Thur. Crucified, Fri. 1st day since, Sat 2nd day since, and Sun 3rd day since.) It is really iron clad for those not hampered by the other traditions of men.

Stay in the word.

Ed

Msg #1416 You Gotta Love Easter

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“This month shall be unto you the beginning of months, it shall be the first month of the year for you... Your lamb shall be without blemish... and ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.” (Exod 12) When Jesus of Nazareth was crucified on the fourteenth day of the Hebrew month Abib, later called Nissan, the only begotten Lamb of God became our Passover Lamb. Three days after that crucifixion when he rose victorious over death, he became our High Priest. There is only one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. (ITim2:5) The world tries to drown out this truth with Cadbury eggs from clucking bunnies. Religionists with robes and backward collars assist with annual Easter egg hunts. But the truth remains “There is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.” (Acts 4:12) Despite the grand cover up, regardless of the compromised clergy, Jesus, the way the truth and the life, is the True Light which lighteth every man that cometh into the world. (John 1:9) He judges and tries the reins and the heart. (Jer 11:20) All know his eternal power and Godhead so that they are without excuse. (Rom 1:20) Easter is a time when the resurrection of Christ is rubbed into an unbelievers knowledge of God. It can make them uncomfortable. His witnesses can use Easter to touch loved ones and neighbors with the Words of God which are sharper than any two edged sword. Christ the Lord is risen today, Allelulea. Sons of men and angels say, Allelulea. Believers love Easter. We need to learn to use it better.

An Essay for week #16 04/20/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140420.mp3

Msg #1417 The Seven Spirits of God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

"Christ is the Answer" is the theme of the 66 books of the Holy Bible, and the 66 chapters of the book of Isaiah. That is not a coincidence. After seven woes in six chapters Christ comes on the scene as a son born to a virgin in 7:14, then as a child given five unbelievable titles in 9:6. A dire woe is extended to all of mankind in chapter 10, and then, in chapter 11, after God's anger against Israel "is not turned away, but his hand is stretched out still," after he assures the Gentile nations that "he shall cut down the thickets of the forest with iron, and they shall fall by a mighty one," his Christ is introduced in chapter 11. That introduction presents him as the Rod, a righteous judge, and a Branch, a giver of everlasting life. The Rod comes from an obscure stem, and the Branch from an all but destroyed root. The Rod and Branch of God which springs from the line of David, son of Jesse, refers to Christ's humanity. Theologians might disagree, but the Bible is clear, when the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, he set aside the omni and the infinite and became finite. Without the omni and infinite attributes, Jesus used the Seven Spirits of God to accomplish all that he did while in the flesh. The Spirit of the LORD, wisdom, understanding, counsel, might, knowledge, and the fear of the LORD. These, in the Revelation of Jesus Christ, are called the Seven Spirits of God. Isaiah 11 gives an awesome description of the Messiah. But the Seven Spirits listed are available to all believers. That is why Jesus said that we could do even greater things than he did in the flesh. (John 14:12)

An Essay for week #17 04/27/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40427.mp3

Why do Jewish males cover their heads?

(Insight by Dr. Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg)

Edward, Shabbat Shalom from Israel!

Religious Jewish men cover their heads with platter-shaped cap (yarmalkah), usually made of cloth to distinguish between them and their Creator.

The costume of wearing such “yarmalka” (also known as “kippah”) is itself not rooted in the Hebrew Bible as is the case with tzitzit – tassels, hanging from the corners of male clothes (Num. 15:38).

The covering of the head in Biblical times was something mandatory only for the highpriest. The idea of all males covering their heads was an invention of emerging rabbinical Judaism (around 3rd century CE) that sought to reconstitute Israel under their leadership after the destruction of the Temple in 70 CE, symbolically projecting priestly duties on every male Jew.

But what does “yarmalkah” mean in Hebrew?

The answer is nothing. The word is in Judeo-German language called Yiddish. It is compound word made up of two Aramaic words – Yar (fear) – Malkah (the King). It is incredible what connections we are able to make if we take the time to study ancient languages.

Whether you are interested in learning Yiddish, Aramaic or Hebrew I invite you to do it with eTeacherGroup! To consider enrolling today begin by clicking [HERE](#).

Yours,

Dr. Eli Lizorkin-Eyzenberg

Msg #1418 Awesome Name in an Awesome Chapter

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God's revelation lets man know what God has done, what God is doing, and what is going to happen next. It is marvelous for the believer to read Isaiah 12 and see a description of the New Covenant relationship that we have in Christ. Penned by God through Isaiah 746 years before the Only Begotten Son of God became our propitiation it begins, "And in that day..." It defends the use of that word, "propitiation," with this insight, "though thou wast angry with me, thine anger is turned away." (vr.1) We know now that Isaiah's wording "and thou comfortedst me" is prophetic of the Comforter that Jesus sent after his ascension. "Behold God is my salvation: I will trust and not be afraid," is descriptive of the New Covenant in the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. The personal name of God is only spelled out in English four times in the Holy Bible. All other times this most revered name is handled in English, as it was in spoken Hebrew, by substituting LORD in its stead. Appropriately two exceptions are when Moses and David spell out what his name actually was in Exodus 6:3 and Psalm 83:18. The remaining two exceptions drip from the pen of Isaiah when he writes about God being our salvation in a New Covenant (Isa. 12:2) and Israel's salvation in the 1,000 year kingdom reign of Christ. (Isa. 26:4) The meaning of that carefully, reverently used name is given in Exodus 3:14, "I Am, that I Am." In Jesus Christ, called the Mighty God, called the Everlasting Father, we have our salvation, and our Saviour is called by that most revered name. Here, for the "first-fruit" inhabitants of Zion's kingdom (vr.6), that Holy One of Israel is our salvation. What an awesome chapter.

An Essay for week #18 05/04/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40504.mp3

Msg #1419 Mothers Day and Healing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On this Mothers Day we want to give special tribute to moms who have lost loved ones to, or are right now wrestling with America's health crisis called cancer. There is a known cure, it is preached here each Sunday, "Christ is the Answer." This old world cannot even fathom the problem. America loads our food with growth hormones and antibiotics, artificial flavor, artificial color, artificial preservatives, artificial sweeteners, and then ladens us with artificial air fresheners, color enhancers and cleaning products, and then asks us to walk a million miles and spend a million dollars to figure out why our bodies are having artificial tissue growth. The Bible still instructs us best about all this, "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." (1Cor 6) Our God who now lives in his temple, is still the Great Physician, and can heal all our infirmities. In Proverbs 31 King Lemuel's mom teaches 7 things that all mothers need to teach us, the first is Prophecy, or "Thus saith the LORD." She follows with 12 characteristics of a virtuous woman given in 22 verses of unparalleled Scripture. The crowning virtue of all 12 is the fear of the LORD. The LORD we fear still commands, "Is any among you afflicted? Let him pray... Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the Church; and let them pray over him, and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord: and the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up."

An Essay for week #19 05/11/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40511.mp3

Msg #1420 Babylon is Fallen, is Fallen

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Just as God's chosen people, Israel, portray the great hope of mankind and the profound assurance that God will keep his promise, Babylon portrays the great damnation of mankind and the profound assurance that God will display his wrath. Isaiah 13 begins, "The burden of Babylon, which Isaiah the son of Amoz did see." One thousand five hundred and thirty years earlier man gathered, right after the world flood, to build a kingdom that would reach up to heaven. There, in Mesopotamia, the land of two rivers, God confounded their languages and called their kingdom building, Babylon. On hundred and six years after Isaiah, the seer, saw this burden, Nebuchadnezzar, the brand new King of Babylon would lay siege to Jerusalem. It was his very first conquest. That is not a coincidence. God, for a 70 year season, to chastise his own, surrendered his chosen people to a Babylonian captivity. When released from this bondage his chosen people were a wholly different people. They never embraced idolatry again. God had gotten hold of their stiff neck and stoney heart. The born-again believer has been released from a Babylonian bondage and entered into the Kingdom of Heaven. No longer under the prince and power of the air, we are in the world, but not of the world. The Lord Jesus Christ will soon return to receive his Kingdom. Before he comes there will be a new world order, and a center of world commerce. That center will be called and located in Babylon, and its fall is depicted in The Revelation of Jesus Christ chapter 14. We expect the rapture of the church any day now. The Lord is coming for his saints and then with his saints. Israel will receive her King. What a day that will be.

An Essay for week #20 05/18/2014

In audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140518.mp3

Msg #1421 Healing and Anointing Oil

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up." (James 5:14-15a) Oil is not mystical or magical for healing. It is not filled with power, but obedience is. It does not get a hold of God, but prayer does. It can not heal any disease, but God can. In James 5 anointing oil is only a symbol. Baptismal water is also a symbol. It does not wash a single sin away. A communion wafer is also only a symbol. It is not a sacrament filled with magical power. It is not physically the body of Christ, nor does it magically turn into the body of Christ, it is a symbol. Jesus spent half of John chapter 4 trying to get the Samaritan woman to let go of the physical and get a grasp on the spiritual. Healing is promised to the believer and in James chapter 5 it is connected to a symbolic anointing oil. Oil is first mentioned in the Holy Bible when Jacob poured some on stones that were his pillow at Bethel. It symbolized the presence of God. Oil olive gave light where God dwelt with man, in the Tabernacle of God. Anointing oil was on the alter of incense, typifying the prayers of saints. The meal offering included a log of oil in sacrifice. Oil anointed the priest. Oil anointed the King. The parable of the 10 virgins teaches that we cannot borrow oil from another. Many who say they believe, leave the powerful promise of James 5:14 out of their vocabulary. You can trust His Holy Word.

An Essay for week #21 05/25/2014

Revival msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140525.mp3

Msg #1422 The Kingdom is Within You

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Although it is an often repeated phrase in the New Testament of the Holy Bible, "The kingdom of heaven is like..." is an undervalued commodity in post modern Christendom. Even Fundamental Christians are so busy trying to persuade men to go to heaven that we forget we are to compel them into the kingdom of God, and that is what secures them a home in heaven. Except ye be "born-again" ye cannot "see" the kingdom of God, ye cannot "enter" the kingdom of God.(John 3) Except ye be converted... ye shall not "enter: the kingdom of heaven. (Matthew 18) I am not the sharpest knife in the drawer, so I still remember the day I realized that I was not "saved" into heaven, I was not "saved" into the Church, I was not "saved" into the family of God, I was "saved" and placed into the "Kingdom of God." I now had a membership in the kingdom of heaven! I frantically looked up all the verses dealing with my salvation, the couple just mentioned in particular, and found, sure enough, I was presently a member of his kingdom, and no longer a member of the kingdom of this world. I am simple, but suddenly, with this realization, a flood of things made better sense to me. This world is not my home, I am only passing through. I'm asked to walk "circumspectly" in this world, because the prince and power of the air here is like a roaring lion, seeking whom, of God's kingdom, he may devour. Wow that was thirty years ago for me, but when I revisit that discovery, it still sets my soul on fire. Right now the kingdom is within you. (Lu 17:21) I am now a child in his kingdom. That's a life changing truth.

An Essay for week #22 06/01/2014

Missionary msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40601.mp3

Msg #1423 Unjust Stewards, Mammon, Law and Grace.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Luke chapter 16 is unique out of all the chapter outlines of Scripture. It curiously leads with a strange parable addressed to his disciples. An unjust steward, was caught wasting his masters goods was to be fired. For his own gain, he entreated his lord's debtors mercifully, to where even his master commended the unjust steward for his genius. Generally parables have only one major truth that is being emphasized, this one has four called out. 1) The children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light. God does not expect Christians to use the methods of the world, but to at least have the savvy of the world. 2) Use the mammon of unrighteousness to make to yourselves friends. If you have a Ranger Bass boat, use it for eternal purposes, use it to be a gospel witness. 3) Be faithful in that which is least. Some of us do not have a Ranger Bass boat, nonetheless... 4) No servant can serve two masters. Daily, be certain who your master is, ... with all your heart, soul and mind. Aimed at disciples, this parable did not set well with the covetous Pharisees, and they derided him. In this chapter Jesus rebukes them and their "letter-of-the-law" mentality. The law and the prophets are being replaced, more exactly "fulfilled", by the incoming kingdom of God that Jesus preached. Two notes; Luke 16:18 is not Jesus' teaching on divorce, it is his illustration of the harsh exactness of the law, in contrast to the supreme grace found in the kingdom of God. Also, the accounting of the certain rich man and of Lazarus given in the close of this chapter, is the capstone of the truths presented in this chapter. Rereading Luke 16 is beneficial.

An Essay for week #23 06/08/2014

Alexandria Egypt, Septuagint, and Horse Carts

To: eTeacher Biblical, Jewish Studies for Christians, <http://eteacherbiblical.com>

Dear Dr. Eli,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I enjoy your insight bulletins immensely, although they have not yet enticed me to sign up for your courses (due only to my own \$ and schedule restrictions.) I am curious if you might respond to a sincere inquiry from a Baptist Preacher of the Gospel.

In your bulletin titled "The Dead Sea Scrolls and the New Testament", received here 13 June, you said that Mark, (in writing the Gospel According to Mark Chapter 1 verse 3) accepted the translation decision of the Jewish sages of Alexandria. I contend that you have the cart before the horse, so to speak.

Baptist staunchly contend that Mark, writing the inerrant, infallible, verbally inspired word of God under the hand of inspiration, did not lean on translation decisions of Jewish sages, least of all sages from Alexandria Egypt. This may seem trite, but indeed the whole error of modernist bible version and perversion springs from 'stuff' pouring out of Alexandria Egypt. Some of us, holding the old paths and the Old Book, still contend that nothing good comes from Alexandria Egypt, and that includes the RSV, NIV, NASV, NEV et al. as well as the Judeo-Greek Septuagint translation that you referenced. I expect that you understand the related "source-criticism" arguments leveled against the Holy Bible by modernist, liberals and infidels. Alexandria Egypt is symbolic and representative of the world, and a believer is wise to avoid what spews from there. It unceasingly muddies the Words of God, just like Satan does.

Knowing your busy schedule, I would only ask that you revisit this aged contention, and if you have a notable insight or opinion, that you share it with this humble student and Baptist Preacher. Or, perhaps, publish it in your resourceful bulletin.

Thank you.

Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1424 Fathers and Sons

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Paul writes, "To... my dearly beloved son," and captures the whole spirit of fatherhood in his second letter to Timothy. As a father figure to Timothy, Paul is steadfast and unmovable. He encourages his son to be the same. Fathers need to be certain about some things. In his salutation, Paul was certain about his calling, certain about his promise of eternal life, and certain about his relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ (2Tim 1:1) Fathers also need to have an occupation, and that needs to include their sons. In the same salutation, Paul says, "I thank God, whom I serve from my forefathers with pure conscience, that without ceasing I have remembrance of thee in my prayers night and day; Greatly desiring to see thee, being mindful of thy tears, that I may be filled with joy; When I call to remembrance the unfeigned faith that is in thee..." Paul not only had an occupation, he had a pre-occupation! His pre-occupation included his son, to where he understood what his son was doing, what his son was feeling, and what his son was going through. Every father could learn something from Paul's relationship with Timothy. A son is always on a quest to fill the expectations of a father or a father figure. Paul uses great wisdom in this letter. He subtly lets Timothy know that as a son he has met every expectation and fulfilled every charge that Paul had for him. Now Timothy only needed to "hold fast the form of sound words which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus." (1:13) And so Paul, again, gives his son this charge. Would to God that we could communicate so wisely, and secure such a powerful relationship with our sons.

An Essay for week #24 06/15/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40615.mp3

Msg #1425 Israel Will Rise Triumphant

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

None can understand Biblical Prophecy until they come to grips with the revelation of Isaiah 14; "For the LORD will have mercy on Jacob, and will yet choose Israel, and set them in their own land: and the strangers shall be joined with them, and they shall cleave to the house of Jacob." When Constantine highjacked Christianity, the founders of the Roman Catholicism used allegorical methods to claim all the promises of Israel for the Roman Catholic Church. The allegorical methods and the lies of Covenant Theology were adopted into Reformed Theology, and no Protestant denomination understands the Biblical Prophecy about Christ's Second Advent to this day. Isaiah 14 addresses the true destiny of Israel, in the actual promised land of God, when they are the rulers of all nations. It is not the Catholic Church which rises triumphant, as the song puts it, it is Israel who rises triumphant. Curiously, in the same chapter, the king of Babylon is the mirror image of Lucifer, son of the morning, and the doom of both is clearly announced, "Hell from beneath is moved for thee, to meet thee at thy coming." (vr.9) The context of this chapter makes Babylon representative of all nations which exude that self-made, greater than God attitude. Our own nation, wielding a pen and a phone and having no creator but Charles Darwin, is now Babylonian. All dooms and destinies are clearly portrayed in Isaiah 14, unless you are a denomination blinded by Calvin's Covenant Theology. The Lord will indeed rapture his church, and meet them in the air. His foot will touch down on the Mount-of-Olives when he rescues his chosen Israel, and the 1,000 year reign of Christ from David's Throne in Jerusalem is not allegorical, it is literal. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #25 06/22/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140622.mp3

Message = Getting out of a Vice Grip

I write today because a co-laborer in Christ, an ordained Baptist Preacher of the Gospel and a Baptist Pastor of a local independent fundamental Baptist church has resigned his position after very publicly pleading guilty to a charge involving the possession of child pornography. I know that there is often some measure of entrapment involved in attaining such convictions, but a guilty plea does not lie. A Baptist pastor is to be Biblically held to the highest moral standard, but any male who is responsible for rearing children or grand children or is involved in any ministry to children or in regular contact with children, is justly and legally barred from that responsibility after such a conviction and plea. I write today to plead that every man examine himself. And in that private, between them and God, examination they plead either guilty or innocent of any charge of possession of child pornography. If the plea is guilty, they should justly and purposefully bar themselves from all such child contact or ministry, and seek competent spiritual counsel which can make them answerable to that justified barring.

I have been in the military, and involved in youth ministry for well over 20 years. I understand the draw and the power of the five vices condoned in the military environment. (i.e. wine, women/sex, smoke, drugs and gambling.) These vices hold on like the vice grip that bears the same name. But a vice also draws one deeper and deeper into its own immorality. Most never comprehend the vileness of a vice, even when they see a peer sucked into its overwhelming depth. When you are in a vice, you are in over your head, and your immorality does effect those around you. But as you get sucked deeper into its immoral vile there are clear signs that you are irreparably effecting those around you. Viewing child pornography is a crystal clear sign. You are doing irreparable harm. Bar yourself from all children and get out. There is a God, who sent his Only Begotten Son, to "open prison doors and set those captives free." Seek him out, he alone can save you.

A WakeUp Call Essay for week #25 06/22/2014

Msg #1426 Seven Messages to the Seven Nations

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Seven burdens to seven nations follow close after Isaiah's prophetic revelation about Israel, Babylon, and Lucifer in chapter 14. These burdens have a near term fulfillment in the actual nations addressed, and a long term, more global fulfillment detailed in the Revelation of Jesus Christ. But they also have a natural fulfillment in the nature of all nations, and mankind. These four perspectives of these seven burdens might consume hours of ones study. The believing study of Biblical prophecy tells us what the Lord our God had done, is doing, and will do. It allows us to see the heart beat of God, and it gives us the big picture, at the same time clarifying where we fit into it. The burden of Moab, in chapter 15-16, concerns the incestual offspring of Abraham's nephew, Lot, who escaped the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah, but carried their vice right back into society. Moab's annihilation is certain. The burden of Damascus, chapter 17, concerns the war mongers and world dominating forces. They are subdued. The woe to the land shadowing with wings, in chapter 18, concerns the USof A, who is blessed because it has given Israel, God's chosen people, refuge and rest. Last count there were more Jews in NYS than in Israel. The burden of Egypt is curious in that it speaks of their spiritual, material, and political influence, destruction, and restoration. Egypt typifies the world. The burden of Assyria, in chapter 20, concerns infighting. The burden of the desert and sea surely concerns the farce called global warming. The burden of Dumah, a son of Ishmael, is a riddle and a prelude to the burden upon Arabia, which concerns the hireling religion of Islam. Verse 21:17, assures these prophecies, "for the LORD God of Israel hat spoken it."

An Essay for week #26 06/29/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140629.mp3

Msg #1427 Jesus Wept

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

John 11:35 is likely the most memorized verse in the Bible because of its brevity. It is the centerpiece in the account of the resurrection of Lazarus. John eleven is not about Lazarus, nor is it about death, nor is it about resurrection. It is about the Christ who said, "I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?" I have made a pact with myself, I will never quote John 11:35 but that I run through verse 25 as well. Lazarus fell sick unto death. At first glance Jesus does not come nor care, and lets him die. When a saint falls sick unto death today, at first glance, Jesus may seem not to come or care. The Friend, that is closer than a brother, does care. He has promised to never leave you nor forsake you. But when your friend is also your Lord, it behooves one to remember that it is not about him, it is all about Christ, and thus it should be. That is much easier to pen than it is to live. But the Friend also promised "My grace is sufficient for you" (2Cor12:9) When "Jesus wept", it was not for Lazarus, nor was it for his weeping sisters, Jesus "groaned in the spirit, and was troubled," (vr.33) because death is separation, death is sorrow, death is sadness. He came that we might have life more abundantly. (Joh10:10) But, alas, the majority rejected Him then, and they do today. Jesus wept for mankind and his plight. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

An Essay for week #27 07/06/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl40706.mp3

mens israeli sandals <http://www.israel-catalog.com/apparel/sandals/mens>

<http://www.judaicawebstore.com/mens-leather-sandals-C1109.aspx>

Msg #1428 Work for the Night is Coming

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Work for the night is coming, now it is high time to awake, if any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not. It is curious that this medley of thought comes up when Jesus would head to Lazarus' side. The disciples warned, "Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?" John eleven being about Christ, not Lazarus, puts focus on his death, not Lazarus' sleep. The oncoming night was coming in the ninth hour of crucifixion day. His raising Lazarus from the dead empowered his assertion that, "I am the resurrection and the life." The night represents the power of darkness. "Seeing the light of this world", is the daytime manifestation that he was indeed the Christ, the Hebrew Messiah, the Saviour of the world. "And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light." (John 3) John eleven is the surge of light before the coming night. Then Romans 13:12 says, "night is far spent, the day is at hand, let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armour of light." This is the same night, but now we are on the other side of it and walking in the Day of the Lord. Don't let John Calvin's covenant theology cause confusion, there is a Day of the Lord in a premillennial second advent when he will be the Judge, but we have been living in the day of the Lord, in a new covenant relationship, for almost 2,000 years now. It is high time to work, to witness, and to watch, for the night is coming. Make no provision for the flesh, see the light of the world, and put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

An Essay for week #28 07/13/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140713.mp3

Msg #1429 The Resurrection and The Life

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

While approaching the tomb of Lazarus the Lord Jesus announced, "I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." Jesus describes himself with seven I-AM likenesses in the Gospel According to John. I am the bread, I am the light, I am the door, I am the good shepherd, and here, I am the resurrection and the life. Coming up in chapter 14 and 15, I am the way, the truth, and the life, and, I am the true vine. Consider how the scribes, pharisees and lawyers winced every time Jesus said it, "I-AM." "*I-AM*" and "*Jehovah*" are inseparably connected in the poetry of the Hebrew language. God told Moses, "I AM THAT I AM: Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you." In Hebrew it is *AHYH*, while Jehovah is *YHOH*. When Jesus said "I am..." he knew what he was doing, and when, in the Revelation of Jesus Christ, he said, "I am the Alpha and Omega," there can be no doubt about what he was saying in all these instances. We worship and pray to the Lord Jesus Christ, because he is our God. In John 11 he announces that he is the resurrection and the life, because of his pending resurrection, not because of Lazarus'. Because He lives in a resurrected body, so shall we. Notice, once more, that this only applies to the believer. "Well, I like a lot of the teachings of Jesus" does not cut it, even for Mr. President. "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." Got life? Don't delay!

An Essay for week #29 07/20/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140720.mp3

Msg #1430 Take Away the Stone

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When Jesus came to the tomb of Lazarus, where his claim of being the resurrection and the life would first be substantiated, and the glory of the Christ would once more be revealed, Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Believers know he could have levitated the stone away or spoken the word and dissolved it into sand or less. It is oft found in life that before the glory of the Christ can be revealed there is something man must do. Abraham cleaved his own covenant signifying sacrifices (Gen 15); Isaac dug his wells; Jacob stacked his pillars of stones; Sampson searched out a jaw bone; Samuel stacked his own 12 stones, as did Elijah; David used his own wit at Engedi; the stone needed remove from the tomb, before the glory of God would be revealed. Martha was told what was to happen but could not believe it, the crowd had no idea but each had to incorporate obedience to Jesus before they could see the Christ. Perhaps the stone on your your tomb is confusion or complacency. We may sing the lyrics "Trust and obey, for there is no other way," and little comprehend that truth. Perhaps a stone of covetousness or conceit is keeping that decaying carcass in a tomb. Perhaps a stone of contention, or contrariness blocks the glory of Christ from being revealed. Some tombs still hold the dead because of compromise or coldness. There was a stone on Lazarus' tomb and Jesus asked those present to remove it before he prayed to his Father and called out Lazarus. We needn't get a candle to search out leaven, nor a kerchief to get a mote out of an eye, when stones over tombs are in plain view. The Resurrection-and-Life said, "Take away the stone."

An Essay for week #30 07/27/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140727.mp3

Msg #1431 Only The Son Descended and Ascended

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

At Lazarus's tomb, before the miracle of his resurrection, the prayer that Jesus made was for our benefit not his. "That they", said he, and we, "might believe that (God, the Father) hast sent me." (John 11:41, 42) Believing in Jesus, descending from heaven, as the Messiah, the Christ, is the substance of salvation. You will not be quickened without it. John closes his written gospel witness, "And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: but these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and the believing ye might have life through his name." Three "verily, verily" statements, (in Greek they are "Amen, Amen" statements) made in chapter 5 emphasize this truth about everlasting life and the resurrection of the dead. Verily, verily, I say unto you, 1) the Son can do nothing of himself,.... 2) He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life,... and 3) The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. (vr 19, 24 and 25) This lecture is on the Son's ability to "quicken whom he will", (vr21) and has its crowning illustration in the resurrection of Lazarus. Jesus mentions to Nicodemus that the "Son of man" must come down from heaven and ascend back heaven. (John 3:13) Paul includes, in his dissertation on salvation, the necessary belief that the Son must descend and ascend. (Rom 10:6,7) One cannot be saved without the doctrine of the trinity and the belief that Jesus is the Christ. "For there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12)

An Essay for week #31 08/03/2014

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Msg #1432 Onward Christian Soldier

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Jesus said "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law." (Matt 10:34-36) It is amazing that when the Resurrection and the Life rose Lazarus from the tomb, there was a decisive division amongst the Jews. "Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him. But some of them went their ways to the Pharisees..." (John 11:45-46a) When going in two opposite directions, as is true for these believers and the unbelievers, there is no compromise or middle ground, there is only a greater and widening divide. The unbelieving faction went so far as to desire the death of Lazarus. The depths of an unbelievers depravity has no foreseeable limit, nor should the depths of a believers compassion. With eyes to see each could say, "But for the grace of God, there go I." The progressive-liberal and the conservative Christian are going in opposite directions. The big-bang evolutionist and the born-again Creationist, believing in a 6 day creation, are going in opposite directions. The fundamental Muslim and the fundamental Christian, are going in opposite directions. There is no middle ground, and their can be no compromise. The believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, must arm themselves for a pending conflict. The primary weapon needs to be the compassion of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the primary tactic, "Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, ... humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." Onward, Christian soldiers.

An Essay for week #32 08/10/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs140810.mp3

Msg #1433 LORD, Shepherd, Lord and Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.” The psalmist and shepherd, King David, writes some things about Jehovah God which are so eternal that twenty elder lips whispered them in unison in a nursing home in upstate New York. That is three thousand and thirty years after the psalmist wrote. The six sentences penned in the Twenty Third Psalm have been memorized by more humans than any declaration in the history of humanity. The present tense and indicative mood of “be” is “is.” It is not that the LORD, with all caps, “was” my shepherd, nor that the LORD, the most personal and revered name of Jehovah God, “will soon be” my shepherd. It is the present tense, absolutely assured form of “be.” The LORD is, presently, right now, an assured possession in a positive relationship, my shepherd. Jesus, who was made flesh and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth, took the acclaimed name of Jehovah God, “I Am”, and declared, “I am the good Shepherd” (John10:11). Three hundred years after the psalmist's pen, the Prophet Isaiah wrote, “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD (all caps) hath laid on him (his wounded, bruised despised servant (vr3n5)) the iniquity of us all” (Isa53:6). Seven hundred and eighty odd years later an old fisherman, who had set aside nets and become a fisher of men, wrote it this way, “For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls” (1Pet2:25) Today the blood bought and born-again can say with the assurance of the psalmist, “The LORD is my Shepherd.” Others, not-so-much.

An Essay for week #33 08/17/2014

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Msg #1434 Being a Friend of God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Three Bible characters were called the friend of God. In Genesis 12 Abram walks onto the page of our Bible to be the first. "But thou Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend" (Isa 41:8, cf 2Chron 20:7, James 2:23). Jesus told his disciples "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known to you" (John 15:15). Thirty seven hundred years ago God carefully recorded details of Abram's walk into friendship. It is for our benefit. Abram, who never even got to know God by his "first-name" (Exod 6:3) had a tough row to hoe. He started his journey with great promise, partial obedience, crippled faith, and no trust. God "had said" (past tense) to get out from kindred (11:31), but Abram took them with him. God said "I will give this land," but a famine scared Abram into Egypt. God said "I will make of thee a great nation" (12:2), and Abram said, "The Egyptians will kill me" (12:12). The inspired, inerrant word of God is profitable for correction, to keep us on track, and for reproof to get us off a wrong track. Abram had to come all the way back to an altar he had built to get back on the right track. That altar, the Bible is specific, was east of Bethel and west of Hai. Neither city had been founded yet, but the meaning is east of the "house of God" and west of the "heap of ruin." God was so tender with Abram, and he is with us. A friend's reproofs are necessary, learn from them, Abram did.

An Essay for week #34 08/24/2014

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Msg #1435 Sanctification and Friendship

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

"Henceforth I call you not servants, for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth; but I have called you friends" (John 15:15), a friend of God. A son of Eber obeyed God and set out looking "for a city which hath foundation, whose builder and maker is God" (Heb 11) When he crossed over one Jordan River, his path took him to friendship with God. It is a path worthy of our consideration. "Hebrew" defined, are son's of Eber, ones from beyond, who multiplied in God's blessing. They were given the oracles of God which give Abram's account. Genesis 13 details Abram's second step towards this friendship, he had to separate from things before he could have an association with God. The Hebrew tongue has a word for association, it is *Hebron*, which is where Abram was camped in the last verse of this chapter. The chapter opens with Abram camped between the house of God (Hbrw- *Bethel*) and a heap of ruin (Hbrw- *Hai*) and it details his separation from his kindred (Lot), his kindred's wealth, aspirations, and evil eye. The Bible says Lot had a righteous soul, (2Pet 2:7-8) but God was pleased when Abram separated himself from Lot's pernicious way. When walking toward God one needs separation from the world, but sometimes we need to separate from believers in their error. Even a believer can operate like a wolf in sheep's clothing, doing great harm to the cause of Christ. Even though Lot was a believer, family, and companion, when Abram separated from him, God expanded Abram's promise, and led him to the plain of strength and fatness (Hbrw- *Mamre*). There God reestablished his association. (Hbrw- *Hebron*). Sanctified means separated unto God, and sanctification is an essential to friendship with God.

An Essay for week #35 08/31/2014

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"Reformed Theology Is Not A Biblical Theology " found at http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/master_thesis/thesis_reformed.pdf

Msg #1436 Who is Your Friend?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Chapter 14 of Genesis gives a war story which is loaded with complex names and places, but it is a crucial saga in Abram's development. He is becoming a friend of God, and his steps of obedience and sanctification are herein followed by a great contest. Five confederate kings, with Lot in their midst, are overpowered by four confederate kings. Abram, confederate with three Amorite brothers, pursues and conquers the four worldly kings, and restores all to the five compromising kings. Looking up the meaning of each name in a Strong's Concordance is time consuming but it reveals who is confederate with whom, and the ills of confederations. The three important lessons for the friend of God are: 1) God is the most high God (Hbrw: *El-Elyon*) the possessor of heaven and earth. 2) There is a king of righteousness (Hbrw: *Melchizedek*), and he is the king of peace (Hbrw: *Salem*) And 3) this righteous king of peace pronounces one blessed of the most high God. Note that it was Melchizedek, king of Salem, who revealed El-Elyon to Abram. Confederacies of this world pale into insignificance when you are a friend of the most high God. Confederacies of the world which rally against us, confederacies of the compromised which think to rally with us, and confederacies with brothers who do stand with us will always have their place in our walk, but keep in mind, our real friend is the possessor of heaven and earth. "After these things the word of the LORD came unto Abram in a vision, saying, Fear not, Abram: I am they shield, and thy exceeding great reward" (Gen 15:1). What a great friend to have, and we hold the nail pierced hand of the righteous king of peace to boot.

An Essay for week #36 09/07/2014

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Msg #1437 The Faith of a Friend

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Abram, the friend of God, believed God and it was counted unto him for righteousness, but he never even came to know God by his first name. It is not that the LORD did not reveal his proper name to Abram, "I am the LORD" (Gen15:7, Exod 6:2). God said it to Abram and to Moses. But he also told Moses, "And I appeared unto Abraham, unto Isaac, and unto Jacob, by the name of God Almighty, but by my name JEHOVAH (LORD) was I not known to them" (Exod 6:3). Bible believers are conservatives who despise progressive ideas. Progressive Liberals trust Karl Marx's doctrine that capitalism must progress to socialism, then evolve to communism. Just the same, God uses progressive revelation to reveal himself and all his plans to man. Today we have all 66 books, and know God's first name, but don't have all the faith that Abram displayed. Genesis 15 is interesting because God says to Abram "I am the LORD," and Abram does not get it. Even though Abram missed a lot, what he did get he thoroughly believed. That pleased God. God tells Abram all his plans for all Abram's seed. He passes through an exotic multifaceted sacrifice with him. He appeared to him as a smoking furnace and a burning lamp (15:17). Much later Ezekiel gave a more progressive picture of God's mobile presence, it was a glowing wheel in the middle of a wheel. There was more revealed to Abram than he could take in, but he believed everything he could comprehend. Thus, he is called the father of faith, and the friend of God. "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen... without faith it is impossible to please him" (Heb11:1,6) Be His friend.

An Essay for week #37 09/14/2014

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Msg #1438 Men Teaching, Praying, and Prophecy

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Abram believed God, and is called the father of faith, but in Genesis 16 he makes significant mistake. Sarai, his wife, the weaker vessel, lost faith and tries to help God out with his impossible promise. God had said "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help meet (appropriate) for him." God says it is not appropriate that women take a lead role in teaching, praying, or prophesying (1Tim 2:12, 8, 1Cor 15:34). He gives three reasons, 1) man was made first (1Cor 11:9, 1Tim 2:13), 2) women are more deceivable (1Cor 11:3, 1Tim 2:14) and 3) a woman's physical, physiological, and psychological makeup are designed for mothering not for leading men, homes, or nations. (1Cor 11:12, 1Tim 2:15). In this feminized culture, Bible believers spend too much time apologizing for what God said and too little time practicing what God said. Sarai is not in error proposing a solution involving her Egyptian maid. She is doing what women do, pursuing a compromise, seeking conflict avoidance, and manipulating things behind the scene. The error is worded in verse 2, "And Abram hearkened to the voice of Sarai." The role and responsibility of the husband is to provide the leadership and make the righteous decisions when given other options. Abram's failure is clear, don't put the blame on the weaker vessel and appropriate helper. Men have the responsibility to take the lead where women should not go. Men should lead in teaching; praying; and prophesying. The man is to be the head and lead in paths of righteousness. Our society is likely irrecoverable, but our homes and fundamental churches should have testosterone laden, unfeminized, feminine male leadership wearing the pants. That theme unfolds in Genesis 16, and is found lacking in America.

An Essay for week #38 09/21/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g140921.mp3

Msg #1439 Developing Intimate Friends

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Intimate friendship only happens when two come to know and to trust each other. The more one knows and trusts, the more intimate the bond. Everyone needs them but you can count your intimate friends on one hand. Relationships mature and improve as this truth is learned and leaned on. Consciousness helps. If what you know about God comes from the theologians who wrote the Westminster Confession, you don't know squat. In God's revelation of himself to man, he comes to know, and then to trust a man named Abram. When God is cramped into a Calvinist's little box, he already knows everything, and many Bible verses must be trashed. "For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings" (Prov 5:21). In Hebrew, "ponder" means ponder. In the Bible God comes to know a person and eventually comes to trust some of them. When they reciprocate, there is an intimate bond of friendship. All this takes trials. Spending more time with a Bible, and less with the theologian, helps one see the splendor of this reality. In Genesis 17, God gingerly takes a step of trust in Abram. It is awesome to watch the development of God's friendship with Abram. God reveals to Abram that he is *El-Shaddai*, the nourisher and sustenance of life itself. Understand that friendship takes a development form both sides, and here, "God talked with (Abram) saying, As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee" (vr. 4) When God was ready he gave Abram a new name. He made his covenant clear, then gave Sarai, Abraham's wife a new name. Trust and Obey, pass a couple tests, and become a friend of God. He is a friend that sticks closer than a brother.

An Essay for week #39 09/28/2014

Msg #1440 Don't Be Left Behind

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is coming a Last October. “In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation... Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement: ...and ye shall afflict your souls, and offer an offering made by fire unto the LORD... The fifteenth day of this seventh month shall be the feast of tabernacles...” (Lev23:23-24,27,34). Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, and the Feast of Tabernacles mark the important fall memorial of blowing of trumpets. Bible believing Christians are listening for the trumpet symbolized in this feast. It will be a voice “as it were of a trumpet, talking with me; which said, Come up hither” (Rev 4:1). “In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible” (1Cor 15:52). “For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and (we) shall be caught up... to meet the Lord in the air” (1Thes 4:16-17). This is the rapture of the Church, and one must here distinguish between Bible believers and the Bible allegorizers. The Roman Religionists taught their reformers to allegorize away Jews and the premillennial return of Christ. Consequently Protestants do not perceive the rapture in these verses, and the Reformed cannot conceptualize our Christ on the Throne of David, in Jerusalem, for a 1,000 year dispensation. The truths in the 2nd advent of Christ are reserved for those with ears to hear, and eyes that don't allegorize. Bible believers often “stand gazing up into heaven” (Acts 1:8-11). A “*Hunt for the Last October*” begins, don't be left behind.

An Essay for week #40 10/05/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141005.mp3
 Part 2 in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141005pm.mp3

Msg #1441 The 7 Year Tribulation is not Allegorical!

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The seventieth week of Daniel marks a seven year period where Jesus tells us, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor even shall be" (Matt 24:21). Roman and Reformed Theologians try to allegorize the reality of a premillennial advent and a literal seven year tribulation period into disbelief, but when Christ divides the seven years in half, seven distinct times, their false teachings come unraveled. A Hebrew calendar has twelve, thirty-day months, and they add an extra month in seven years. Daniel 12 divides the seven year tribulation into 1260 days and then 1290 days, calling them "time, times, and half a time." The times of the Gentiles in Revelation 11 is forty-two months, or half the tribulation period. The two indestructible witnesses in described in that chapter prophecy for 1,260 days before Satan destroys them and God tells them, "Come up hither." (Rev 11:3-12) After the seven seals and the seven trumpets, halfway through the tribulation, and exactly halfway through the 404 verses of Revelation, Satan is booted from heaven and torments the earth, knowing his time is short. The persecuted Israel is fed in the wilderness for 1,260 days of Satan's vile persecution. The commercial Babylon "is fallen is fallen", halfway through the 7 year period. And Mystery Babylon, the false church and Jezebel is devoured and destroyed by the Dragon, Beast, and False Prophet of the new world order. Mid-trib is a very busy time indeed, and the week of tribulation, the literal 7 years such as was not since the beginning of the world, is not an allegorical pretense, it is a Bible reality. You can only be saved from the wrath to come, by first calling on Christ, the soon-coming judge.

An Essay for week #41 10/12/2014

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Msg #1442 The Millennial Reign of Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

After Revelation chapter 19, where heaven opens and the Righteous Judge, called Faithful and True, rides a white horse into the battle called Armageddon, comes chapter 20. Believing the premillennial return of Christ is that simple. Had the Roman reformers stopped allegorizing they would believe Revelation 20 which describes the thousand year reign of Christ. He reigns from the hills of Zion in Jerusalem (Psalms 2). He sits on the throne of David (Isaiah 9). And the twelve tribes of Israel are regathered into The Promised Land, because it is The Promised Land. One is not a "Zionist" because they believe in the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of God. Dr. Chafer, founder of Dallas Theological Seminary, wrote seven volumes of theology trying to get Presbyterians and 70+ denominations to change their pernicious ways, and believe premillennialism. He was largely unsuccessful because reformed theologians would rather hold to Roman dogma than believe these two chapters in the Revelation of Jesus Christ. For the Bible believer the millennial reign of Christ is the last of seven dispensations. Each previous dispensation ended in man's failure. The Church age we live in will end as it was in the days of Noah and in Sodom and Gomorrah, just as Jesus said. And when Christ lifts the curse on this earth, so that wolf lies down with the lamb, when he binds Satan for a thousand years, and when he physically sits and reigns on this earth, man again fails catastrophically. All seven dispensations manifest the depravity of man. Such Bible truths are for those with ears to hear. Such truths don't fit with reformed Roman covenant theology, no matter how many modern bible translations they copyright. Study to shew yourself approved unto God, rightly dividing the Word of Truth into its seven distinct dispensations.

An Essay for week #42 10/19/2014

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Msg #1443 The Golden Streets Soon Coming

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

You can know for certain that you have permanent residence in the kingdom of heaven. The residence is secured when one is “born-again” (John 3), and has your name on it when you are converted to Christ (Matt 18). But only a student of the end times knows that it will not have streets of gold until a thousand years has ended. The Bible speaks of three heavens, one where birds fly, one where stars fly, and the third heaven where the full glory of God is forever manifest. When a saint dies, they are absent from the body and present with the Lord in this third heaven. But the streets of gold in the city with twelve gates (for the twelve tribes of Israel) and twelve foundations (for the twelve apostles of Christ), does not show up until there is a new heaven and a new earth described in Revelation 21. Between now and then there will be a trumpet call, the rapture of the church, and the 1st resurrection, which puts us in an incorruptible body. There will be a “Bema Seat” judgment for the saints while the world sees seven years of great tribulation. The second advent of Christ, where he returns with his saints, riding into the battle of Armageddon, is described in Revelation 19. Chapter 20 describes the one thousand year reign of Christ and the Great White Throne judgment. The 2nd resurrection and the 2nd death meted out in that judgment mark the end of this world; it is all destroyed with a fervent heat (2Pet3:10). Only then are the saints from the 1st resurrection ushered into the city with streets of gold. “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection; on such the second death hath no power” (Rev20:6).

An Essay for week #43 10/26/2014

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Msg #1444 Three Vails Removed in Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Three vails that are removed through the gospel of Christ, remain in man's religions. The Gospel opens a new covenant relationship with God, and 2Cor 3 details how the Lord is the life giving Spirit of that covenant. "Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech: And not as Moses which put a veil over his face that the children of Israel could not steadfastly look to the end of that which is abolished: But their minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same veil untaken away in the reading of the Old Testament; which veil is done away in Christ" (2Cor3:12-13). Moses hung another veil in the tabernacle. It separated the holy place (containing a lamp, a table of shew-bread, and an altar of incense), from the most holy place (containing the ark of the covenant). It separated the ministering priests from the presence of Jehovah God. Man's religions have robed priests, clergy or imams standing between common man and God, but in Christ that veil and those robed clergy are done away, "And the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom" (Mark15:38). A third veil done away in Christ is the woman's veil. In Gen 24 Rebekah "took a veil and covered herself" to show Isaac that she accepted him as her lord. In weddings the bride is still veiled, until the marriage. The beauty revealed when Boaz says, "Bring the veil that thou hast upon thee, and hold it" (Ruth3:15), reveals Christ as our kinsman redeemer who fills our veil with six measures of barley, and promises to soon make us his bride. These three vails are removed via the Gospel of Christ. Make him Lord, strip away the vails.

An Essay for week #44 11/02/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141102.mp3

Msg #1445 Thank the Healer

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Thankfulness for healing is best expressed face to face to the Healer. Some are thankful for the healing, but silent towards the Healer. This truth is punctuated with exclamation marks in the ten lepers which were healed, as recorded in Luke 17. The ten were told to “Go shew yourself unto the priests.” They obeyed, and were healed as they went. One cannot imagine that the nine were not thankful. Surely many of them showed up at the temple as they were told, they showed themselves to the priests, as they were told, and doubtless some went through the prescribed cleansing that allowed them back into the religious system of the day. There was, however, one, a stranger who was not allowed into the temple. If he was going to give thanks to God, he would have to go back to the one who healed him and thank him. The emphasis of this account is that he gave God thanks by falling at the feet of Jesus the Christ. All of our thanksgiving should be done at the feet of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, the Almighty God, the Everlasting Father. Take care to be more enamored with the Healer than with the healing; with the Redeemer over the religion, with the Lord over the labor, with the Saviour over the saving, with the Messiah over the message. On Veteran's Day, and heading into a national day of Thanksgiving, I am thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ that, when I was drafted in 1972, He was with me through my entire military career. Jesus Christ is worthy of all our thanksgiving. This year put the name of the Lord Jesus Christ in all your thanksgiving.

An Essay for week #45 11/09/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141109.mp3

Msg #1446 In Everything Give Thanks

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The wisest philosopher cannot account for the ongoing attitude of the born again believer who practices the three perpetuals of Christianity. Solomon ponders this dilemma in Ecc 9:1-3a, "For all this I considered in my heart even to declare all this, that the righteous, and the wise, and their works, are in the hand of God: no man knoweth either love or hatred by all that is before them. All things come alike to all: there is one event to the righteous, and to the wicked; to the good and to the clean, and to the unclean; to him that sacrificeth, and to him that sacrificeth not: as is the good, so is the sinner; and he that sweareth, as he that feareth an oath. This is an evil among all things that are done under the sun, that there is one event unto all..." Bad things do happen to good people. But when a believer practices God's command to "pray without ceasing," those things cannot cause him to faint. "Men ought always to pray, and not to faint." (Luke 18:1) When a believer can "rejoice evermore", these things cannot overpower his joy. And when the believer learns the value of God's command, "In everything give thanks," the rational philosopher stumbles before the supernatural God who holds us in his hand. It is amazing what praising will do. God changes brain chemistry when you "Count your many blessings." Romans accounts man's decline from God, and the first step is "they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful." (1:21) Don't approach that first step; many have fallen down the whole flight of stairs. Be thankful you were born in a country that still has a National Day of Thanks Giving. Then take full advantage of that fourth Thursday of November.

An Essay for week #46 11/16/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141116.mp3

Msg #1447 Thanksgiving with Integrity

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Thanksgiving is a verb. Before one can do it certain ingredients need to be correct in his life. When thanksgiving is a noun it is to bubble out of our life like root-beer poured on vanilla ice-cream. Again it requires the right ingredients. When ingredients are right it bubbles out and is well pleasing to our Lord. David lists the necessary ingredients in Psalm 26. Ingredient#1, "I have walked in mine integrity: I have trusted also in the LORD." Ingredient#2 "Thy loving kindness is before mine eyes: and I have walked in thy truth." Ingredient#3 "I have not sat with vain persons... dissemblers, (or) the wicked." Ingredient#4 "I wash mine hands in innocency: so I will compass thine altar, O LORD." Why these ingredients? "That I may publish with the voice of thanksgiving, and tell of all thy wondrous works." (vr. 7) But the Bible also delineates a thanksgiving that makes the Lord sick. In Amos 4 it states, "The Lord GOD hath sworn by his holiness... that he will take you away with hooks, and your posterity with fish hooks." The ingredients for this scorned thanksgiving are present in our nations "Which crush the needy, which say to their masters, Bring, and let us drink." This religious nation says "Come to Bethel, and transgress... and bring your sacrifice." Bethel means "The house of God," but God no longer dwelt at Bethel. Jeroboam, who caused Israel to sin, had set up a golden calf and made Bethel a place of false worship. He did this to keep people from true worship in Jerusalem, where God dwelt. In their false worship they "offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving with leaven." Be careful about integrity and about this world's apostate churches which are a house of God in name only. Happy Thanksgiving.

An Essay for week #47 11/23/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141123.mp3

Ferguson Misnomer In The News

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An unarmed, doped up, 6'2" 260 pound, thieving, 18 year old adult, departing from his crime scene, attacked a police officer, attempted to steal his gun, and was shot dead. Why doesn't someone in the media say that out loud twice a day? This is NOT racial it is criminal. The problem is NOT on the police, it is on the streets they are forced to patrol. The burning and looting in Ferguson is indeed aligned with "protestors" cause, because "their" cause is that blacks don't have to obey American law or submit to the American judicial system! It is distressing that our media and White House are playing along with "their" anarchy and terrorism. They ask the police to use restraint and continually imply that this is a police problem! Forcing that there be a proportionate number of blacks in police pullovers or black policemen on the streets, is as stupid as forcing that there be a proportionate number of white faces in our prisons. These disproportions are indicative of the systemic problem, but no media has the guts to say that problem out loud. The minorities are the majorities in jails and prisons! Find the cause of that. It is not police or judges. More blacks commit crimes than whites; that is the problem that needs to be addressed. There are symptoms, and there are causes. Stop protesting and only reporting the symptoms! Expect blacks to be the disproportionate on police rolls and blotters if they are the majorities in our prisons. Police are doing their jobs excellently and need better protection from these protestors and the civil suits of malcontents. Deal with the real racial problems for once, and give each police officer an overwhelming thank you.

A Timely Essay for week #47 11/29/2014

Msg #1448 Calvary

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Dr. Luke writes the third gospel with incredible insight about the crucifixion. Luke was not an apostle, but had listened to them preach for thirty years. He traveled extensively with the Apostle Paul and now, during Paul's imprisonment, Luke publishes "The Gospel According To Luke." Luke had the blessing of the apostles on his writings, but it is more important that he wrote as he was moved by the Holy Ghost. Each word he penned is God's word. His narrative takes Jesus through the triumphal entry, three days of teaching, the last supper, the trial, and to a hill called Calvary. There is no narrative more solemn or more moving for the blood bought, born-again, believer, for "God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." The substitutionary death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ is the gospel message which Dr. Luke portrays in the word's of God. Would to God I might hold it with a little more daily esteem. It is precious enough to die for, many have. It is precious enough to live for, many are. Luke also records the boldness Peter's witness, "Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly, that God hath made that same Jesus, whom ye have crucified, both Lord and Christ... Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." (Acts2:36, 4:12) And again, "The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree. Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins." (Acts5:30-31) It is still foolishness to scholars, but the power of God to believers.

An Essay for week #48 11/30/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141130.mp3

Msg #1449 The Odd Announcement

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Three odd chapters in Isaiah capture the scene for the promised coming of the anointed One of God, the Messiah (Hebrew), the Christ (Greek). Chapter 7 announces the sign, that the second Adam, the seed of woman that is to bruise Satan's head, will be born of a virgin. His name is Immanuel, which being interpreted is "God with us" (Isa 7:14, Matt 1:23). Chapter 9 announces that the people that walked in darkness see a great light, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace" (Isa 9:6). These names mock the cultic Mormon Tabernacle Choir which denies both the trinity and the deity of this child born in Bethlehem. Jesus was indeed God in the flesh, who left the portals of heaven to be born the Son of Man and the Son of God. Chapter 9 also proclaims His endless kingdom on the throne of David, to order it and establish it. Begone Roman Religionists and Protestant Presbyters who deny the kingdom reign of Christ. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this. Is it strange that Chapter 11 of US bankruptcy code permits reorganization under law, and Isaiah Chapter 11 announces just such a reorganization? "There shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots" (Isa 11:1). The *rod* speaks of chastising judgment, like "spare the rod, spoil the child," while the *branch* speaks of the life giving sustainer. If you do not receive eternal life from Jesus Christ as the Branch, you will soon receive eternal death from Jesus Christ as the Rod.

An Essay for week #49 12/07/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141207.mp3

Msg #1450 Preliminary Preparation Preaching

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is plenty of prophecy of the coming Messiah, there is preliminary preparation for his arrival and there is a pertinent presentation at his first advent. Luke chapter one schedules four preachers, i.e. four spokesmen with a “thus saith the Lord” message. The four expound the preparations for our Lord's arrival in flesh. First up is Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God. He has a two part message; in 13-17 he details the arrival and full role of John Baptist, and in 28-33 he details the arrival and full role of JESUS the Son of the Highest. Next up on the schedule of speakers in this chapter is Elisabeth, the mother of John Baptist. She was filled with the Holy Ghost and in 42-45 she starts outlining the messages of the 6-month old who is leaping in her womb. In verses 46-55 Mary, the virgin mother of JESUS, the Son of God and Son of man, takes the podium. She is filled with the Christ-child and acknowledges her need of the Saviour in her womb. She then expounds his mercy on all of mankind from generation to generation. Mercy is descriptive of the condemned not getting the punishment that is deserved. Mary saw that mercy, and preaches its availability for me. The final speaker of the chapter is Zacharias the father of John Baptist. After being dumb for nine months he is filled with the Holy Ghost and in 68-79 he expounds the Son of David to be both redeemer of Israel and merciful Saviour to all of mankind. Awesome messages, well worth my read in preparation for Christmas worship. A believer's whole month of December should be full of Scriptures concerning the prophecy, preparation, and presentation of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus the Christ.

An Essay for week #50 12/14/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141214.mp3

Msg #1451 The Christ Child's Presentation

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Christmas counsel of the ungodly is to mock at Luke chapter 2, but the believer, by definition, believes every precious word. The way of sinners is to reject the great price paid for their sin, the Christ child born to die, but the born-again know well the substitution that was made. The scornful call it fable but the Christian studies every detail of these miraculous provisions for the birth of the Only Begotten Son of God. One can research “that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed,” the record is clear. Each province went on a schedule for this census and tax, and all had to stay in their birth city for as much as 3 months until bureaucrats got their paperwork straight. God's provision happened to bring Mary and Joesph to Bethlehem, the Bible says, “And so it was, that while they were there...” God is good. God's provision was that his Only Begotten be born in a barn and laid in a manger, the plan unfolds with one little clause, “because there was not room for them in the inn.” God is very good. Just before Passover, during lambing season, shepherds would be “abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.” (Rome speculated Noel was on their miscalculated Sun god's longest night.) Right after the shepherds adoration the Bible records, “when the eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS.” And when the days of HER purification were accomplished they brought him to Jerusalem (the NIV “scholars” said it included HIS purification... infidels). Baby Jesus just missed the wise men in Jerusalem, heads back to Bethlehem, then to Egypt, then Nazareth. All in God's providence. Praise His Name.

An Essay for week #51 12/21/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141221.mp3

Msg #1452 The Grandest Opposition Ever Conceived

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the annals of human history no birth has been more opposed than the Noel just celebrated. Ever since God said that he would put enmity between Satan's seed and woman's seed, Satan has hated male births; ONE would bruise his head. Cain, "who was of that wicked one" (1John 3:12) slew his brother Able, so that the first male born became the first first degree murderer. Satan one, God zero. Satan heard God promise Abram, "And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives... if it be a son, then ye shall kill him" (Exod 1:15). Satan two, God zero. Satan heard God promise David, "And when Athaliah... saw that her son was dead, she arose and destroyed all the seed royal" (2Kings 11:1). Of Athaliah, as vile as mother Jezebel, one could say "Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth" (John 8:44). Satan three, God zero. Remember in this contest, God only needs ONE! Satan contaminates the Davidic line, "Therefore thus saith the LORD of Jehoiakim king of Judah; He shall have none to sit upon the throne of David" (Jer 36:30) God sent his chosen into bondage where Hamon said "If it please the king, let it be written that they may be destroyed" (Est 3:9). God said, "behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son" (Luk 1:31). "Then Herod... was exceeding wroth, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem!" Satan six, God zero. "And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS." God ONE, Satan zero! Suppose Satan is a poor loser? Ask Adolf Hitler.

An Essay for week #52 12/28/2014

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs141221.mp3

Msg #1501 A Man A Plan

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Read backwards the line “A man a plan a canal panama” and you get what you started with. It is called a palindrome. I cannot think about a plan without that line coming to mind. It is called senility. The year 2015 is upon us and we need a plan, a goal, a resolution, a five year schema with several annual achievable objectives. The Kingdom of God does not operate like any kingdom of this world. The twelve disciples and I try to force fit it into achievable resolutions, but Jesus puts it succinctly, “He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal” (John 12:25). In his Kingdom, to save your life you loose it, abundant life comes when we die daily, to gain bread, cast thy bread upon the water, to gain riches, give away all that you have. My plans are more attractive. But he still insists, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit” (vr. 24) His plan does not have a “Purpose Driven” Church, Life or Anything! It is like, “He must increase and I must decrease!” I dare not belittle resolutions, but this year I want to hear Paul beseeching me by the mercies of God, that I present my body a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God. (Rom 12) May I “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus” (Phil 2:5), and let that corn of wheat die, as I quote “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me” (Gal 2:20). Happy New Year.

An Essay for week #1 Jan 4, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150104.mp3

Msg #1502 The Word and Faith

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is a substance of things hoped for. There is an evidence of things not seen. It is both “The Word” that became flesh and dwelt among us, and it is “The Word” which is as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Think of the substance of both. Think of the evidence of both. “The Word”, in each form, is the manifestation of God. The subject of Hebrews eleven is faith. We understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God, and how do we understand that? By the Word of God which communicates it and by “The Word” in the flesh who confirmed it. Note that if we have any measure of faith, we receive it because “faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.” Note also, that if we believe in Jesus Christ, Galatians 2:16 says we believe “by the faith OF Jesus Christ”, it is not my faith. If you use a modernist's bible, they suppose what God meant to say, and their Gal 2:16 takes out the faith OF Jesus Christ, and substitutes our puny faith. It is important to study the Words of God, not modernist copyright words. Hebrews eleven goes on contending that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. Last year Ken Ham of Answers in Genesis debated Bill Nye the Science Guy. Although it was an excellent exercise in apologetics, the Science Guy could not believe! No inerrant Bible, no Christ, no faith. Know an inerrant Bible, know Christ, know faith. For Bill Nye seeing is believing, but for a Christian, believing is seeing, “and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. (Eph 2:8-9) In 2015 let us grow in faith.

An Essay for week #2 Jan 11, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150111.mp3

Msg #1503 Faith and Hope

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Some people have a propensity for the curious; they are students. It is curious that our Lord announces that only three things will abide into His Church's maturity; faith, hope, and charity. Prophesying and speaking in tongues falls amongst the immature. In these "Last Days" the attempted resurrection of the immature things is more disheartening and heretical than curious. But that faith and hope abide together is curious. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. What then is hope? Peter instructs saints to always be ready to give an answer for the hope that is in you, but Job, in the pits of despair said "All hope is lost", yeah indeed, he said that God himself took it away from him (Job 7:6, 17:15, 19:10). In Matthew 8:28-34 the only hope of hogs, and some men, is comfort, food and health. But in his dialogue Job words the supreme hope of a believer, "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another; though my reins be consumed within me" (Job 19:25-27). Faith and hope unite to bring us salvation (Rom 8:24). Faith carries us through the needs of this life while the believer's hope abides unassuaged by cares of this world. "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity" (1Cor 13:13). Pursue charity, "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear" (1Pet 3:15).

An Essay for week #3 Jan 18, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g150118.mp3

Msg #1504 Charity Suffereth Long and Wrong

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity” (1Cor 13:13). These three instruments of Christianity remain hallmarks of maturity, maturity of his Church, and maturity of his disciples. Consider three things about the greatest of these, charity. First that 1Cor 13 supremely depicts charity. It shows its supreme value (vr.1-3), character (vr.4-7), and endurance (vr8-13). In good English the word “charity” is larger than the word “love,” as much as the Greek word “*agapos*” is larger than “*phileo*.” (see John 21:15a&b) One is selfless, the other still holds some measure of selfish. This chapter delineates the purest and most selfless of Godly love, and it is rightly translated “charity.” Second, consider that charity motivates our action. The believer is to be the ambassador for Christ, with a ministry of reconciliation (2Cor5:20, 17-19). In 2Cor 5 Paul describes why we labor for Christ while still in the flesh. These motivations seem to follow a progression of maturity: #1 “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ” (vr.10), #2 “Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord” (vr. 11), and #3 “For the love of Christ constraineth us” (vr.14). What does this love constrain us to do? To preach the gospel to every creature. Lastly, consider that charity tells who we are. “A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another.... By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.... If ye love me keep my commandments.... This is my commandment, that ye love one another as I have loved you.... Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you” (John 13:34-35, 14:15, 20:15:12-14). The pure love of Christ indwells us, involves us, and identifies us. Awesome!

An Essay for week #4 Jan 25, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g150125.mp3

Msg #1505 A Crucible Called Marriage

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The epistle which answers the most questions about marriage and divorce also provides a list of fifteen characteristics of true love. There is no greater laboratory for testing every one of these fifteen qualities than the institution of marriage. There is no institution better equipped to reveal the depths and purity of God's love than the Christian home. Some crucial things found when entering this laboratory is that love suffereth long, is not easily provoked, and endureth all things. An entry into marriage is intended to be a full time and a lifetime testing of our ability to demonstrate true love. In marriage love is not a gushy feeling, it is a command of God. And in this laboratory of God's design, a true love grows and develops... or not. Never let it be said in your home, "We drifted apart." Jesus says of his commands, "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Purpose to maintain a Christlike, Christian marriage. The marriage vows only have provision for a love which will endure all things. Marriage vows are sacred vows taken before God and man. Christian marriage vows contain the line, "Until death do us part." They have no prenuptial agreement about another way of ending this arrangement. They require one man and one woman for one lifetime, faithfulness and fidelity. There is a life time commitment in the vow. It also contains the clause, "In sickness and health, for richer or poorer." That is only an introduction to "enduring all things." The full depth of "suffering long" is tested in the crucible of life. It is played out in the bedroom, in the finances and in old family ties of a Christian home. The laboratory where, "enduring all things," is tested, is indeed called marriage.

An Essay for week #5 Feb 1, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50201.mp3

Msg #1506 Purpose and Union for Valentines

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

What the LORD God reveals about our wives is remarkable. What men don't understand about women is remarkable. The value added to the husbands who study what God said is even more remarkable. Allow some remarks on these "remarkables." God gives three reasons why the woman can't do some things which the man is commanded to do. 1Tim. 2:13-15 lists all three reasons. First, "For Adam was first formed, then Eve." 1Cor. 11:9 states this first reason, "Neither was man created for the woman; but the woman for the man." Genesis 1:18 states it, "And the LORD God said, It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him an help (appropriate) for him." Two more reasons given, the woman is designed for mothering (vr. 15) and the helping-mothering design makes women the weaker vessel, more prone to deception. (vr.14,1Pet 3:7) The LORD God said that a man alone is not complete. Husband, the best design for your completion is the little woman you married. It is a pretty sorry man who sets on his hands until his appropriate helper is forced to get out in front and do the leading. The woman is a weaker vessel physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Husbands, the stronger, are to stand up and be the guardian and protector physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Women are different then men. That used to go without saying. The epitome of married life is that God, the three-in-one, designed marriage between man and woman, that these two-in-one could reflect his perfect unity. God's design for your marriage is that the intimate physical union, the secure emotional union, and the God-honoring spiritual union can make your marriage and your home a taste of paradise here on earth. Repair the breaches and have a Happy Valentines Day.

An Essay for week #6 Feb 8, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50208.mp3

Msg #1507 Leadership School

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Every husband is thrust into the role of leadership. When you stand at an altar, and a young lady promises to love, honor, and obey... well, you are now in a leadership position. Moses was enrolled in God's leadership school and husbands are too. How is school going? Husbands are to be God's spokesman in the home, and the family's spokesman before the LORD God. Before Moses could be God's spokesman, 1) he had to stand in the presence of God, 2) he had to hear the words of the LORD God, and 3) he had to personally talk to the LORD God. How many times did Moses go up into the mountain to meet with God? How many times did he stay for forty days? Remember when he came down from talking with God and glowed so bright they put a vail over his head? So, how much time should a leader spend with the LORD God? How much glow do you bring into your home? When Israel chided him about water, bread, or meat, Moses took it to God. God allowed circumstances in Israel's journey, things which drove Moses into God's presence as their intercessor. When calamities of life come, sometimes, God is just waiting for the responsible leader to come into his presence. Military leadership school teaches that a leader must do three things well: 1) He must see the larger picture and always keep the goal in view; 2) He must motivate people to do things they do not ordinarily do; and 3) He must meet the needs of people. In the Christian home, God will take care of those when we confess our need and take care to meet with him daily. It worked well for Moses. So, how IS school going? Keep looking up.

An Essay for week #7 Feb 15, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150215.mp3

Msg #1508 Two Shall Be One

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God, the three-in-one with perfect unity, designed for man, created in his image, a home where man could have two-in-one. The husband and wife are designed and compatible to become one flesh. The part where they become a perfect unity is an ongoing development yielding an ongoing joy. That was always God's intent and it can be fulfilled in Christian marriage. There is nobody on earth who knows you with as much intimacy as your spouse. He knows if you read your Bible this morning. She knows if you prayed.. That is spiritual intimacy. He can hold her hand when it's below zero outside. She can touch his arm when the car doesn't start. That is physical intimacy. He can see her heart at the funeral home. She can know his pain when that application is turned down. That is emotional intimacy. No other human on this globe can know you as your spouse does. Your marriage can be selfish, or it can be selfless. God always intended the latter. Don't let "selfish" rule your home, else you will never get that taste of paradise which God intended. Two made one flesh, with perfect unity, is not only key to a precious marriage, it is key to our union with Christ. In fact marriage is meant to whet our appetite for our perfect union with God. When one is born again they are 1) Converted, 2) Indwelt, 3) Quickened, 4) Justified, and 5) Wholly immersed into Christ (baptized into). Christ describes this as "abide in me and I in you." He prayed the Father that he and I would be one, even as he and the Father are one. Perfect unity in marriage is a marvelous foreshadow. Ain't love grand! Perhaps the gas line is frozen, try some dry-gas.

An Essay for week #8 Feb 22, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150222.mp3

Msg #1509 Jesus Our Perfect Example

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God was made flesh and dwelt among us for only one reason, but while he was in the flesh he gave a perfect example of how we can live. Jesus was our example in five particulars. 1) Growth, “Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man”(Luke 2:52). His four-fold growth is our example. Some of us have grown to large in stature, and need to focus on less artificial sweetener, preservatives, and color-enhancers in our growth of stature! When you stop growing you start dying, and Christians are appointed to more abundant life. 2) Witness, John 4 records that “Jesus must needs go through Samaria,” and details Jesus' longest soul-winning conversation. It is an example for being a good witnesses. 3) Prayer, Luke 11 finds disciples asking, “Teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples.” How often did Jesus pray? He had a place of prayer, a practice of prayer, a position of prayer and a propensity for prayer. If the Son of God in the flesh needed prayer, what of me? Men ought always to pray and not to faint (Luke 18:1). 4) Ministry, “He poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples feet...For I have given you an example”(John 13:5,15). Abraham and Mary Magdalene washed the feet of God, Mary with tears. The Holy Bible does not establish foot washing as an ordinance, but Jesus established it as an example of ministering to others. Walk in his steps. And 5) Love, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends”(John 15:13). Jesus is our example to grow, witness, pray, minister, and love. There is no greater example, but despite what Barack Hussein and the Muslims say, that is still not why he came.

An Essay for week #9 Mar 1, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150301.mp3

In Nook format at <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/ppulpit/biblesays15.pdf>

Msg #1510 Christ Our Perfect Passover Lamb

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christians rarely give sufficient weight to God's portrait of the Passover Lamb. "...For even Christ our passover is sacrificed for us" (1Cor 5:7). Details of the Passover Lamb are given in Exodus 12; the commemoration feast in its honor in Leviticus 23 and Numbers 9. The Passover Lamb's blood, when applied in obedience, removed the condemnation of death from a house . "... when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you..." (Exod 12:13). The lamb was separated from the flocks on the 10th of the month Abib; ours was on a Palm Sunday. It was kept out for five days to insure it was without blemish; ours was examined from Sunday to Thursday. On the 14th of the month "the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening" (12:6); ours was slain on the 14th, on an old rugged cross. The next day was a high holy day, a sabbath, with a holy "convocation," i.e. assembling and reading, beginning a seven day feast of unleavened bread. When we apply his blood to the door post of our heart, we pass from death unto life, we enter into his sabbath rest, and we unite with his holy "convocation," called a "Church," i.e. a called out and assembled together body of believers. We purge out leaven as instructed in 1Cor 5:6-8. We forsake not the assembling of ourselves together on the first day of the week when God rose our Passover Lamb from the dead and made him our only mediator and High Priest. That is only a quick glance of God's portrait of a Passover Lamb. Dust off those 39 books of the Old Testament, they have a depth and resolution which can make your heart rejoice.

An Essay for week #10 Mar 8, 2015

Msg not in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio

In Nook format at <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/ppulpit/biblesays15.pdf>

Msg #1511 Christ Our Perfect High Priest

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Without the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ we would have no High Priest to atone for our sin, and no mediator to stand between us and God. I have heard a hundred sermons on the importance of the resurrection. For me all reasons pale before our need of a High Priest. When Christ, God incarnate, died as my Passover Lamb, he cried, "It is finished," and he bowed his head and gave up the ghost. Even though, at this point, he fulfilled the role of a Passover Lamb, i.e. he died "for" us, he had not yet purged our sins. The epistle to the Hebrews states, "When he had by himself purged our sins, (he) sat down on the right hand of the majesty on high" (Heb 1:3b). "It is finished," applied to his role as our Passover Lamb; in his role as our high priest he had to take the Lamb's blood into the most holy place and sprinkle it on the ark of the covenant. There was a physical ark containing the covenant with Israel, but that ark was only made after the pattern of the one residing in heaven (Exod 25:9). The resurrected Christ took His blood to the actual throne of God and sprinkled it on the ark of the covenant. Recall how the resurrected Lord told Mary Magdalene, "Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father" (John 20:17). In like manner, the high priest was not to be touched as he brought the sacrificial atoning blood into the most holy place on the Day of Atonement. God did not put more into his Old Testament imagery than he could fulfill in his Only Begotten Son. When he purged our sin with his blood, he did it as our High Priest.

An Essay for week #11 Mar 15, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150315.mp3

Msg #1512 Spiritual Warfare

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In his first epistle, the Apostle Paul writes, "I marvel that ye are so soon removed from him that called you into the grace of Christ unto another gospel." There is still cause to marvel about that peril. When one gets born-again, under-the-blood, I-am-redeemed-saved the Holy Spirit of God indwells them and leads them into all truth. The believers at Galatia, however, had a more powerful leading which they readily followed; causing Paul to marvel. All religion misleads; it detracts from the grace of Christ. In Galatia the detractor was Judaism and works of the law. Today, predominately Romanism and works of penance, priests, and predestination. That leaven, the three "P"s of the corrupt Latin Vulgate, leavened into every Protestant denomination, and they ardently preach another gospel, which is not another. Infant baptism, confirmation classes, robed clergy with backward collars, yoga classes to improve Karma, Five pillars of Islam... all religion is in opposition to the grace of Christ. True Christianity is not progressive. A reformed denomination of the "Christian Religion" may adopt homosexual marriage while the world applauds their inclusiveness, but true Christianity is what Paul preached throughout all of the wicked city of Corinth in A.D. 60. "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scripture; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures... Therefore whether it were I or they, so we preach, and so ye believed." (1Cor15:3-4,11) Again, "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died FOR us" (Rom5:8) It is not religion, it is a relationship; only received by the substitutionary death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Flee apostasy, preach repentance.

An Essay for week #12 Mar 22, 2015

A msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50322.mp3
 In Tablet format at <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/ppulpit/biblesays15.pdf>

Msg #1513 This Week Know Your Friend

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Palm Sunday marks a Christian's calendar with an importance that disciples explore enthusiastically. For Israel, on the tenth day of Abib, the passover lamb was separated from the flock and watched until the fourteenth day of the month. It was to be without spot or blemish. Our Lord Jesus Christ was separated from the rest on Palm Sunday. He taught daily in the temple and prayed daily with his disciples. He purged the temple of money changers on Sunday and again on Monday. He wept over Jerusalem, and cursed a fig tree. He taught parables and his authority angered the Scribes and Pharisees. There was a widows mite, an Olivet discourse, and a friends betrayal. On the fourteenth day of the month they crucified him. He died as our Passover Lamb. In those days of examination Jesus said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Our friend walked through these four days in full public view. Each day and each event is carefully recorded for a disciple's study. Such detail is hidden from Rome. It cannot be seen by Protestants with Good Friday leftovers. But for the believers who reject her traditions and open his pages, there is wealth and wisdom about a friend which sticketh closer than a brother. Religionists go to a Roman Good Friday celebration, Bible students go to a midweek prayer meeting and remember the last supper in his presence. "A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity" (Pr 17:17). "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother" (18:24). "Thine own friend, and thy father's friend, forsake not" (27:10a). Let Jesus be your closest friend on this most precious week.

An Essay for week #13 Mar 29, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150329.mp3

Msg #1514 Resurrection After Three Days

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain” (1Cor15:3-4). TV-2 News announced last week that “some” Christians believe that Jesus rose from the dead on Easter. To be accurate “ALL” Christians believe that 19 centuries ago, on the Sunday after Passover, the Christ arose from the dead. Believe less and you are not Christian at all. Most believe more. Some believe it all. The Lord Jesus Christ said, “I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die” (John11:25-26). The gospel message of Christianity is, “that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures; and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the Scriptures (not the second day as Rome contends): And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve” (1Cor15:3-5). Students of the Holy Bible know that the day after Passover was a sabbath day, and that sabbath days are not just on Saturdays. Again Jesus said, “For as Jonas was three days and three nights in the whale's belly; so shall the Son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth” (Matt12:39, cf 16:4, Lu11:29). Luke 24:21 says, “and beside all this, today is the third day since these things were done.” Again, Jesus said, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19) Three days in the tomb is important to a Bible believer: not so much to Roman dogma or TV-2 news. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, makes three days.

An Essay for week #14 Apr 5, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150405.mp3Tablet or phone at <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/ppulpit/biblesays15.pdf>

Msg #1515 The Un-Copyright Book of Books

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It would take only 70 hours to read all sixty-six books of the Book of books. Reading aloud all 1,189 chapters would have an impact on your faith; faith cometh by hearing. Forty-four authors wrote all 31,101 verses over a period of 1,600 years. These 8,674 distinct Hebrew words combining with the 5,624 distinct Greek words, which translate into 12,143 distinct English words bear witness in perfect harmony of one God in one continuous story. That miraculous story is about one person and his perfect work: Christ redeems mankind from the clutches of sin. Forty four authors writing one story over a period of 1,600 years is an unanswerable proof of the divine inspiration of the Holy Bible, the Book of books. But that truth is under diabolical attack and always has been. The devil's lie, accepted and believed by the vast majority of "Christendom," is that God was unable to preserve his inspired words. The lie contended that ill begotten "Church Fathers" inserted all kinds of errors into the Holy Bible, and that copiests messed it up so bad that there is presently no inerrant, infallible, inspired Bible. All "Christendom" is now thrust into a quagmire of copyright bibles each claiming to fix God's blunder. Satan laughs as clergy and pews recite his lie, "No one really knows what the Bible says but my favorite (copyright) version says... " Satan is the author of confusion. It is a shame that so few believers see this travesty. The attached article clarifies his tactic and the copyright boondoggle rather succinctly. Ask yourself, "What is Truth?" Then ask, "Who owns its copyright?"

An Essay for week #15 Apr 12, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150412.mp3

Msg #1515 Addendum on Copyright Considerations

It is meaningful to step back and look at the larger deception that is in place in the modern church. There are hundreds of bible version out there. Each version is copyright and must, by law say something “significantly different” from any other copyright version. They cannot just say the same thing in a different way, they must have a “significantly different” presentation of material. Hundreds of bible version presenting hundreds of version of what God meant to say produces such a fractured authority that nobody really knows the answer to Pilate's question, “What is truth?” (John 18:38). Every one is thereby allowed to make up their own “interpretation” whereby their distinct personal version of a verse is as valid as anyone else's version.

Case in point, after Pilate's question, “What is truth?”, his next declaration, exactly translated from the Greek, was “I find in him no fault at all.” But copyright requires that quote to change.

Perhaps he said, “I cannot find **anything wrong about** him.”, as copyright by James A.R. Moffatt D.D., D.LITT., in his 1950 *The Bible – A New Translation*. But Dr. Moffatt was also thinking that Pilate asked “What does truth mean?”, instead of “What is truth?”

Or was it “I find **no guilt** in him”, as copyright by The Lockman Foundation, California in their 1960 NASB (NASB is a registered trademark of the same, standing for the New American Standard Version).

Or was it, “For my part, I find **no case against** him”, as copyright by the Syndics of the Cambridge University Press in their 1961 NEB (NEB is a registered trademark of the same, standing for the New English Bible).

Or was it “I find **no crime** in him”, as copyright by the World Publishing Company in their 1962 RSV (RSV is a registered trademark of the same, standing for Revised Standard Version).

Or was it “I cannot find **any reason to condemn** him”, as copyright by the American Bible Society in their 1966 Good News

Bible- Today's English Version.

Or was it “Speaking for myself, I find **no case** against this man”, as copyright by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in Washington D.C. in their 1970 NAB (NAB is a registered trademark of the same, standing for New American Bible).

Or was it “I find no **basis for a charge against** him”, as copyright by the New York Bible Society International in their 1973 NIV (NIV is a registered trademark of the same, standing for New International Version).

Or was it “I don't find this man **guilty of anything!**”, as copyright by the American Bible Society in their 1995 CEV (CEV is a registered trademark of the same, standing for Contemporary English Version).

Or was it “I find **no guilt** in him”, as copyright by Crossway in their 2001 ESV (ESV is a registered trademark of the same, standing for English Standard Version).

Many will read all these copyright renditions and repeat Hillary Rodham Clinton's line “What possible difference could it make anyhow!” They might continue, “Pilate found nothing wrong with the dude!” Two important observations on these multiple renditions. First, words are important. Many of the words added by these translators are not represented at all in the Greek New Testament³. Further, the word used in the Greek, and consequently in the Authorized King James Bible, is exactly the word used to describe the Old Testament passover lamb and/or sin sacrifice which was to be without **fault** or blemish. But that exact word is carefully avoided by all modern versions. The wide variations in Pilate's modernized declaration certainly come from copyright considerations, but they also show a “fault” in them which is even more diabolical.

3 Even the corrupted Westcott and Hort Greek text, based on the corrupted Alexandrian Egypt manuscripts, copyright 1966, by The United Bible Societies of the USA, agrees with the Greek Received Text (The Textus Receptus) in this instance, in this verse.

Msg #1516 The Book of Books

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Book of Books is the greatest English literature ever written and banished from our government schools. Great literature contains a prologue and an epilogue. God's prologue is called the Pentateuch, and God's epilogue is called the Revelation of Jesus Christ. The theme of the whole Bible is Jesus Christ the righteous. The Old Testament is his 'Preparation', the four Gospels are his 'Manifestation', the Acts of the Apostles his 'Propagation', the twenty-one Epistles his 'Explanation', and the Revelation is his 'Culmination'. God's prologue is a most enlightening study. Genesis is man's creation in the image of God, and his fall from that position. It emphasizes man's depravity and oncoming perpetual punishment. But Noah found grace, Abram a calling, and Israel made his way into Egypt for 400 years. Exodus is redemption, tabernacling with God, and the law of God (given in 1492). Leviticus depicts the absolute righteousness of God and Numbers the deplorable failures of man to follow God. In Deuteronomy Moses, the great prophet, steps back and looks at the big picture to conclude that mankind needs the Great Prophet, Everlasting Priest, and Eternal King. In good literature everything in the body is introduced in the prologue and summarized in the epilogue. What a genuine theme! The preparation for the Messiah is made up of history, poetry and prophecy which declares "Thus saith the LORD." But God's word to Moses is pretty emphatic, "The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken... And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him" (Deut18:15,19). It is a limited offer: Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #16 Apr 19, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g150419.mp3

Msg #1517 The Eastern Religions

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When God makes a move, Satan makes a counter move. In 2350 BC “it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth” (Gen 6:6). A hundred years later, in 2250BC, after Noah's descendents said, “Go to, let us build a city,” God said, “Go to, let us go down, and there confound their languages” (Gen 11:4,7). Four hundred years later, in 1850 BC, the LORD secured his promised land to Isaac. At the same time, Satan appeared to a Persian named Zoroaster and revealed himself as an equal twin of the LORD. Zoroastrianism is the basis for the eastern religions. In 1492 BC, less than 400 years later, while God was giving his Law to Moses on Mount Sinai, Satan was developing his precepts in the religious culture of India. Hinduism has a triune godhead; '*Brahma*' as Creator, '*Vishnu*' as Preserver, and '*Shiva*' as Destroyer. The father of lies always twists the truth of the LORD God. His true trinity was revealed to the Hebrews, from the line of Seth. Hinduism and Indian culture also supposed that the 'most holy people' sprang from the head of '*Manu*', the first created man. 'Rulers and warriors' came from his hands, 'craftsman' came from his legs, and 'base servants' came from his feet. To move up this caste system you must do *yoga* exercises and maintain good *karma* in your present level. Then, after death, perhaps you will be reincarnated into an upper level; eventually reaching the ultimate *Nirvana*, where your soul is emancipated from ignorance. Satan always counterfeits God, but the caste system was such a cultural blunder, that in 500 BC, Satan sent an '*enlightened one*', or '*Buddah*' to reform the whole complex cynical thing. Thus Buddhism spread on further to the East. I'm glad I'm in Christ.

An Essay for week #17 Apr 26, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g150419.mp3

Msg #1517b The Eastern Religions Cont.

What The Bible Says

While Satan was occupied trying to destroy the seed line of the promised Messiah, the Christ, things seemed to proceed in the East driven only by the depravity of man. For almost a thousand years, from Mount Sinai's giving of the Word of God in 1492 BC, to the Assyrian dispersion of Israel in 721 BC⁴, and then the remnant of Judah being carried into the Babylonian captivity in 597 BC⁵, Satan was preoccupied in God's promised land. The nations of the world were spreading from the 2250 BC Tower of Babel debacle, and some crossed the Himalaya Mountains. Across that isolating barrier the Chinese became a most barbaric people. There are accounts of barbarous slaughterings of 60,000 and even 400,000 men women and children; it was an immoral society, in need of reformation. The rise of an enlightened one named Confucius, brought in a humanist moral code. For centuries Confucianism had no hallmarks of a religion: it taught of no creator, worship, or afterlife. It did not deal with the questions "Where did I come from?", "Why am I here?", and "Where am I going?": these are the subjects of God's revelation, and thus the subjects of a true religion. Steering away from these subjects reveals who gave the light and insight to Confucius, "and no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light" (2Cor11:14). One more Eastern Religion which sprang from this traverse through the Himalayas is Shintoism. The nation which escaped through the barbarity of China settled on an Island called Japan. It is thus conceivable why they worship their homeland. Thus the core of Eastern Religions, Hinduism and its protestant reformation of Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintoism, did not come from the revelation of the LORD God.

Another Essay for week #17 Apr 26, 2015

4 Rice, Edward G., "The Chronology of the Kings of Israel", Public Domain 2010, <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/timeline>

5 Ibid.

Msg #1518 Three New AD Religions

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Religions are man made systems for dealing with four questions, 1) Where did I come from? 2) Why am I here? 3) Where am I going after death? and 4) How do I get there? God deals with these questions in a 66 book revelation of truth, but Satan orchestrated six man made answers, three in BC religions, and three in AD religions. Hinduism and its Protestant reformation Buddhism, Confucianism, and Shintoism are the primary Eastern Religions from BC. And after Christ bruised Satan's head via the Cross on Calvary three primary AD religions were used to try and stomp out Christianity. When Judaism rejected their Messiah their laws and sacrificial system which pointed to the first Advent of Christ, became hollow and baseless. Their diabolical nature was made obvious when they wanted to kill the resurrected Lazarus as well as the Christ who resurrected him. They plotted the destruction of Christianity until their barbaric annihilation by Titus in 70 AD. Then, 300 years later Emperor Constantine the Great forced everyone in the Roman Empire to convert to what he called "Christianity." The mongrel Roman pagan "Christianity" called Catholicism has deceived millions with its diabolical subtleties. When the Roman Emperor empowered the Roman Church to take over Christianity they 1) Thought they were the New Jerusalem and called Millennialists heretics, 2) Thought the Bible was allegorical and only pious "Clergy" should read and interpret God's secret hidden sayings, and 3) Thought men in black robes could be priests and intercessors for the ignorant masses they called "laity." When Protestants finally protested about Rome selling indulgences they kept these primary errors completely intact. Don't believe it? Just ask your baby baptizing, robed clergy, SHE won't either. The "Church," whether Roman or Protestant, is apostate and opposing Christ, just like their founder.

An Essay for week #18 May 3, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50419.mp3

Msg #1518b Three New AD Religions Cont.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The third man made religion orchestrated by Satan, and intent on annihilating Christianity, was started 300 years after his Roman Catholic religion failed at the task. Islam, which means '*submission*' would most surely eliminate Christianity. For all Arabs, Muhammad, Islam's human founder born around 570 AD, rejected Catholicism because they worshiped Mary as a god. (*Qur'an surah 5:119*) Muslim's confession of faith states, "I bear witness that there is no god but Allah, and Muhammad is the prophet of Allah." A *Muslim* is by definition, "one who submits to the majesty and will of Allah." By Muhammad's own admission demons gave him the words for his Koran, and he established a socio-economic-political-militant-religious system designed to take over the world. He pictured Judaism as a restful oasis in mankind's journey, Christianity as a larger, lovely oasis, and Islam as the Supreme oasis. Muslims were forbidden to leave the supreme oasis, and those who settled in an inferior one must be compelled to move on to Islam. Satan's Islamic invasion has not gone as planned. At Muhammad's death in 632 AD there was no assigned successor. The questions of who will be the spiritual and socio-political leader, or '*Caliph*', would cause more division and blood shed in Islam than any other issue. The *Sufis* thought any qualified companion of the prophet eligible, the *Sunnis* required the new *Caliph* be Aristocracy of Mecca, and the *Shi'a* insisted that Allah himself would divinely appoint the next leader, and they knew it was, 'Ale, the cousin and son-in-law of Muhammed. In Islam *Jihad* was thus expanded; it started as "struggle against and slaughter of the infidels", now it included slaughter of the contenders for leadership as well. It is not radicalized Muslims who insist on *Jihad*, it is fundamental to the core of Islam!

Another Essay for week #18 May 3, 2015

Msg #1519 Practice Pure Religion Religiously

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

To reiterate, there is NO religion which can put one in a right relationship with the LORD God their Creator. The ONLY way to make that relationship right is through accepting, out loud, the substitutionary death of Christ in your stead (Rom10:9-10,13). Once you have that relationship right, once you are born again, there are some things that should be done '*religiouly*.' "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world" (James1:27). The new commandment given to the believer is to have a renewed selflessness, to have a renewed love for others, to envelope the compassion of Christ into our very being. That will heighten a new awareness of the fatherless and widows in their affliction; they are all around us. Bev and I sought out 'buskids' for fifteen years while I was a youth pastor here and there in our military career. Today there are an innumerable host of fatherless in our society. Sometimes there's a "father" in the house, and sometimes he is the "husband" of the mom. Just the same our society is overrun with the practically fatherless. They need to see the compassion of Christ in you. Buskids are not as common as they used to be in our Baptist Churches. Shame on us. Single moms rearing children are everywhere. Pure religion is ministering to the afflicted, and keeping yourself unspotted from the world. "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God" (Le20:7), and again "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1Pe1:15-16). Practice pure religion religiously.

An Essay for week #19 May 10, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50510.mp3

Msg #1520 When I See the Blood.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This week our evangelist taught that Christ is the focal point of Scripture, redemption is its theme, but the blood is the basis, or foundation upon which it all rests. “For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works serve the living God? ... and without the shedding of blood is no remission” (Heb9:13,14,22). “By his own blood ... having obtained eternal redemption for us.” (verse 12). Exodus 12 details the passover lamb and declares, “When I see the blood, I will pass over you” (verse 13). The blood is your purchase price; “Ye are not your own... for ye are bought with a price” (1Cor6:19-20). Luke writes Paul's charge to “feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts20:28). You are purchased like a slave, bought from the slavery of sin; “Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin.... If the Son therefore shall make you free ye shall be free indeed” (John8:34,36). The blood purchases forgiveness: “In (Jesus Christ) we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins” (Eph1:7). The blood washes us clean, like a shower after hard labor in the hay field. “(Jesus Christ) that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood” (Rev1:5). It is the blood that cleanseth us from all sin (1John1:7). “Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood” (Rom3:25). His blood is indeed the basis for all that a Christian has. Praise His Holy name.

An Essay for week #20 May 17, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50517.mp3

Msg #1521 Seven No-Mores or Forevermores

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Jesus said, "I go to prepare a place for you", and we say that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. There is another prepared place, for in Matthew 25 he said to those gathered on his left hand in the judgment of nations, "Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels." It is not a popular truth, but their everlasting fire is just as everlasting as our everlasting life. The saved are going to be snatched from this world in a resurrected body; "Wherefore comfort one another with these words" (1Thes 4:18), but there is no comfort or Comforter for the last soul; "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them... and they shall not escape" (1Thes 5:3). To the saved Jesus says, "Enter thou into the joy of the lord" (Matt 25:21b) but for the unsaved he declares, "cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matt 25:30). For us, "In thy presence is fullness of joy... pleasure for evermore" (Psalm 16:11), for those in hell there is absence of joy, and pain forevermore. We will be in a place of beauty, a city foursquare with twelve gates, twelve foundations and streets of purest gold (Rev 21), they will be in a place of darkness with eternal fire and brimstone (Rev 21). We will be in an incorruptible body that has put on immortality (1Cor 15:54); they, "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched (Mark 9:44, 46, 48) (Not in an NIV). In heaven there will be seven '*no-mores*' (Rev 21:4, 25, 22:3). In hell seven '*forevermores*' (Rev 21:8b). Whether saved or unsaved, you should carefully consider John 3:16-18 and 36.

An Essay for week #21 May 24, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50524.mp3

Msg #1522 The Unrighteous Are Without Excuse

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

One of the most thorough dissertations in the Holy Bible declares its theme in two sentences, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. For therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith” (Romans 1:16-17). We have outlined what the soul-winner calls the “Romans Road” from this revelation, and sometimes forget that the theme of Romans is not the gospel and its salvation, from this first sentence, but the Righteousness of God from the second. Three things about the gospel that one should never shame or shun are listed; 1) the gospel is the power of God unto salvation, it is not the power of logic, philosophy, or reason; 2) The gospel reveals the righteousness of God and that the unrighteous can only attain his righteousness by faith in His faithfulness, i.e. from faith to faith; and 3) That the unrighteous are without excuse. Some have tried to shame the gospel because a soul from the darkest jungles of the Amazon, or the darkest jungles of Chicago, might never hear the the gospel message and “unfairly” be cast into the eternal flames of hell forever. God is, however, righteous in such a case, because of the next sentence, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them” (Romans 1:18,19). The unrighteous, no matter which jungle they live in, are thus, as God puts it, “without excuse” (cf. verse 20).

An Essay for week #22 May 31, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150531.mp3

Msg #1523 The Stairway to God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 1:21-25 portrays a spiraling stairway leading away from the LORD God. America has taken all seven steps down, and is now languishing in the moral deprivation at the bottom. All nations, and all humans, begin at the top. All know of God's eternal power and Godhead, because that which may be known of God is manifest in them. Jesus Christ the righteous "was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world," he tries the reins of every man's heart, and they are without excuse (John 1:9, Jer17:10, Rom 1). God does not believe in atheists. So every individual and every nation begins on the top step, then they make their descent. The seven steps are these, "Because that, when (1) they knew God, (2) they glorified him not as God, (3) neither were thankful; but (4) became vain in their imaginations, and (5) their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, (6) they became fools, And (7) changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds and four footed beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness . . ." This stairway leads away from God, down into base immorality, but if you get turned around facing up, it also contains the steps back into the presence of God. You can find your location on that stairway. Put a "You Are Here" pin on it, and make particular note which way you are facing, up or down. That works for your kids too. Going up the steps would require that we 7) Worship the Creator, 6) Seek Truth, 5) Receive Christ - the Light, 4) Set aside vanities, 3) Be thankful, 2) Glorify God, and 1) KNOW God. Awesome.

An Essay for week #23 Jun 7, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150607.mp3

Msg #1524 Got A Spiritual Birth Day?
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Being born again involves a second birth. It is a spiritual birth, but Jesus parallels it to our physical birth because we can understand that. In a SBC I met a deacon who “never had a head-on collision with God, he just believed a little, and over the 20 years of involvement in Church, he eventually came to believe it all.” Jesus was clear, “Except ye be converted... ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven” (Matt18:3). Conversion is, “Repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts 20:21). And Jesus was emphatic, “I tell you, nay: but except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3,5). I have known women who spent 20 hours in labor before a birth, but a birth, spiritual or physical, cannot take 20 years! A physical birth is relatively instantaneous and you have a birth DAY. Your spiritual birth day is even more instantaneous. Our “Conversion” initiates three instantaneous things, 1) Quickening, 2) Indwelling, and 3) Immersion into Christ (transliterated from Greek as *baptized* but here requiring NO water.) These three, accomplished in a soul bring about “Justification” (Gal 2:16, 3:24). The day before you get saved, you are headed for a well deserved eternal hell. Jesus calls it your second death. (Rev 2:11, 20:6,14, 21:8) The day after your spiritual birth you are headed for an undeserved eternal life, and there will never be a second death. In Haiti we worshiped with many who had no idea when they were born, just the same they knew they were. I don't know the date for my spiritual birth, but I know the day. If you don't have a spiritual birthday, if you never had a head-on collision with God, if repentance toward God is foreign to you, be afraid (Phil 2:12).

An Essay for week #24 Jun 14, 2015
Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50614.mp3

Msg #1525 Meekness on Fathers Day

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth” (Num12:3). When it comes to honoring and remembering our fathers, meekness is a commodity that rarely gets bragged up. It is one that is not found in our original nature. If you have it, it was grown (or beaten) into you by your environment, or it came as a “fruit of the Spirit of God” (Gal 5:23). The apple tree only gets fruit when filled with sap. The born-again believer in our Lord Jesus Christ gets it when they are filled with the Holy Ghost. Consider, for a moment, this fruit called meekness. It means showing patience and humility, easily imposed on, submissive. Consider the context where Moses' meekness is hallmarked. Miriam and Aaron had just slandered his wife and rejected his authority to be God's prophet. It was their selfish power grab, they wanted to be in charge. The LORD God issued a just punishment, head to toe leprosy! But Moses interceded: “And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.” (vr. 13) Another striking example of meekness is found in King David. Abishai wanted to lop off Shimei's head, and he could have. I would be on his side here, but David said to Abishai and to all his servants, “Let him alone and let him curse; for the LORD hath bidden him” (2Sam 16). That is meekness. The Apostle Peter, of all people, says we should walk in Jesus' steps and display his meekness. “Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not” (1Peter 2:21,23) When facing the calamities of life, fathers need meekness... I guess we all do.

An Essay for week #25 Jun 21, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150621.mp3

Msg #1526 Sodomy is now the law of the land

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Last week the Supreme Court of the United States decided, five-to-four, that sodomy (the word is in the dictionary with graphic detail) is an acceptable alternate lifestyle. Sodomy has been immoral and outlawed in societies for over six-thousand years of human history. It was outlawed here just twenty years ago. So why did five justices disagree with four and declare that sodomy is the new approved law of the land? Why did our president, Barack Hussein Obama, rejoice that this approval of sodomy “makes us a more perfect union?” The answer is in the contemporary world-view of the progressive liberal. Since we humans evolved here from animals, they say, and the governments we create are evolving to a new world order, they say, we must keep “progressing” on to new levels, they say. We are moving away from the dark ages, they say, and it is an evolving progress, they say. If you oppose their evolving progress, you are surnamed “Hate-Speech.” The right wing, they say, want to take us back to the dark ages. In America, due to incessant brainwashing of each generation, the “they say” in this world view, outnumber the Creationists. Bible believing Creationists have no sympathy for an evolutionary hypothesis. It is clear, however, that the “they” who think themselves progressively evolving to these higher levels, will soon be a full majority. Karl Marx (1818-1883), Vladimir Lenin, (1870-1924) and Joseph Stalin (1878-1953) portrayed this evolution in government as a progression from a monarch, to a republic with capitalism, to a democracy with socialism, to pure socialism, and finally to communism. It is getting like Sodom and Gomorrah around here, but our Lord Jesus Christ did not say to march on Washington, he said “preach the gospel to every creature.” Even to those in homosexual sin.

An Essay for week #26 Jun 28, 2015

Msg #1527 Life Changing Trials

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When a man looks straight down the gun barrel of his mortality, it forever changes his perspective on life. One of the greatest joys, and greatest frustrations, of a youth pastor is dealing with people who think themselves invincible. When Peter spent the night on death row, he walked out a changed Apostle. Herod, in Acts 12, had killed James the brother of John with the sword, and saw that this pleased the Jews. His intent was to give them an even grander pleasure the next day: the public execution of the outspoken Apostle Peter. When God opened prison doors and set the captive free, the miracle is sometimes dwarfed because preachers want to emphasize the prayer meeting in this chapter. Look what happened to Peter. He was sleeping comfortably, content to die for Christ, when the angel of the Lord kicked him in the side and said, "Arise up quickly!" Luke eloquently records the many miracles and the dreamy stupor of Peter. Then he writes, "And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the Lord hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me..." Sometimes we do not know things for sure until he takes us through the near death trials. Twenty years later, Peter wrote what I call the Know-Grow-Shew-and-Go series in his first epistle. It starts, "Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.... Forasmuch as ***ye know that*** ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation ... But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1Peter 1:16,18) God will save you till you know it, and change you till you shew it. Don't wait for your mortality to come in view.

An Essay for week #27 Jul 5, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50705.mp3

Msg #1528 Militant Fundamentalists

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

At the turn of the 19th century, as apostasy seeped into the Church, a fundamental line was drawn. One hundred years later that fundamental line needs to be dusted off, sort of like an umpire brushes the edges of home plate. Back then those within the lines were deemed Christian, and those who ventured outside the fundamentals were deemed apostate. The conference in Buffalo NY defined five primary points of doctrine which must be adhered to by true Christians. A compromise of any of these doctrines would label a group as apostate to true Christianity. Clear lines are good, especially in a diverse, gray world, filled with mixed multitudes. Today these lines should be dusted off in every congregation. Paul said in 2Cor 6, “What part hath he that believeth with an infidel” (verse 15b)? An infidel might reject, 1) the trinity; or 2) the inerrant, infallible, plenary verbal inspiration of Scripture; or 3) the doctrine of Christ, to include (a) the incarnation = Christ was God in the flesh, (b) the virgin birth = God is Christ's physical father, (c) Christ's sinless life = he was the spotless Lamb of God, (d) Christ's death, burial, and resurrection = the gospel of 1Cor 15, and (e) Christ's substitutionary atonement and propitiation for our sins = “While we were yet sinners, Christ died *for* us.” An infidel might reject 4) personal salvation by conversion alone, that is repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts20:21); or 5) the reality of a literal (not allegorical) second coming of Christ, a literal heaven and a literal hell. Rejecting any of these five fundamentals still makes one an infidel to Christianity. Separating from infidels makes one a fundamentalist. Calling them out makes one militant. Today we need more unashamed militant fundamentalists.

An Essay for week #28 Jul 12, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50712.mp3

Msg #1529 What's a BAPTIST?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The perpetuity of the Church that Jesus built, his *ecclesia*, the local called-out and assembled body of believers, is an encouragement to true Baptists. For 1,985 years an unbroken line of Churches held common doctrines that made eight long term distinctives. They always believed in the authority of the inerrant, infallible, inspired Scriptures. The Bible was their sole authority for all faith and practice. They practiced autonomy of each local body, never acknowledging any denominational authority. Certainly knowing no pope, archbishop, or presbyters to edict their rules; always autonomous and independent. This continuous line of Churches had no priests; good Bible doctrine establishes the priesthood of all believers. They had only two ordinances, which were never called mysteries or sacraments. They practiced individual soul liberty and had only saved baptized members in their local assemblies. They recognized only two offices in their Church and had no boards to steer them. And, they knew the importance of keeping separate from rules of empires, magistrates, and governments. This long line of local autonomous Churches still exists today, and they will until Jesus comes. Then he meets them in the clouds before the great tribulation period when his wrath is poured out on this world. The Church that Jesus built, the true Church, has a branch near you. Flee the apostasy, flee the denominationalism and get into His true autonomous, independent, Bible believing Church. If you are in one, review these distinctives and its foundation. B is for Bible, A is for autonomous, P is for priesthood, T is for two ordinances, I is for individuals, S is for saved members, T is for two offices, and S is for separation. What does it spell? BAPTISTS. Oh, if you don't have these distinctives, kindly take that acronym off your Church sign.

An Essay for week #29 Jul 19, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150719.mp3

Msg #1530 What Can a Remnant Do?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The LORD God explains seven things that he wants his remnant to do as they are held in a heathen nation. He tells them to settle down and dwell there (Jer29:5). Jesus tells us to be in the world, but not of the world (John17:10-17). “Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him” (1John2:15). The song writer puts it, “This world is not my home I'm justa passen thru.” God tells them to reproduce (Jer29:6). A wise believer is a soul-winner. Ergo they would be wise to chain reference Psalm126:6 with Proverbs11:30, Daniel 12:3 and James 5:20, even to memorize them. The remnant dwelling in a heathen land were told to intercede for it and pray for their peace (Jer29:7). So too are believers in their plight, “I exhort...that supplications, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority” (1Tim2:1-2a). Further, believers are told, “If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men” (Rom12:17-21). Fourth, the remnant are to refuse false teachers. Galatians1:6-9, 1John 2, and 4 tell believers, “let them be accursed.” The remnant are told to have hope, their captivity will soon end, and they will be restored to their Promised Land in Jerusalem (Jer29:10-11). Well, 1Corinthians 15, 1Thessalonians 4, and Revelation 4, all reveal that Bible believers will soon hear a trumpet say “Come up hither.” Then, in a moment, Christians will be gone. Two more things for his remnant, then and now, seek him with all your heart (Jer29:12-14) and expose the liars on every side (Jer29:21-22, 31-32). Believers need to be about their Father's business. The USA is not behaving like a Christian nation.

An Essay for week #30 Jul 26, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50726.mp3

Msg #1531 What the Remnant Aint

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

After Jeremiah wrote to God's remnant, who were taken into Babylon as captives, he was approached by a group in Jerusalem who thought that they were the true remnant. They were quite mistaken. An unprecedented drama unfolds in Jeremiah chapter 42 through 44. This pseudo-remnant promises Jeremiah that they will do whatever “the LORD *thy* God may shew us.” Note first that it was not, “The LORD *our* God,” and second, they had no intention of obeying the LORD. Their heart was set on flight into Egypt, and the LORD God said, if you go, ye shall be an *execration*. Wow, that is an overpowering word, only used on this rebellious pseudo-remnant. It is worth dusting off your dictionary, and while it is open look up *imprecation* as well. Psalms 109, 40:14-15, 69:22-28, and 70:2-3 are called “Imprecatory Psalms” with reason, and that is not as powerful as an execration. This pseudo-remnant, following their women worship leaders, (44:15,20,24) refused the Word of God, rejected the prophet of God, despised the servant of God, and charged down into Egypt in defiance of God's command. His execration is so consuming that he says, “Behold, I have sworn by my great name, saith the LORD, that my name shall be no more named in the mouth of any man of Judah in all the land of Egypt, saying the Lord GOD liveth” (Jer 44:26). That verse alone is justification to throw Codex Sinaiticus and Vaticanus, from Alexandria Egypt, right back into the trash can they were found in. While the trash lid is open toss in the Septuagint that Alexandria produced as well. Pray that the “scholars” who use these Egyptian products to “repair” God's Holy Bible are not an execration. The LORD is a jealous God, use the right Bible.

An Essay for week #31 Aug 2, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150802.mp3

Msg #1532 The New Testament's Crescendo

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

John preached with the other eleven apostles for thirty years before our Lord Jesus Christ commanded him to “write the things which thou hast seen” (Rev1:19a). He had collected and read the writings from the other apostles, now he would write the capstone of the Gospels, the summary of the Epistles, and the crescendo of the whole New Testament. In the Revelation of Jesus Christ he calls the Word, the faithful witness; he calls the Creator of life, the first begotten of the dead; he calls the Light of men, the prince of the kings of the earth (John1:1-4, Rev1:5). He references him that loved us, for God so loved the world, the one that washed us in his own blood, and the one who made us kings and priests. There is no greater literature than the Revelation of Jesus Christ. It's prologue gives that triplet of names, a triplet of things he did for us, and then a triplet about his coming, 1) in the clouds, 2) every eye shall see, and 3) those that pierced him shall wail because of him. The prologue concludes with three titles of the LORD God applied directly, without apology, to our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Alpha and Omega. He is the one which is, and which was, and which is to come. In the Hebrew tongue that would be the great I AM of Exod 3:14. He is the Almighty, just as he is the mighty God of Isa9:6. There is no prologue like it, and a prologue is just a formal introduction showing what is found in the body of the book. The gospel of John, the three epistles of John and the Revelation of Jesus Christ are God's conclusion for his whole Bible, superb literature, and awesome revelation.

An Essay for week #32 Aug 9, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150809.mp3

Msg #1533 Biblical Dispensationalism

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A Christian should read a lot of Scripture, as a cow chews down great quantities of grass. A cow, however, sits under a shady oak tree and chews it over a second time, and swallows it into a second stomach. Before the cow gets full use of the grass, he chews the cud again and passes it to a third stomach. “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night” (Josh1:8a), and again, “his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night” (Ps1:2). If one rereads the book of Ephesians like a cow chews and re-chews, they could draw things out of that meditation. It has some depth that has not been often visited. The Apostle Paul had languished in jail for two silent years. God sent him into the two years of silence to think about the animals he was going to have the temple priest sacrifice for his offerings. God stepped in and prevented the travesty, and now Paul writes to Ephesus. He explains the dispensation that we have entered and the new covenant that has the perfect sacrifice. Protestant theology, reformed or not, is all Roman Replacement Theology mixed with Calvin's Covenant Theology. Bible believers need to be dispensationalists, and Ephesians, well digested, will ground you in those truths. We are in “the dispensation of the fullness of times,” called “the dispensation of the grace of God” (Eph1:10, 3:2). And Paul, in this epistle, explains the mystery of dispensationalism (Eph3:1-5). Don't be afraid of that seven syllable word. It is a good Bible word that makes Clergy tremble. Believer's need to study this out, they will not hear it taught in a Protestant Church.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 16, 2015

Msg #1534 They That Wait

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A fellow beagle lover on a hunt told me, “Lock your beagle and your wife in your car trunk; come back in two hours and see which one is glad to see you!” That made some kinda weird sense to me until later my wife said, “That's because that beagle thinks you're a genius!” Now it makes more sense. Sophie, my beagle, sets on my feet as I write this so let me acknowledge that I am no genius, but it seems that when the Holy Spirit of God told the Apostle Paul not to go to Jerusalem, Paul was not supposed to go to Jerusalem. A few verses later, in Acts 21, a prophet of God told Paul not to go to Jerusalem. A few verses more and, with his stubborn jaw set and his teeth grit, the greatest preacher alive struts into Jerusalem. Once there, he follows the advice of the “well-intended”, and takes a set of Old Testament vows. He promises to offer an Old Testament animal offering for his sins! I am not a great preacher, or genius, but I am kinda glad God includes the details of Paul's blunder in his record keeping. Goodness knows I've needed lessons in submission. I've met some who think Paul could do no wrong, and was perfectly justified in his defiance of the Holy Ghost. Well, okay. God previously wrote by Paul's hand, “All things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are called according to his purpose.” Just the same that is not an excuse to lock your jaw and continue down some stupid stubborn course of action. God had a plan for those next eight epistles to get written. Paul's stubborn rebellion caused that they are called prison epistles.

An Essay for week #34 Aug 23, 2015

Msg #1535 Ephesians' Introduction

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Diagramming sentences is often the best and sometimes the only way of capturing what Scripture contains. The sentences of Ephesians' introduction are burdensome and run-on. That is not a criticism, it is an observation: when God writes a run-on sentence, "run-on" may be the wrong cliché to assign to it. In any regard, diagramming Paul's introduction yields a five-seven-and five list of what the Father-Son-and Holy Ghost does in this new dispensation called grace. When the body of this book is analyzed each of these introduction pieces will preach as an explanatory list. There are five things that God the father has done in this new dispensation, "to the praise of the glory of his grace" (Be sure the list is expounded "to the praise of the glory of his grace"); seven things the Christ has done in this new dispensation of grace, "that we should be to the praise of his glory" (Again, take particular note of the purpose); and lastly, five things which the Holy Spirit of God does, these being "to the praise of his glory." Such a powerful introduction commands that our attention be focused on the body of this letter. What God did, what Christ has accomplished, and what the Holy Spirit is doing, all to usher in a new dispensation of grace, is the meat of this letter. Sorry John Calvin and "Institutes of the Christian Religion," this is not the old covenant refurbished or reformed, it is the new covenant in his blood. The first step in the study of such a dissertation should be in understanding Paul's use of the word "dispensation." It unlocks the "mystery" of what Paul is writing to these Gentiles. Now watch this. (Careful, the infamous red-neck's words before you call the ambulance are always: "Watch this!")

An Essay for week #35 Aug 30, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50830.mp3

Msg #1536 A Dispensation's Word Study

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

We are gathered in the dispensation of the fulness of times, which is called the dispensation of the grace of God (Eph 1:10:3:2). There is no reason why that interesting word does not show up more often in a true believers conversation. The Greek language and particularly Strong's alphabetical numbering of every Greek word contained in your Holy Bible, makes for an excellent tool in doing word studies. I have found only two other values in my study of Greek: learning how very complex and yet exacting is the Biblical Greek language, and learning how very conglomerated and inexact is the English language. Those two lessons blend together to give the very greatest admiration of the Old English found in my King James Bible, and the greater disdain for what the ecumenicals tried to pull off in their modern versions. A good Greek word study of Strong#3622 shows that the word “dispensation” might get properly translated “stewardship,” as it does three times in Luke 16. The word involves three things: 1) responsibilities levied onto a steward, 2) a period of time where the steward has more or less unsupervised responsibilities, and 3) a reckoning at the end of the period whereby the steward gives account for his handling of his responsibilities. That makes a marvelous summary of what a dispensation is. In this dispensation of grace, mankind is given some clear responsibilities. “Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved,... and ye shall know the truth (our Lord Jesus Christ), and the truth shall make you free (Rom 10:13, John 8:32). This grace is only available for a short time, and at the close of this dispensation there will be a reckoning. Be sure your name gets into the Lamb's book of life.

An Essay for week #36 Sep 6, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl50906.mp3

Msg #1537 Enlightened Eyes of Understanding

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

After his stupendous introduction, the Apostle Paul begins his letter to the Ephesians with what is the topic sentence of all topic sentences. It is two hundred words long, rated with a post-post-graduate complexity, and is only comprehensible via a thorough sentence diagram. It is well worth the effort. Modernists teach that people cannot understand the old English of the King James Bible. They purport that their copyright ecumenical bibles tell us what God meant to say. I'll trust my poor diagramming over their best copyrighting any day of the week. The heart of the first chapter's last sentence has to do with the eyes of the believer's understanding being enlightened. The reason people cannot understand the Holy Bible has nothing to do with modernized English, and everything to do with blinded eyes. In the world, seeing is believing; in the Bible, believing is seeing. In this topic sentence, and in the body of the letter which follows, Paul describes the wherewithal of those eyes being enlightened. It is the theme of his letter, and the hallmark of this new dispensation of grace that he is revealing. This enlightening is "wrought in Christ." Don't miss it. Six aspects of it are given: 1) it is by God's power, 2) when God raised Christ from the dead (quickenened him), 3) when he set him at his own right hand, 4) set him far above all, 5) put all under his feet, and 6) made him head over all things. Every ounce of the enlightening and quickening that is found in this new dispensation is wrought in Christ. This complex sentence is worth even more study. The whole letter to the Ephesians hangs here. It springs open the new revelation which Paul's two years of silence produced, the dispensation of grace.

An Essay for week #37 Sep 13, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs150913.mp3

Msg #1538 You Hath He Quickened

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.” Thus begins the second chapter of Ephesians. Quickening is the central commodity of the dispensation of grace which engulfs us. It is missing from the dispensations that went before. The Apostle Paul emphasizes it here as the ingredient which is revealed in exposing the mystery of Christ. In this verse, however, the phrase “hath he quickened” is in italics. Some have said, “it is in italics, and all italicized words have been supplied by the translators and can therefore be left out!” Actually the italicized text of the King James Authorized version CANNOT be left out if a clear understanding of the Greek/Hebrew text is of value. The italics, as used by the King James translators (and only the King James translators, no modernist ecumenical translators dared to afford such a careful consideration), represents necessary clarifying English words used to capture the complete Greek/Hebrew meaning. The actual words might not be present in the Greek/Hebrew syntax, but in the expertise of the fifty-seven linguistic experts which took seven years to translate God's words, the italics words are VERY necessary for competent consideration. Translation is never a word-for-word operation. Only the KJV translators had the professional courtesy to indicate the necessary English additions with italics lettering. Discarding their noble work is ill advised at best. The point here is that quickening is central in NT salvation and is well worth our study. Jesus gives a short dissertation on it in John 5 and 6 (cf5:21, 6:63). If you have eternal life, it is installed by Christ's quickening. If you do not have Christ's quickening, you are still dead in trespasses and sins. Quickening is permanent and it only comes at conversion. He that hath the Son hath life.

An Essay for week #38 Sep 20, 2015

Msg #1539 Dispensational Changes Delineated

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

One would expect that the Apostle Paul would capture the heart of this new dispensation in a single complex sentence and he does not disappoint. After a two-hundred word topic sentence, and a graphic discourse on the believers quickening, Paul captures the marvelous revelation about our present dispensation in Ephesians 2:14-18. Ephesians is the first of his prison epistles. He spent two silent years in Cæsarea's jail. He reflected on his backsliding into the covenant of law, and now he lists seven aspects whereby Christ abolished the law of commandments and makes Gentiles "ONE" with Jews. That list begins, "Christ is our peace," and ends, "so making peace." It is a new covenant in Christ; it is a new dispensation in time. Baptists need to be careful and Evangelicals need to be warned; the resurgence of Reformed Theology, whereby the universal church replaces Judaism and even God's promises about Jerusalem, is Satanic entrapment. John Piper, a leading Baptist author and Calvinist, is paving that entrapment with enticing words, but there is no teaching of Calvinism that steers clear of the Roman Replacement Theology! It engulfs every Protestant Denomination! Paul's first prison epistle is not glorifying a new election, as Calvinism advances, it is glorifying a new dispensation, which all reformers deny. In this new dispensation Jew and Gentile are made one, and Christ has "broken down the middle wall of partition between us... For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father." By the way, when the 144 thousand Jews are chosen and sealed the partition is back, and we have obviously gone into another dispensation. Be careful to rightly divide the word of dispensational truth. The Roman Empire did a hostile takeover of Christianity. The pope is not Christian, Protestants not dispensational.

An Essay for week #39 Sep 27, 2015

Msg #1540 The Revelation of Jesus Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The last book of the Bible is not a revelation of prophecy, but a Revelation of Jesus Christ. Therein He commanded the Apostle John to write the things which thou hast seen. John was an eyewitness of Jesus in the flesh, and had preached about that for thirty years. Now he was commanded to write it down. John's first epistle begins, "That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, of the Word of life" (1John1:1). He was also commanded to write the things which are, and he wrote the seven messages to the seven churches. Just the titles of our Lord Jesus Christ assigned in these seven messages makes a formidable Revelation of Jesus Christ, he that holdeth the seven stars, the first and the last, he which hath the sharp sword, the Son of God, he that hath the seven Spirits of God, he that is holy and true, the Amen! But a worthy portion of the Revelation of Jesus Christ comes when John writes the things which shall be hereafter. The book of judgment, sealed with seven seals is about to be opened by the only Righteous Judge. In Revelation 4, John hears the trumpeted voice of Christ say, "Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter." The next fourteen chapters describe the seven year tribulation period wherein the wrath of God is poured out on this world. Believers are not here for wrath, but are caught up beforehand with Christ's call, "Come up hither" (1Thes4, 1Cor15). The great tribulation is called "Jerusalem's cup of trembling" (Zech12:2, Isa51:17) because Christ will ascend to the Throne of David on God's holy hill of Zion.

An Essay for week #40 Oct 4, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151004.mp3

To be in a Tues Thur Live October Webinar Bible Study email
Pastor-Rice(at)GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1541 Preach the Gospel

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Thou art worthy, O Lord, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns, and seven eyes, the Son of God who quickens and the Son of Man who judgeth. The Revelation of Jesus Christ is more that, than anything else. Awash in a rebellious society that has rejected the LORD God as their Creator, is a tiny remnant of believers who hold to the infallible inerrant Word. Awash in an apostate Laodicean church that preaches a gospel of evolution, socialism, global warming and sodomy, this tiny remnant preaches the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. Awash in an agnostic, pluralistic, hell-bent world under condemnation, this tiny remnant knows the Saviour and are witnesses that Jesus Saves. What possible difference could it make? They are just a remnant. It could make an eternal difference to your neighbor, your coworker, and your kin. For we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumbling block, and unto the Greeks foolishness, but unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Bev and I have grandchildren awash in this vile drug ridden society and our daily prayer is that God would touch some believer near them, a believer who would open their mouth and preach Christ crucified. The Righteous Judge of all the earth is soon returning, and you live right next door to someone's prayed over loved one. In these last of the last days the remnant needs to keep the main thing the main thing because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men. He closed his revelation saying "I come quickly, Amen." May we daily speak up for Christ.

An Essay for week #41 Oct 11, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151011.mp3

Msg #1542 Consider Biblical Prophecy

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Daniel,” a book in the Holy Bible, is about Daniel. There is no fear in overstating the obvious here, because many think it a book about dreams, visions and prophecy. Instead it reveals how a man, Daniel, became so beloved of God that God revealed to him all that he had planned out in the future. The revelation, which God gave to his beloved, covered his plans for Daniel's present distress, all the way to “the time of the end” (12:4). As one becomes the beloved of God, as they become “the friend of God,” God reveals to them all his hopes and desires, all his aspirations and plans for the future. That is what friends do. If you study Biblical prophecy out of idle curiosity, or intense curiosity, you don't much get it. If you study so you can exalt yourself among your peers and say, “I know something you don't know,” you really don't get it. And never forget, oh preacher, that your peers are not the clergy who stand on wooden platforms. Our peers are drunks on the street. Clergy and laity are not Bible words. We are but preachers of the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Be very leery of any preacher with a hobby horse, and flee if his horse is labeled prophecy. False prophets Harold Egbert Camping and Charles Taze Russell might come to mind here. All the more consider this Daniel, the beloved of God. When God revealed the last days to Daniel his cogitations much troubled him, his countenance changed, and he kept the matter in his heart (7:28). When God revealed his timing, Daniel set his face unto the Lord God to seek by prayer and supplication, with fasting, and sackcloth and ashes (9:3). We should do no less.

An Essay for week #42 Oct 18, 2015

These Messages in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio

To be in a Tues/Thur Live October Webinar Bible Study email

Pastor-Rice(at)GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1543 Only 144 Thousand Witnesses?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand” (Rev14:1a). I heard a Messianic Jewish preacher say, “What the Gentile Christians could not get done in 2,000 years, 144 thousand Jewish preachers will get done in seven.” According to this chapter they will indeed preach the gospel to every nation during the Seven-Year Tribulation period. We have the same commission but these preachers have no cares nor connections in this world. “These are they which were not defiled with women, for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first fruits unto God and to the Lamb” (14:4). There's a lot going on in the world during this tribulation period. But, hey, in our day, we have much. Speak of the Lamb because of climate change, because of Israel, because of politics, the economy, because of wars and rumors of wars, or because of pagan Roman Popes... there's lots of reasons to talk about the Lamb. We could learn what to preach from the 144K, “Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters” (14:7). They preach in a world where Babylon is fallen, is fallen, (vr8) while we preach as Babylon is confounded. They preach to those who are about to drink of the wine of the wrath of God (vr10). John 3:36 says we do too. Contrasting the commission of these 144K with ours is quite convicting. When is the last time you personally shared with a neighbor the gospel message that saved your soul? Be a witness of the Lamb.

An Essay for week #43 Oct 25, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151025.mp3

Msg #1544 The Truth about Chiliasm

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The last four chapters of the Revelation of Jesus Christ are the most misdiagnosed chapters in history. When the Roman Empire did a hostile takeover of Christianity they refused Christ's 1,000 year reign. The Roman Church and its Protestant Reformers never did come back to what these chapters reveal about Christ's 2nd coming. First, Christ comes for his saints (1Thes 4:16) and later he comes with his saints (3:13). In Revelation 19 he is coming with his saints to rescue his chosen nation; Israel is in Jerusalem, in siege by all the nations of the world. In rides "Faithful and True" followed by the armies which were with him in heaven (19:14), that's us, resurrected saints, wearing fine linen, white and clean. We are riding with the King of kings and Lord of lords to the Battle of Armageddon (cf Rev 16:16). Revelation 20 then describes the 1,000 year reign of Christ, known and hated by the Orthodox Church, the Roman Church, and the Protestant Churches as "*Chiliasm*" (Greek). Their despise is what has made these four chapters historically misdiagnosed. For 1,700 years Bible believers holding to the literal rendering of these chapters have been called heretics, crucified, burned, and exiled. The real separation of Church and state stopped that. Studying Baptist history with Chiliasm in a search engine is surprisingly enlightening. Still many Evangelicals remain ignorant of this unprecedented persecution of Bible truth. They choose rather to follow Mike Blume, while Baptists read John Piper. No matter how popular, or how charismatic, the preacher who rejects these chapters in their literal sense is a false teacher. "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time" (1John 2:18).

An Essay for week #44 Nov 1, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151025.mp3

Msg #1545 Between the Lines

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Reading between the lines of the Holy Bible is a skill. Some gaptists and cultists make it a misleading art, but there is insight to be gained if one is careful to ascertain just the facts. Genesis 12 begins, “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will shew thee.” The sentence continues to detail promises that hinge on his obedience, but notice that God “had said,” and ponder between the lines how long ago “had” he said all this? I love the opening paragraph of my historical fiction, “Abram Learns the Names of God.” It reads:

“Abram sat at the table and watched as his aged host cut bread into thick slices. She placed them on a ceramic plate beside a stack of roasted meat and lettuce leaves. He tried to guess her age, and was thinking she was probably over 900 years old! Her husband, Noah was expected shortly, returning from a neighbor's farm. Abram was very eager to talk with Noah. He was struggling with a decision, and the struggle had caused him to travel three days north of his home, just to talk with Noah, the oldest man in the world.”

Abram left Ur of the Chaldees with his father and then hung around Haran, a city named after his dead brother, for 17 years after Noah's funeral. One can't read between the lines and imagine he never met Noah. Noah died in 1998 when Abram was 58. Also between the lines one can see the difficulty of leaving his father, who died in 1921, sixty years after Abram's departure to the Promised Land. So, how is your obedience coming along? “Go ye therefore” (Matt 28:19).

An Essay for week #45 Nov 8, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl51108.mp3

Msg# Augment- Nephilim - Conspirator Phobia

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Misinterpretation of Genesis 6:4 puts giants (Hebrew Nephilim) in the land by “irruption?” i.e. Nephilimites term for angels breeding with human women. After the flood, the Nephilim believers say, their must have been another “irruption” because Canaan had giants too! These conspiratorists are looking for the anti-christ not the Christ, they hate the Bible teachings of the pretribulation rapture and brazenly call Baptists, who preach the premillennial return of Christ and the pretribulation rapture of the Church, false teachers, deceived, and deceivers.

UNFORTUNATLY Kent Hovind, released from wrongful imprisonment, has now rejected the pretribulation rapture, preaches a mid-tribulation rapture, and calls Bible believing Baptists false teachers, deceived and deceivers. Kent now believes that Christians and the Church, will go through “The Tribulation,” but perhaps not the wrath phase. Although Kent is now looking for the anti-christ instead of the meet-you-in-the-clouds Christ, he has not (yet?) gone in for all the Nephilim hype of the conspiracy conspirators. Haggmann pushed him towards the Nephilim doctrine in their 3 Nov 2015 interview, but Kent Hovind balked slightly at the angels breeding with women ideology.

Haggmann and Haggmann (.com) tote this line about a Nephilim takeover, as well as all the rest of (author and hero) Steve Quayle's fighting tactics against the “Fabian Society” and the “Collectivist and Elitists” who are conspiring to take over the world and help the Nephilim fight against God. These are a VERY DANGEROUS LOT, preaching a VERY DIFFERENT GOSPEL. There is a repeated use of the Book of Jasher and the Book of Enoch in their diatribe of error. For the Haggmanns, “The idea that the spirits of dead giants (off spring of demons mating with earth women) inhabit the underworld (place beyond the veil) is supported.”

Welcome to the Last Days! Look for Christ, not Anti-Christ. Listen for His trumpet, not a Nephilim. Preach the everlasting gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, not Giant - Conspirator phobias. The Earth is not flat. The Sun does not orbit the Earth. The Apollo 11 did land on the moon. Nine-Eleven was real. Nephilims are not conspiring with Earth's elitists. Fabians are not in rule. The pillar and ground of truth needs to keep the main thing the main thing. Thank God for His Church with the TRUTH.

Msg #1546 Abram, the Father of Faith

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Get thee out of thy country and from thy kindred and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.” This call to Abram is a hallmark of God's plan for all of mankind. Through it the eternal LORD God would send his Only Begotten Son as the Messiah, the Christ. One dare not detract from that calling or its glorious result. But this call to Abram looks a lot like the call to salvation.

Repentance is a turning away from, a letting loose of, a parting of the ways with,... Like God commanded Abram, “Get thee out of.” Acts 20:21 defines conversion very well. It is a two headed coin with repentance on one side and faith on the other. “I (Paul) kept back nothing that was profitable unto you.. Testifying both to Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ” (Acts20:20-21) Recall that Jesus said, “Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven.” So, Abram had to believe God, trust God and leave country, kindred, house, and land. The hall of fame of faith, Hebrews 11, says “(Abram) looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.” But wait there is more. Just like Abram's obedience brought the blessings of God, so to a believers obedience brings God's blessing. A blessing is when God does something for us that we cannot do for our self. And when it comes to salvation or spiritual matters, there is nothing one can do for themselves. Lastly, just like Abram could bring Messiah to the world, the believer's commission is to bring the Messiah to the world; like, to every creature.

An Essay for week #46 Nov 15, 2015

A Msg#1546 Response to the Calling of Calvinism

On 11/22/2015 2:38 PM, Ron wrote: "Notice the effectual nature of God's call to Abram. Love ya, brother!"

Dear Ron,

I think that's a cop out. Notice more so that Abram could have said no, and God would have called another.

Baptists who want to justify their twisted compromises as Calvinists say, "We don't believe in John's assertion of the Total depravity of man, just in the 'effectual' total depravity of man; we don't believe in Calvin's Unconditional Election, just the 'effectual' unconditional election." Baptist Mid-Missions doesn't believe in the Presbyterian Church's doctrine of Limited Atonement, just in the "effectual" limited atonement. Mislead Baptist Calvinists don't believe in Irresistible Grace, only the "effectual" irresistibility of God's grace. The Roman Empire, which attempted the hostile takeover of Christianity, taught John Calvin and his Presbyterian Church to say "Preservation of the Saints;" it was not anything they got from Bible study, where they could have worded "Eternal Security." God preserving his seed line for Christ, is entirely different than his preserving the blood bought, born again, converted to Christ, quickened saints of the New Covenant. John Calvin, with his covenant theology and adopted Roman replacement theology, never "effectively" got the difference.

You want to be careful of the word "effectual," this old Baptist preacher is wise to its secret code in Calvinistic circles.

Love ya, brother.

Ed

Msg #1547 Thanks for Fundamentalists

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Paul wrote to Timothy, “ that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1Tim3:15). Thank you Lord, that I live where there's a national day of Thanksgiving, and thank you Jesus, that I have a pillar and ground of the truth where I can worship and attend. There are a multitude of wayside roads where a church might stop being the pillar and ground of the truth. Paul's next verse lists the six mysteries of godliness that make up the truth: God was, 1) Manifest in the flesh, the five fundamentals of the fundamentalist describe that manifestation; 2) Justified in the Spirit: in Psalm David said, “I acknowledge my sin... that thou mayest be justified when thou speakest, and be clear when thou judgest.” God was justified in casting Adam out into death, in judging man's evil heart with a world flood (it was NOT demonic giants he was judging), in stoning one under the Law for disobedience in picking up sticks, in the Assyrian's scattering of 10 tribes, in the Babylonian captivity of the remnant, in Jerusalem's complete destruction, and in the nailing of his only begotten son to an old rugged cross, where he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities; 3) Seen of angels, who desire to look into what he did for humans (1Pet1:12), 4) Preached unto the Gentiles, in a new covenant, in a new dispensation; 5) Believed on in the world, by a remnant on a straight narrow path, and 6) Received up into glory, where he awaits a literal, not allegorical, 2nd Advent. I Praise the Lord for a fundamental church that believes all that. You?

An Essay for week #47 Nov 22, 2015

Msg #1548 Thanks for Relationships

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Thanksgiving thanks for relationships might seem overly vague, but consider that, for a born-again believer, every relationship impacts and enlightens a relationship with God. Give thanks for parents, and whether they excelled or failed you're commanded to honour them" (Eph 6:2). Jesus wanted to be about his Father's business, but Luke 2:51 says he was subject to his parents just the same. The new birth's adoption gives one a heavenly Father who always excels, and Romans 8:14-16 allows that they call him dad. Give thanks for brothers and sisters; they taught you to share and fight fair, to love till you die and not tell a lie. Brothers are born for adversity (Prov 17:17). Mark 6:3 tells us Jesus had brothers and sisters, and Prov 18:24 tells us, as Saviour, "he sticketh closer than a brother." Give thanks for BFFs. Someone had to tell me what that meant. Most people can count true friends on one hand; anything shared with such friends would not cause them to turn from you, or turn on you. "Abraham believed God,... and he was called the Friend of God" (James 2:23). "The LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend" (Exod 33:11). Give thanks that a blood bought, redeemed, born-again believer can be a friend of God. "Henceforth I call you not servants... but I have called you friends" (John 15:15). Be a friend of God. Give thanks for neighbors. Who is my neighbor? Jesus answered that by defining and personifying compassion. (Luke 10:29, Matt 9:35-38). The culmination of all these relationships, the culmination of all intimacy is found in the husband-wife relationship. It is our taste of paradise on earth. Learn this, even that intimate relationship pales in pure intimacy with the LORD God. Thank you Lord.

An Essay for week #48 Nov 29, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151129.mp3

On Lordship Salvation vs Easy Believism

Dear Fhris,

Thanks for writing. My heart goes out to the situation that you describe. Although you seem to have couched your frustration with a label of "Lordship Salvation," that teaching has little to do with the audacity found in the pastor that you describe. The monstrous bullies that you describe are not damaging Free Grace, they are damaging people. Ever since the Roman Empire attempted a hostile takeover of Christianity, religion's have been striving to make people "good-enough" to get into heaven. Roman Catholics attempt it through penance, Protestants through regeneration and reformation of people. Somehow the pastor you describe thinks people get saved, stay saved, or show that they are saved, by these reformations. The conditional love that this prescribes from God is the heart of this false teaching. It sets up this competition for God's love and attention, i.e. God only loves you when you do right, and I, they say, will tell you how to do right. My recommendation for you is that you get into a Bible believing church.

So you'll know, Lordship salvation vs Easy Believism is another mongrel altogether. The one declares that you must accept Jesus as your Lord, in that it is part of ones conversion, i.e. repentance and faith (Acts 20:21), the other declares that to be converted one don't really need repentance, all they need is a "1-2-3 pray after me." You can probably tell by my simple explanation which one has the most Bible merit. The unfortunate derogatory titles "Lordship Salvation", and "Easy Believism" have confused many into thinking that pastors who "lord" over the flock are Lordship Salvation preachers. There are other titles deserving of such deviants.

Thanks again for writing. Hope this all makes sense. Write again, let me know how you make out in finding a Bible believing pastor. I'll be praying for you.

Pastor Ed Rice

On 12/2/2015 5:16 AM, Fhris wrote:

> This is a true story, two years ago, ... Something was very wrong... I did not know what Lordship Salvation was,...These Lordship people are monstrous bullies, and are damaging the assurance of Free Grace,...

Dear Randy,

Thanks for writing. I know your frustration. I know I have written on the subject before, but cannot find it presently. Jesus' parable of the soils is very clarifying for some of this dilemma. A stony place "hath not root in himself" and does not bear fruit. There is not to many places you can go with that. I would rather treat a saved person as unsaved (not with a rebuke but with a compassion) than to treat an unsaved person as a saved one. To error on the side of caution is wise. If you can talk someone out of their salvation they didn't get what I got. Evangelist Harold Boyd used to say, "If you didn't get enough salvation to get you into Church, you probably didn't get enough to get you into heaven." It is best to talk to them, pray for them, witness to them as if they are unsaved, and be glad that where they will spend eternity does not depend on your perceptions.

Also be aware that a born again believer can go deeper into sin faster than any unsaved person would. I never preach someones loved one into heaven or into hell. We just do not know. Never take away hope, or build up hope for someones loved one. A hardened atheist or a hardened Catholic could whisper his repentance with his dying breath. All we can do is make the gospel truth as clear as possible, and expect that a few get in the straight gate. The more I preach, however, the more nervous I am about souls. Many have deceived themselves. I know a preacher who put on his church sign, "Accepted Jesus? Has He accepted you?" Don't give people the benefit of the doubt, there should be no doubt when it comes to salvation. In Jr. Church, in 1986, Terrell Gooden got saved 12 times. Only one of those times, was real. Years later neither he nor I was sure which one. Just keep preaching the gospel.

Pastor Ed Rice

On 12/10/2015 7:49 AM, HFG wrote: Dear Pastor,

I enjoy your newsletter. We have corresponded in the past. Your writing is sometimes obtuse, perhaps to keep it short.

I would greatly appreciate it if you have a longer more specific explanation of your views below. Perhaps on your website? I struggle with the topics surrounding salvation. I talk with many people each week out on the streets. Many who "believe" but who have no Lord other than themselves. Addicts of one form or another. I have concluded I have no idea who is saved and who isn't. Just leave it to Him. But sometimes I get asked the direct question, "do you think my I or my loved one is saved?" I have learned to say I don't know. That is for Him. But most of the time I am thinking "you will know them by their fruit." Sometimes they describe an amazing salvation experience followed by the only 9 months of their adult life that they didn't drink, where they were Bible reading every day and consumed with thinking about Jesus. Then 9 months later they went back to their old life. They are convinced they are still going to Heaven. Are they? How about the guy who had amazing conversion experience, walked with the Lord for 10 years, led worship, deacon, and then walked away for 27 years of alcoholism, adultery, etc. Where is he going eternally? Randy Loubier via iPhone

Msg #1549 Preach The Christmas Message

What the Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The first gospel message Peter preached is recorded in Acts 2; it has seven parts and one could replicate it in his Christmas conversations this year. Peter gets folks' attention, then explains the miracle they are observing. Getting attention is not that hard at Christmas gatherings; often, someone there will have ears to hear. And the miracle of Christmas needs rehearsed across our land. Consider that the miracle of your new birth needs rehearsed as well. Use Scripture, and use what is coming up soon, Peter does. Peter also makes a clear gospel plea right up front; "And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Acts 1:21). Next Peter rehearses what they already know. Perceiving where a person is at, what they already know about Christ, and where to start needs careful attention in this day and age. Peter uses Jesus' miracles done in their midst, his trial, crucifixion, and resurrection (vr. 22-24). These are the essentials of the gospel (1Cor 15:3-4) but starting with what people know today will take us all the way back to creation. Three generations have been taught that they have no Creator. Start toward this gospel message using the miracle, "All things were made by him (Jesus), and without him was not anything made that was made" (John 1:3). Peter uses Scripture to talk about Jesus being Christ (Acts 1:25-32); and then about his resurrection (vr. 32-36). Lastly, Peter declares what people must do (vr. 37-39), "Repent and be baptized (immersed into Christ) every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins" (vr. 38). This is God's final draft for the first gospel message; we should pay close attention; all of God's drafts are inerrant.

An Essay for week #49 Dec 6, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl51206.mp3

Msg #1550 Yes, Virginia, There is a Christmas

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Could I say, without danger of any infringements, yes, Virginia, there is a meaning to Christmas. The LORD God, fulfilled his promise to send his only begotten son because he promised a Messiah who would be the redeemer of mankind. This all important entry into the world, has meaning. Believing these three identities of that child in swaddling clothes is the most important belief in the world. John wrote, "That ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name" (John20:31) Yes, Virginia, there is a Christmas morning. Few Bible students believe that Jesus was born on the Roman Empire's celebration of the longest night. There was, however, a first morning when God was in the flesh and dwelling among us. No greater gift was ever given. Christ's birth was likely in the springtime when shepherds watched their flocks and other passover lambs were born. Yes, Virginia, there is a Christmas message. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son," who said, "I am the way... no man cometh to the Father but by me" (John3:16, 14:6). The climate has indeed changed in America. She would be wise to hear the plea of her Creator, "Turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: and rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness,... Who knows if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him" (Joel2:12-14). This Christmas, particularly, there are "multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision" (Joel3:14).

An Essay for week #50 Dec 13, 2015

Msg #1551 What All Did Mary Know?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Mark Lowry wrote a series of great questions in a song. “Mary did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water... would save our sons and daughters...has come to make you new?” Hebrews in 1 BC knew more than they're credited with. Their Messiah was promised to bruise the head of Satan, and be the seed of woman (Gen3:15). He would be the only begotten Son of God (Psalm 2), and a prophet greater than Moses (Deut 18:18-19). He would set on the throne of David his father, and rule all the nations from God's holy hill of Zion (Psalm2). He would be wounded for our transgressions, he would be bruised for our iniquities, and our chastisement would be put upon him (Isa53). Mary knew the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem (Micah5:2), brought up from Egypt (Hosea11:1, Matt2:15) and come from Nazareth (Matt2:23). Mary was brought up knowing the Scriptures. She most assuredly knew that the child she bore would be God in the flesh, called “the mighty God” and titled “the everlasting Father” (Isa. 9:6). To our shame, Mary knew more than many Christians do today. It was good of Mr. Lowry to ask this whole litany of questions about what Mary knew. It forces us to consider some truths about just who Jesus was. Even now we do not know all that he did, but believing all that he was purchases one's eternal life. The Apostle John said that this way, “And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name”(John 20:30-31).

An Essay for week #51 Dec 20, 2015

This Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl51220.mp3

Msg #1552 The Ending

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I read my Bible through twice in a year. I read Genesis to Revelation chronologically in the order of their writing. And I read Isaiah to Hosea on the same schedule with a six month offset. This will be my fifth year of reading both Revelation and Hosea on Christmas day. Hosea is a minor prophet who wrote God's message to Israel just before Isaiah wrote his major prophecy. Both wrote just before God brought Israel to her knees, banished ten tribes, and sent the Jews into the Babylonian captivity. The Revelation of Jesus Christ is the capstone of all Biblical prophecy and tells how God will bring all nations to their knees, before sending his only begotten Son to rule and reign as King of kings, and Lord of lords from God's holy hill of Zion (Psalm 2). The two prophecies have striking parallels. This year, as I read, I watched both the Roman Catholic midnight Christmas mass, and the Protestant interfaith ecumenical Christmas service. I cannot say which grieved the heart of my God the more. I suspect the latter. The pagan Romanism has been around for 1,700 years, but the balderdash about Muslims, Hindus, "Christians," and Secularists all worshiping the same god, who will unite us all in world peace, has only been a grass-roots religion in the past ten years. The Revelation of Jesus Christ is that he, and he alone, is the mighty God and everlasting Father (Isa9:6). One solar flare could stop every satellite and cell tower, completely wipe out the power grid, and bring America to her knees. Only horses and swords would fend off the Islamic invasion! I am not a prophet, or the son of a prophet, I am just saying, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Rev 22:20). Happy New Year.

An Essay for week #52 Dec 27, 2015

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs151227.mp3

Msg #1601 Sunday Day One

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The opening line of the Holy Bible has seven Hebrew words that mark the first day of the universe and it says, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." Here time begins, three-dimensional space begins, and matter begins. They are necessarily created by a force outside of time, outside of 3-D space, and outside of matter; the self-existent one is called God. Modernist scholars know that eventually heaven becomes the heavens, so they set out to correct his first seven words by making heaven, the three dimensional space, be heavens, the three layers of the heavens yet to be created. For the sake of a copyright they ignore God's warnings about changing his words. Shame on every copyright one of them. When atheistic evolutionists *proved* rocks were a million years old, accommodating Bible students inserted a million years of time after God's first seven words. These *gaptist* then invented a whole civilization created and destroyed in the imagined gap after God's seven word opening. Fiction writers! Roman allegorists decided a day wasn't a day and developed a profound allegorical teaching where "evening and morning" really meant millions of years. Only a remnant, holding to the inerrancy of verbally inspired Scriptures, believe what God said in his opening ten sentences. Written on a 5th grade reading level, God said matter was at first without form and void, and that 3D space had darkness on the face of the deep. He ordered matter into atoms and then molecules of H₂O, and he pierced the darkness with light. God says what he means and means what he says. Here he describes what he considers a days work and ends it with nothing but water and light. Trust God's word, don't trust modern scholars.

An Essay for week #1 Jan 3, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60103.mp3

Msg#1602 Monday Day Two

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God's second day of creation starts with a gargantuan sphere of water hung on nothing in God's newly created light beam. It ends with two spheres of water divided by a firmament. Like egg white separates the shell from the yoke, this firmament separates a shell of water, which bounds the whole universe, from a sphere of water the size of our planet. We expect these are spheres because liquids with mass naturally form into spheres. We expect that there is nothing but water because God writes to us on a fifth grade reading level and says what he means. We know that this firmament is impressive because it captures a whole days work for the LORD God. We know that it is immense because when God gets to his fourth day of creation he inserts all the bodies of our present solar system into the firmament. It turns to gargantuan when God inserts all the galaxies with billions of stars into the firmament. God's description leaves a shell of water around the outside of this universe. Thus God, Albert Einstein, and I believe in a finite bounded universe. Atheistic evolutionists believe in an infinite unbounded one. The differences in these two assumptions are astronomical. One is right, one is wrong, there is no compromise position. Joshua, who lead Israel into the promised land said, "Now therefore fear the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in truth... And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve" (Josh 24:14-15). The only type of evolution there is, is atheistic evolution. We did not get here by natural processes, we have a Creator. He tells us what he did, why he did it, and what he is about to do. We can trust him on it.

An Essay for week #2 Jan 10, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60110.mp3

Msg#1603 Tuesday Day Three

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Tuesday, the third day of creation, dawns on a ball of water, hung on nothing inside of an immense shell of water bounding the universe. Water molecules are two hydrogen atoms clinging to one oxygen atom, and God now touches the ball of water to create more diverse atoms. His account says, "Let the dry land appear" (Gen1:9). This day's work created a hundred elements, gold, platinum, silver, precious metals, jasper, sapphire, chalcedony, precious stones, granite, basalt, silica, lots of rock. God called the dry land Earth. Now there is a solid planet, Earth, and God saw that it was good (verse 10): i.e. rich in precious metals and precious stones, but void of plant life. Tuesday afternoon God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind." Taxonomic ranking of plants into twelve phyla, more classes, orders and families is a popular pastime for botanists. God ranks three: grasses, herbs, and fruit trees. God likes things in threes. The emphasis is also threefold: 1) Plants produce seeds, that's procreation; 2) Each reproduces after his kind, that throws a wrench in evolution; and 3) God saw that it was good. The Bible student understands that the phyla for fungi, mold, and dandelion may not have been included in God's original plant group. Such phyla feed on death and constitute weeds; they seem to have been produced at the two cursings of man: his casting out of Eden, and his drowning in a flood. Just the same, they were miraculously created; don't give the atheistic evolutionist an inch. What God created in these six days was all good; in fact on this Tuesday it was called good on two separate occasions; because of that Jews get married on Tuesdays.

An Essay for week #3 Jan 17, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60117.mp3

Msg#1604 Wednesday Day Four

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Wednesday, the fourth day of creation finds the first of God's lights placed in the firmament. They were created to divide the day from the night, for signs, and for seasons, and for days and years. The two great lights which God set in the firmament mark out our twelve months and the 365 day year. Most people know the quarters of the moon; they mark out our weeks. Few discern the five visible planets (Greek for "wandering stars") that stand out from the thousands of stationary stars. Five planets visually trace out a highway in the sky. Two, Mercury and Venus, are closer to the sun and three are outside of Earth's orbit, thus often visible in the midnight sky. The thousands of stationary stars are grouped into eighty-eight constellations which mark out four seasons in our hemispheres. Thirty-five-hundred years ago Job speaks of Arcturus (Job 9:9), the third brightest star in our sky. It is found in the Boötes Constellation seen in the northern sky next to the big dipper. More people may be familiar with the Orion Constellation that Job mentions. It is on the celestial equator and only visible in Job's sky in the month of January. The most visible hot blue cluster of stars called Pleiades is also mentioned by Job. It would be visible at tree top level only in Job's month of October. Today more people watch TV's tonight show than understand the wandering stars on their highway through the constellations. More people read the occult's horoscope than know the constellations visible in their seasons. The heavens declare the glory of God, but mankind sets in baneful ignorance. The firmament sheweth his handiwork, not one's vain personality in a Zodiac. Tonight I'll shut off the TV and get out a telescope.

An Essay for week #4 Jan 24, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60124.mp3

Msg#1605 Thursday Day Five

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Thursday the fifth day of creation sees the first addition of life to God's universe. This is huge, but not more-so than previous days in God's creation. Abundant life in the waters is barely comprehensible; the variety and divergence of life forms have not been categorized to this day. "And fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven" (Gen 1:20b), is equally overwhelming in variety. In this creation of life consider two things very carefully: diet and reproduction. Before Adam sinned there was no death in God's creation. "As by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin" (Rom 5:12a). With no death, robins ate no worms, sharks ate no fish. Man brought about two curses on the world and it is likely that living creatures were not eaten until God spoke Genesis 9:3 after the second one. Fish and fowl were created quite different from what we see now. Secondly these creatures were fruitful and multiplied "after their kind." As if to slap the atheistic evolutionist's theory with folly he emphasizes that procreation is only "after his kind." And this emphasis is captured in a fifth grade reading level repeatedly in God's accounting. When one says "God bless you," they are asking God to do for you what you cannot do for yourself. When David says, "Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name" (Psalm 103:1), he is asking his soul to do something for God that God cannot do for himself (that is profound). When God blesses creatures with procreation, it is something that they cannot naturally do by themselves. Procreation is, and forever will be, a miracle of God: after their kind.

An Essay for week #5 Jan 31, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60131.mp3

Msg#1606 Friday Day Six

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It was Friday, the sixth day of the first week when God formed the crowning achievement of all his creation. “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion... over all the earth”(Gen 1:26a). It is ennobling to consider that God created every molecule, every creature, every planet and every star as an enhanced environment for this crowning achievement. Any Bible student quickly understands that such ennobling is not vanity. God's overwhelming purpose from Genesis to maps is this, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God” (Rev 21:3). It is true that most of mankind still rebels against God's desire; and would sooner believe that they evolved here. A majority think it okay to kill an unborn child made in God's image and that vile affections, “men with men working that which is unseemly”(Rom1:27), is just an alternate lifestyle. Do not let the depravity of man dishearten you, “the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend” (Exod33:11), and that is why he created you. “The four and twenty elders fall down before him that sat on the throne, and worship him... saying, Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created” (Rev 4:11). For the blood-bought, born-again, it is ennobling to know we are made in his image, he tabernacles in our soul, and speaks to us as a friend. In a ministry of reconciliation our neighbor can have the same friendship. Be ennobled, tell your neighbor about our Lord Jesus Christ.

An Essay for week #6 Feb 7, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60207.mp3

Msg#1607 Valentines Day At Last

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God intended that love and marriage be a taste of paradise here on earth. There is no more intimate relationship than marriage. It is holy because it portrays the intimacy that God wants with us, but if a marriage does not follow God's blueprint it will taste like something, alright, but it won't be paradise. The roles of the husband and wife in marriage are clearly outlined in God's Word. They are overtly contradicted in today's Godless society. For wives God uses words like submit, chaste, and keepers at home, for husbands, love, sanctify and leadership. It takes more than a King James Bible and a good dictionary (or Lexicon) to find these words in one's marriage; it takes the Lord Jesus Christ living in the redeemed soul of each participant. We marry to fulfill love, significance, and security in our lives. Humans made in the image of God are designed to love, and to be loved. Imagine the life of one who is significant to no one, and considers none significant. Imagine the life of one who has no security in a significant loved one: unsure if they will even care about or be cared about tomorrow. Each of these essential needs has three dimensions, with physical, emotional, and spiritual sides. Although these 3D needs overlap they are the essential needs that can find complete fulfillment in only two places in this world: they can be fulfilled in marriage, and they can be fulfilled in Christ. When you are properly in BOTH of these relationships you can have that taste of paradise. Valentines Day is strategically placed just before the raging hormones of spring arrive, just so one will pause, and take stock in their love, their significance, and their security. Happy Valentines Day; take inventory of your stocks.

An Essay for week #7 Feb 14, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60214.mp3

Msg#1608 Not to Faint

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A soldier standing at attention in parade must flex his knees and toes to keep blood circulating else he faint. When blood gets occupied elsewhere and does not keep the brain supplied one faints. Women are constructed for child bearing and may faint from shock or sudden stress because their blood circulation is purposely occupied elsewhere. When the brain does not get adequate blood, lowering it below the heart can relieve the ailment. Fainting gets the head down in a hurry, but not really safely. A poor heart, poor lungs, or being anemic will also cause fainting, as will clogged arteries. When a person faints they do not function, they injure themselves in the fall, and they incapacitate the people who are caring for them. Fainting is contagious; on parade once that first soldier faints they start keeling over left and right. Jesus taught us that men ought always to pray and not to faint (Luke 18:1). On a spiritual plane prayer keeps our circulation good and circumvents the causes of fainting. Prayer then prevents all these disabling results of fainting. It cures spiritual anemia, resolves breathing ailments, and heals heart problems. Pray that you don't faint, but also know that praying prevents fainting just like exercise and flexing the muscles prevents fainting. We can get so busy doing other things, even good things, that like the soldier on parade, focused on other tasks, we keel over, we injure ourselves, we occupy others and we induce others to fall. Flex your knees. How long does it take for you to have a "Sweet Hour of Prayer?" Some take twenty days at three minutes per day. Men ought always to pray, and not to faint.

An Essay for week #8 Feb 21, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs160221.mp3

Msg#1609 The World is Judged

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Israel, the man was redeemed from all evil (Gen 48:16); Israel, the nation was redeemed out of Egypt (Exod 6:6, 15:13); born-again-saved believers are redeemed out of the world (Rev 5:9); Egypt, in Scripture, is representative of the world and all of its evil. In their youth some of Israel, the nation wanted to go back into Egypt for “the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick” (Num 11:5). Sometimes young believers want to go back into the world. The picture of Egypt representing the world is certain. God sent his only begotten Son into this world, but called him out of this world. “When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt” (Hosea 11:1). God fled Joseph and Mary into Egypt just so he could reinforce this symbolism and say, “that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son” (Matt 2:15). In Ezekiel chapter thirty, thirty-one and thirty-two God gives a very clear judgment against Egypt, a condemnation of Pharaoh, and a lamentation for the king of Egypt. “Even the day of the LORD is near, a cloudy day, it shall be the time of the heathen” (Ezek30:3). In verse five all the bordering nations, ideas and attitudes of Egypt are included in this end time judgment. What is a believer to do in these last days? “Son of man, prophecy and say, thus saith the Lord GOD; Howl ye, Woe worth the day!” (Ezek30:2). And be a watchman. “When I bring the sword upon a land,... take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman” (Ezek33:2). And always side with Israel (1King 8:16). God will when America won't.

An Essay for week #9 Feb 28, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60228.mp3

Msg#1610 Be A Well Studied Soldier

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

These essays flow out of what I preach on Sundays; this week my favorite Missionary preached and then his son preached in our pm service. Therein my grandson preached our need to study, sacrifice, serve and soldier. As a school teacher I loved the Apostle Paul's demeanor when he said, "Study to be quiet and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands" (1Thes 4:11). The classroom aside, Paul calls our business the commandments, our walk, and our "lack of nothing" (vr.12). Studying to be quiet and to do our own business implies a diligence in keeping the main thing the main thing. If ever that was important it is in this ugly election year. God trumps politics, people need the Lord. Paul describes our sacrifice as only a reasonable service (Rom 12:1-2). Keeping it so ensures one "not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think" (vr. 3). Writing to the churches of Galatia Paul asserts, "For do I now persuade men, or God? Or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ" (Gal 1:10). There is little uglier than fighting and gloating in the servant's quarters; yet Christians do it. Even the disciples fought about who would be greatest. Selflessness, not greatness, is to be a servant's aspiration. Study, sacrifice, and servant-hood, culminate in the character of a soldier. "Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (2Tim 2:3-4). Not every fifteen year old can ascribe this outline, but every Christian is to ascribe to it as a way of life.

An Essay for week #10 Mar 6, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60306.mp3

Msg#1611 The Bible Brings the Day Star

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Peter the fisherman was seasoned by the Christ to where his last words have an everlasting impact on the eternal Word of God. In the apostles dying breath he asserts, “For we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of his majesty... and (we now) have a more sure word of prophecy... knowing this... (that) holy men of God spake (the Holy Scriptures) as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2Peter 1:16-21). This powerful assertion for the verbal plenary inspiration of the Word of God, the Holy Bible, is the crescendo of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. It needs no Roman Catholic Synods or endorsement of “Church Fathers.” The apostles themselves and the apostles alone sanctify every inerrant, infallible word; Praise His Holy Name. Of the Holy Bible Peter says, “Ye do well that ye take heed:” it is a light shining in a dark place, as a day dawning and the day star rising in hearts (1:19). It is curious that this alludes to both Christ's coming into the world, and his coming into hearts. He is, of course, “the light of the world” (John 8:12, 9:5), and he is the “day star.” Astronomy buffs know that Venus, the second planet from the sun, often appears just before sunrise, earning it the name “morning star” (cf. Rev 2:28, 22:16). It is also often the first star you see at night. The sun itself is the “day star” referenced in 2Peter 1:19. Be careful here, the Mason's Eastern Star and the “son of the morning” called “Lucifer” (Isaiah 14:12) is a different critter altogether. Peter says it is God's Word that causes the day star to arise in a heart. Awesome.

An Essay for week #11 Mar 13, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60313.mp3

Msg#1612 Palm Sunday and the Tenth of Abib

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The relationship between Palm Sunday and the Tenth of Abib was shrouded in Baptist ignorance during my childhood. Indeed it was not uncovered in my enrollment in three Bible Colleges and two Bible Institutes. Baptists are oftentimes paranoid about “religious holidays” because they drip with the vile heresy that spews from the apostate Roman Church. Mardi Gras, Lent, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Bunnies are all swollen with the leaven of that apostasy. It is only on God's calendar that one finds the importance and connection between the Tenth of Abib, the Fourteenth of Abib, and the First Day of the Week. Exodus twelve requires that the Hebrew's passover lamb be separated from the flock on the tenth day of the month Abib. It was kept separate and examined for four days; there was to be no spot or blemish in the passover lamb. On the fourteenth day of the month the holy passover lamb was to be slain; the next day, the fifteenth was a Sabbath Day, a High Sabbath Day, as it came to be called. Even if the fifteenth was on a Friday, it was called a Sabbath Day. The Roman religionists and the concurring Protestant clergy, are balefully ignorant of the Old Testament. On Palm Sunday on the streets of Jerusalem the crowds cried out “Hosanna, Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.” They didn't know, but on the tenth day of Abib they separated The Passover Lamb from the rest of the flock, and on the fourteenth day they crucified the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. God's calendar was fulfilled very meticulously: Christ, chosen and slain as our Passover Lamb. The Bible student dare not remain ignorant of these things.

An Essay for week #12 Mar 20, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60320.mp3

Msg#1613 After Three Days and Three Nights

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Easter was converted to Christianity. It used to be connected to the Roman worship of solar equinox (December 25 to the Roman worship of the solar solstice). Easter is now connected with the Hebrew calendar, always being the first Sunday after the Jewish Passover. It was on the Passover, 1,987 years ago, that Romans crucified our Lord Jesus Christ. The Bible student knows that Christ's crucifixion was on the preparation day and that the day following was a High Sabbath Day, beginning the Feast of Unleavened Bread (John 19:31). It is unfortunate that unstudied Romans called that Friday “good”, and unwitting Protestants called that Thursday “Maundy.” The Romans still mislead millions about the events of the week and the three days and three nights Christ spent in the heart of the earth (Matt 12:40). Two Sabbath Days, back to back, is not uncommon in a Hebrew calendar. On this fateful occasion they kept the women from attending to the body of Jesus for the three day and three night promise of God. In God's providence they came to the tomb after the third day, on the first day of the week, and there they found that Christ was resurrected, just as he said. We celebrate the miraculous fulfillment of the Messiah's promise, that after three days and three nights in the tomb Christ would raise victorious over death. The Jews started the rumor that disciples stole the body away; Romans rumored that Jesus only spent a day and a half in the tomb. The truth can set you free; free from religion, free from false teachings, and free to believe every word of God's Holy Bible. If ever the Bible student should defy the traditions of man and rely completely on God's Word, it should be for His resurrection.

An Essay for week #13 Mar 27, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60327.mp3

Question on Msg#1613's Three Days and Three Nights

On 3/30/2016 pastor_undisclosed@yahoo.com wrote:

Thank you Pastor Rice for today's Penny Pulpit on 3 days and 3 nights. I agree with you, but I am unsure how best to respond to the assertion that "any part of a day is considered a day according to Jewish tradition" argument. I am not sure where they get that teaching from or started that thought -- just like the folded napkin story. Could you give me a suggestion?

Dear Pastor

Thanks for writing. Remember what I said about traditions; they will often twist your Bible understandings.

I had not heard of any partial day considerations in Jewish traditions. I do know that they take their Genesis account very literally and when God said the evening and the morning were the first day, they have been counting their days that way ever since; whereas we traditionally use a mid-night starting of our day. Both traditions are insignificant when considering Christ's crucifixion and resurrection.

From my studies Christ was crucified on:

- 1) Passover, he was the passover lamb that taketh away the sin of the world (1Cor 5:7),
- 2) the preparation for the feast of unleavened bread, (Mark 15:42, Luke 23:54, John 19:14)
- 3) the 14th day of the month of Abib (Exod 12:6, 13:4, 23:15, 34:18, Deu 16:1) (the name was revised to "Nisan" after Babylonians messed with it),
- 4) the exact time they killed the passover lambs (1Cor5:7),
- 5) six days after the feast at Bethany (John 12:1), which feast was not on a Sabbath Day, ergo it was on a Friday,
- 6) three days before the Sunday which found the disciples on the Emaus road (Luke 24:13, 18), and
- 7) a Thursday because it falls six days after Friday (#5 above) and three days before a Sunday (#6 above).

Also noted previous, Palm Sunday falling on Sunday and on the 10th of Abib (Exod 12:3) causes the 14th to be on a Thursday, AND the Bible dictation of all that happened after his triumphal entry and before his crucifixion accounts for a Monday, a Tuesday and a Wednesday, three full days, resulting in a Thursday crucifixion.

All this Bible evidence necessitates a day count which includes Thursday day (he died in the 9th hour of the day, i.e. 3 pm, no matter when Joseph and Nick got his body into the tomb his soul was in the heart of the earth on that Thursday), Thursday night, Friday day, Friday night, Saturday day, Saturday night. That is three days and three nights as specifically called out in Matthew 12:40.

All this settles it for me; that Wednesday night was his last supper with the disciples, and Thursday was the day of his crucifixion. I enjoy debate with Baptists who hold to a Wednesday crucifixion, they insist on three twenty-four hour days spent in the tomb. I'll not debate with someone who holds to a Roman Good Friday, they do not have a leg to stand on.

Thanks for asking. God bless your studies.

Pastor Rice

Msg#1614 In Remnants Not Mega-Majorities

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Gideon was likely concerned about facing off against the Midianites with only 32,000 soldiers; they would be outnumbered by more than three-to-one. Sometimes one wonders if the LORD God really knows what we are up against down here. The hosts of the Midianites filled the whole valley by the hill Moreh, “and the LORD said unto Gideon, The people that are with thee are too many” (Jud 7:2a). Like Israel, Christians might tend to “vaunt themselves against (God), saying, Mine own hand hath saved me” (7:2b). The LORD God does his best work when we are at our whit's end. God whittled Gideon's army down to only 300 nobodies before delivering his miraculous victory over the Midianites. He uses the same tactic today. God is in the remnant, not the *mega* or the *majority*. Be leery of church growth that comes from a charismatic leader, or entertainment program. God does not work through a majority vote. That vote might “trump” a queen Athalia who wants in power but either way we get an egotistical incompetent, and this rebellious nation, sinking into moral depravity, deserves no less. Then there is the Islamic invasion launched from Obama's endorsed *Arab Spring*. America is overwhelmed in evil and one can learn a lot from God's dealings with Gideon and his three-hundred. God does his most miraculous work when it is certain that we won't be taking any of his glory. A nobody telling everybody about somebody who can save anybody, is not for glory seekers. True believers are outnumbered and outgunned in this world. Whether it be church politics, world politics or a doctor's waiting room, God shines the brightest when the odds are against us. “O LORD of hosts, blessed is the man that trusteth in thee” (Psalm 84:12).

An Essay for week #14 Apr 3, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60403.mp3

Msg#1615 Don't Attack Jeroboam

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Almost five hundred years after Gideons outnumbered three-hundred won a great victory over the Midianites, Abijah was outnumbered two-to-one against his own brethren. Curious. After Gideon there were seven more judges, Samuel, Saul and King David. Solomon built the Temple of God on the rock at Ornan's old threshingfloor, and his son, Rehoboam acted foolishly to divide the Hebrews into two kingdoms. Now Rehoboam's son, Abijah, king of Judah, was about to be whooped in battle against Jeroboam king of Israel. "And Abijah stood up upon mount Zemaraim, which is in mount Ephraim, and said, Hear me thou Jeroboam and all Israel" (2Chron 13:4). For the next seven verses Abijah expounds all the Bible errors and worship errors that were initiated by Jeroboam and followed by Israel. It is eloquent, accurate, and succinct, but seems perfectly feckless. While Abijah reasons with them Jeroboam outflanks and surrounds them. The apostate church is replete with Bible errors and worship errors. They lead untold millions into a Christless eternity. They will outnumber us, outflank us, surround us and attack us. Victory over the apostate church is certain, but to be accomplished without our attack. "Then the men of Judah gave a shout, and as the men of Judah shouted, it came to pass, that God smote Jeroboam and all Israel before Abijah and Judah ... and the children of Judah prevailed because they relied upon the LORD God of their fathers" (2Chron 13:15, 18b). Every denomination stands in brazen error, denying the pre-millennial return of Christ and Israel as his chosen people. and they will attack God's remnant. Give a shout against the apostasy but focus on preaching the gospel to every creature, not on attacking the church across the street.

An Essay for week #15 Apr 10, 2016

Msg#1616 Jumping Jehoshaphat

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Jumping Jehoshaphat” was an expression often heard and it originated because a king of Judah jumped into bed with Ahab, the vilest of the kings of Israel. “Can't”, “Quit”, and “Compromise” should be eliminated from a Christian's vocabulary. A Baptist pastor memorably said, “they all start with 'K' so just rip that page from your dictionary.” Jehoshaphat's jump illustrates the ugly cost of a Christian's compromise. Jehoshaphat was a righteous and blessed king. “Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honour in abundance, and joined affinity with Ahab” (2Chron 18:1). The believer having “affinity”, i.e. a feeling of kinship, with the apostate church is a dangerous compromise, never to be jumped into. Jehoshaphat and vile Ahab named their children alike, and Jehoshaphat's son Jehoram “walked in the way of the kings of Israel, like as did the house of Ahab: for he had the daughter of Ahab to wife: and he wrought that which was evil in the eyes of the LORD” (2Chron 21:6). Then Jehoshaphat's grandson Ahaziah was slain with his wicked grandma Jezebel when God sent Jehu (Hebrew meaning *Jehovah is He*) for her “Payday Someday” (as R.G. Lee put it). Could it get worse? Yes. Jehoshaphat's daughter in law Athaliah, Ahab's daughter, “arose and destroyed all the seed royal,” and set herself up as the first and only Queen of Judah (2Kng 11, 2Chron 22-23). Jumping Jehoshaphat brought in generations of abominable idolatry and a depraved woman leader into Jerusalem. The prophet of God said to Jehoshaphat, “Shouldest thou help the ungodly, and love them that hate the LORD? therefore is wrath upon thee from before the LORD” (19:2). Don't compromise with the seeker sensitive, modernist bible, rock-n-roll apostate church. It will cost more than you want to pay, and keep you longer than you want to stay.

An Essay for week #16 Apr 17, 2016

Msg#1617 I Will See You Later Mom

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

What love might outrank ones love for his mother? What reverence might overwhelm obedience to her call? When called by his mother Jesus answered, "Who is my mother? And who are my brethren?" (Matt 12:48). He then stretched forth his hand toward his disciples, and said, "Behold my mother and my brethren! For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother" (49-50). A Roman religion taught my mother to venerate, deify, and even pray to Jesus' mother, but Jesus taught no such foolishness. He taught that no relationship is of more importance than the Lord-to-disciple and disciple-to-Lord relationship. Jesus went further to say, "Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, . . . and a man's foes shall be they of his own household" (Matt 10:34-36). This Mother's Day we should reverence our mothers as best we can. If living in her home we must obey, submit to, and reverence mom, but otherwise Jesus teaches that our relationship with our Lord trumps all other relationships. In fact, he goes on to say, "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me" (10:37). Love your mom. Honor her on Mother's Day. Love the LORD your God with all your heart, soul and mind. In 1958 my mom was in a garage on Bear Town Road in Gang-Mills, New York, it was called Faith Baptist Church, and when Pastor Cisal Palm gave an invitation she accepted our Lord Jesus Christ as her Saviour. Praise His Holy Name, I'll see her when I go home.

An Essay for week #17 Apr 24, 2016

Msg#1618 A Psalmists Four Instructions

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The LORD God's thirty-seventh Psalm contains four instructions critical to his creature's well being. They are connected to great promise and then twice interwoven through twenty-eight of the forty verses. The first six verses spell out the instructions, the last six word them in a profound abstraction. Learning to appreciate the structure and depth of Hebrew poetry is easily done in this Psalm. First up, "Fret not thyself because of evildoers." The failure-to-fret is expounded in verses 1-2, 7-11, and 27-28. Each section contains greater abstraction and more depth. When searching for this instruction in the last six verses one finds it thoroughly homogenized with the other three. Next up, "Trust in the LORD." Again this instruction is contained in verses 3, 12-15, and 29 with increasing abstraction, and finally blended into the last six verses. Hebrew poetry emphasizes rhyme and meter in thought not in diction. It is marvelous to unravel and analyze it. It outperforms any poem of English literature. "Delight thyself also in the LORD," and "Commit they way unto the LORD," are simple instructions given a sagacious depth by the Hebrew poet and psalmist. When I was young I delighted myself in hunting and fishing in the Adirondack mountains near Griffiss AFB where I was stationed. I had towed my little Datsun out of many a swampland. The sincere desire of my heart was a four-wheel-drive Jeep-Cherokee. I did not then follow God's third instruction, thinking I could just make up my own heart's desires. The promise of following God's four instructions is expounded in verse six of this Psalm. It to is rehearsed, abstracted, and brilliantly blended into the six verse conclusion. Mark up this Psalm and it could forever change you. A student of the Bible needs to be a student of Hebrew poetry.

An Essay for week #18 May 1, 2016

Msg#1619 Foreshadowing Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God's Hebrew poetry has depth not penetrated by the casual listener. "Give ear, O my people, to my laws incline your ears to my mouth" (Ps 78:1). A most common error in writing is changing of person or perspective. If one begins a story as a first person account from Joe the plumber, they dare not flip-flop to what Mary is thinking or to a third person narrator's input. When writing, who is speaking and the perspective presented is important. It should be consistent. The second sentence of this Psalm continues, "I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old" (78:2). This is obviously first person narrative from the LORD God. It is his people, his law, and words of his mouth and your, second person plural, ears are the target. That second sentence continues, "Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children" (78:3, 4a). Note that the narrator's perspective changed from God to man. This is either a narration blunder or perhaps God is showing us his human side, as if he might put on flesh and dwell among us. This Psalm gives this remarkable insight to believers who know something about God's Messiah. So subtle and so precious. So overlooked by the unbeliever and modernist critical scholar. Such insight gives this Psalm a remarkable new flavor. It is a long Psalm with a curiously negative approach: that the generations to come, "might not be as their fathers, a stubborn rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and who's spirit was not steadfast with God" (Ps 78:8). Such a promise is only possible if God is made flesh and dwells among us (John 1).

An Essay for week #19 May 8, 2016

Msg#1620 Baptized for the Dead?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A friend refuting the LDS cult told an elder “Get real! There is nothing in the Bible about being baptized for the dead!” His mouth was stopped when the cultic elder showed him 1Cor 15:29. Indeed the verse captures the focus of many false teachers, and stumps far to many honest believers. There are three exceptional rules for dealing with difficult verses: #1 watch the context in the chapter, #2 watch the context in the book, and #3 watch the context in the Bible. False teachers excel at taking things out of context. The verse says, “Else what shall they do which are baptized for the dead, if the dead rise not at all? why are they then baptized for the dead?” The false teaching supposes that there is some merit in the living somehow being baptized for the dead. The whole Bible captured in a single sentence is its most memorized verse, *John 3:16*. It shows man's stubborn, rebellious, lost need of a Saviour, the Only Begotten Son as that Saviour, the destiny of those without the Saviour, *belief* to be the only means of appropriating eternal salvation, and the *whosoever* that is eligible for that eternal salvation. There is no baptism of any sort in this principle, least of all a baptism for someone else, and certainly no baptism for the dead. Corinth was the most carnal of all New Testament churches; in these fifteen chapters are refuted fifteen apostate conditions, and in chapter fifteen the undeniable truth of the *resurrection of the dead* is the topic. In context this verse, 15:29, is the nonsensical question, “If Christ be not risen, then he is dead, and *Why are they then baptized for the dead?*” A believer is baptized (wholly immersed) into our Lord Jesus Christ; water baptism is not the act, it is only the picture; and if Christ is dead, *What shall they do which are baptized for the dead?* Christ is indeed resurrected; he is alive forevermore; and when one is baptized into the living Christ, he is alive for evermore. One is not baptized *for* the dead, but *for* the living; that is the core of 1Cor 15:29. Don't let false teachers rob from this simplicity, and make the Holy Bible say something that it does not, *For God so loved the world...*

An Essay for week #20 May 15, 2016

Msg#1621 Why KJB Only?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

All modernists ecumenical Bibles completely leave out twenty verses that have always been in the Holy Bible. They say that Matt 17:21 is not supposed to be in the Bible. They take their pen knife and cut it out! Then they take their knife and cut out Matt 18:11, 23:14, Mark 7:16, 9:44 & 46, 11:26, 15:28, Luke 17:36, 23:17, John 5:4, Acts 8:37, 15:34, 24:7, 28:29, Rom 16:24, and 1 John 5:7. Then they take Col 1:14 and cut out the clause "Through His Blood," because they think God did not mean to say that. These 20 verses are inspired, inerrant, infallible Scripture. Modernist ecumenical scholars contend that no Bible in existence today is inspired. Baptists will never agree with such folly. We use the ONLY complete English Bible with these verses still intact, the Authorized King James Bible.

There are 64,000 other reasons, but many are misinformed about this crucial issue, and partake in the modernist's diabolical attack against the KJB. The copyright New International Version New Testament has 64,000 fewer words than the King James Bible's New Testament! Words that are certainly in the Greek New Testament are completely eliminated. Baptists will not use the NIV, holding instead to the complete and accurate KJB.

Baptists, above all others, base all their faith and practice on only the words of the Holy Scriptures. When critical modernists mess with the words they are messing with our faith and practice. It is better to learn that 'thee' is the 2nd person singular of 'you' and 'thou' is its subjective case than to have a sinister textual critic mess with your faith and practice. Baptists believe that "*All scripture is given by inspiration of God.*" This was written about the copies of copies of copies. Modernist translators reject this truth.

Msg#1622 Job's Redeemer and Resurrection

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Of the sixty-six books assembled into God's Holy Bible Job, the oldest, contains the most graphic description of the resurrection of the believers at the second coming of Christ. "For I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: And though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God: Whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another" (Job 19:24-27). The clarity and assurance of Job is seconded two-thousand years later when the Apostle John wrote what Christ revealed about the resurrections. Job also declared, "Oh that my words were written! Oh that they were printed in a book!" (Job 19:23). God liked Job's suggestion so much that the sixty-six book collection began immediately. The book of Job was written in an older Hebrew tongue than the Pentateuch. After God's confusion of the languages at Babel (Gen 11, 2247 BC) the son's of Eber spoke and wrote Job's Hebrew, as did Abram (1920 BC). In all the philosophical debate of Job's epic Hebrew poem there is no mention of Abraham, Isaac, or Jacob; no mention of the law nor of the tabernacle; thus Job was written before the 1492 BC giving of the law. But there is the rub, such a pre-law, pre-tabernacle extensive dissertation on the LORD God's judging of man records mans need of a "daysman" who can ascend up to God, descend down to man, and be a mediator between the two (Job9:32-33, cf Prov30:4-5, John3:13, Rom10:6-8, Eph4:8-10). Job knew that his Daysman was his Saviour, his Saviour was his God, his God was his Redeemer, and his Redeemer "liveth and that he shall stand at the latter day upon the earth" (Job 19:25).

An Essay for week #22 May 29, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60529.mp3

Msg#1623 Agape Phileo and and Oikeia Kind of Love

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Greeks have five words used to describe what they love; three of them are knit together to describe the rare relationship labeled BFF, or best friends forever. The twit on facebook might have hundreds of “friends” but in real life one can count their best friends on one hand and they are not “Face Book” friends. Two of the Greek words have no place in the upright or in ones friendship. “*Epithyneo Love*” describes a longing for what is forbidden. In the NT it is translated “*lust*” thirty times and “*concupiscence*” thrice. The second, “*Eros or Erotic Love*” describes a selfish desire for sexual intimacy; infatuation is a synonym. Epithyneo and eros are character flaws. Pure love is described in 1Cor 13, it is an absolutely selfless love captured in the Greek tongue as “*Agape Love.*” It is commanded that a Christian have this type of love for their spouse, the brethren, the hypocrites, the lost sinner, and their enemy. Jesus said, “By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples...” If agape love is all that one has for their spouse/friend, they have a miserable marriage/friendship. “*Phileo Love*” is a close kinship kind of love. Phileo is not commanded but grown and developed. When practicing “love” of the brethren some individuals find a commonality in character, personality, and thinking and a phileo love develops over time. Peter denied Christ thrice and then thrice Jesus asked Peter, “Lovest thou me...?” Some slight Peter for declaring a phileo love for Christ. Best friend and marital love bonds with phileo character. That last Greek word is “*Oikeia Love*” describing the familiar, cozy, comfortable, secure love. Bev and I, hand in hand, sat and watched the sun set on our day. Not a word was spoken; it was an okeia moment.

An Essay for week #23 Jun 5, 2016

Msg#1624 Great Plainness of Speech

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Death is certain, only the timing is uncertain. For Mohamed Ali it was expected and prepared for; for Christina Grimmie, of The Voice, age 22, it was a sudden, senseless shooting. So too, the car that ran the stop and met a semi saw six teenage lives snuffed out in a moment. We cannot know any tomorrow with certainty. “As it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment, so Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many” (Heb 9:27-28a). If he died for yours sins and you accepted him as the Saviour of your soul, the Bible says, “Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints” (Ps 116:15). If you have not, the Bible says, “As I live, saith the Lord GOD I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked” (Ezek 33:11). The Evangelist uses a double acronym on D-E-A-T-H: The believer is Delivered, but the lost Done; the one has Eternal-life, the other Eternal-death; the saint sees Allelujah, the sinner Agony; the saved find Treasures the unsaved Tears; one goes to Heaven, the other to Hell. The Apostle Paul said, “Seeing then that we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2Cor 3:12). Apostate churches, yeah Protestant churches, do not display such plainness, but clearly there are two deaths and two resurrections. You need to know which one you're headed for, “Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with him a thousand years” (Rev 20:6). If you are born once, you die twice; if you are born twice, you die once. Ye must be born again.

An Essay for week #24 Jun 12, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60612.mp3

Msg#1625 A Fathers Righteousness

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I pray that no father who reads this has to go through the trials that Job went through, but that every father secures the righteousness that Job confidently held to. “Till I die I will not remove mine integrity from me. My righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go” (Job 27:5-6). In Job's extensive argument he requested a God-man *Daysman* (9:33), he knew that his *Saviour* must be God himself (13:15-16), he knew that that *Redeemer* “liveth and shall stand at the latter day upon the earth,” and that his resurrected body would see him for himself (19:25-27). The theme of Romans 4 is how any father can secure Job's confidences by attaining God's righteousness for himself. “For what saith the scripture? Abraham believed God, and it was counted unto him for righteousness” (4:3), and again, “Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works, Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin” (4:6-8). Paul develops that this righteousness is not attained by works, nor circumcision, nor law. “(Abraham) staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith... and therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness” (4:20,22). He goes on, “Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead; Who was delivered for our offenses, and was raised again for our justification” (4:23-25). At conversion God's righteousness is quickened into the believer, it is as permanent as everlasting life. Happy Father's Day.

An Essay for week #25 Jun 19, 2016

Msgs in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio

Msg#1626 Where To Get Truth

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

What is truth and where does one get it? In the epic Hebrew poem of Job, the first of the sixty-six books penned in God's Holy Word, Job has truth and his three friends have error. Where did they get their ideas, what were their sources? They had no Bible to reference. Eliphaz says a spirit talked to him in the night and gave him his insight (4:12-16). Be very careful around those types. Bildad says he just believes what his forefathers believed (8:8). He was only a couple generations from Noah himself, but his rhetoric was still errant. Job responds with talk about his Daysman (9:33). Zophar expounds secrets of man's inner wisdom, kind of like the world's first philosopher (11:6). All three sources prove faulty and gave false information (42:7-8). In their second round Eliphaz the spiritualist checks his horoscope (15:11,15); that is abomination (Deut 4:19). Job responds with a prophecy fulfilled in the crucified Christ (16:10-11). Spirits flee before the resurrected Christ. Bildad the historian talks of terrors of death and punishments of brimstone (18:11-16), and Job assures, "I know that my redeemer liveth..." (19:25). Zophar the philosopher hangs on to his own thoughts and understandings (20:1-3), but Job reveals that the human light will be put out (21:17), and the fear of the Lord that is wisdom (28:28). Eliphaz the spiritualist is up for a third round and makes the "name it and claim it", "blab it and grab it" argument of the modern TV preacher (22:23-24). Job's answer is perfect, he says, "I will just wait to hear from God himself" (23:2-5). Man still uses these errant sources for their "designer truth." God still insists his Word is truth, in fact he sent his Word, and he said "I am the... truth" (John 14).

An Essay for week #26 Jun 26, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60626.mp3

Msg#1627 USA Birthdays and Judgment Overdue

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On America's 240th birthday she stands in line for a judgment of Biblical proportions. A judgment like the prophet Joel preached to the inhabitants of Israel 2,800 years ago. "Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess..." (Joel 2:1b-2a).

Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck, Sean Hannity, Michael Savage, Mark Levin, and other conservative talk show hosts boast that they have the ear of America's "moral majority," but the truth is that Barack Hussein Obama won by a majority of the electoral votes and over 51% of the popular vote twice. The Obama legacy is a racial divide, wherein he empowered the blacks to rebel against authority; a moral divide, wherein he empowered sodomites to publicly flaunt and promote their immorality; and a spiritual divide, wherein he empowered Muslims to advance jihad and sharia law on the streets of America. To avoid God's wrath America must turn back to Biblical righteousness. Instead hopey-changey turns her back on the Lord Jesus Christ the righteous, and shakes her fist in the face of Jehovah God of the Bible.

I pray the LORD God's mercy on America, not his blessing. America needs preachers with the heart of Daniel who said, "And I set my face unto the Lord God, to seek by prayer and supplications, with fasting, and sackcloth, and ashes: And I prayed unto the LORD my God, and made my confession, and said, O Lord, the great and dreadful God, keeping the covenant and mercy to them that love him, and to them that keep his commandments; We have sinned, and have committed iniquity, and have done wickedly, and have rebelled, even by departing from thy precepts and from thy judgments..." (Daniel 9:3-5)

An Essay for week #27 Jul 3, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60703pm.mp3

Msg#1628 A Christian's Belief

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

John 3:16 opens a thesis portraying what it means to “believe in the only begotten Son.” In chapter four the woman at the well said, “I know that Messias cometh, which is called Christ: when he is come, he will tell us all things” (4:25). Jesus responds, “I that speak unto thee am he.” The men she brought from Samaria said, “Now we believe... and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world” (4:42). Closing the chapter the nobleman “believed, and his whole house” (4:53). Chapter five reports, “Therefore the Jews sought the more to kill him, because he not only had broken the Sabbath, but said also that God was his Father, making himself equal with God” (5:18). There had not been a son of God throughout 4,000 years of God's HisStory. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, David, Daniel, these were called servants of God, friends of God, prophets of God, but not sons of God. Men are only sons of God when washed in the blood of the Only Begotten Son of God. We error when we take it lightly that Jesus announces himself the Son of God. He thereby makes himself equal with God. This tremendous chapter goes on to show only the Son of God able to “quicken” man (5:21,24,25), and only the Son of man able to judge man (5:27-29). Believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, is to believe it all. And when one believes it all, Christ quickens them with everlasting life. John wrote so that “ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name” (John 20:31). Born in Hawaii does not make you Christian, confessing Jesus as Lord and Christ is the only way.

An Essay for week #28 Jul 10, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60710.mp3

Msg#1629 Don't Even Ask

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Job and his three friends spend thirty chapters debating why Job's calamity came upon him. What Job said was right, upright, and justified; what his three friends said was wrong (42:7); but what God said to Job is sobering: "Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding" (38:2-4). After rehearsing what he did in six days of creation, God expounds a list of no less than twenty things that confound the small minds of men. The creation account is stupendous; the twenty wonders, overwhelming. God's answer to the query, "Why do bad things happen to good people?" is this, "How dare you even ask!" "Then Job answered the LORD, and said, Behold I am vile; What shall I answer thee?" (40:3-4). God says to Job, but wait, there's more. God then shows himself infatuated with dinosaurs. He describes "behemoth," which we call a brontosaurus, and then "leviathan" which we call... well, God gives such an epic description of this sea-creature that man has never found the like. God says, "Upon earth there is not his like, who is made without fear. He beholdeth all high things: he is a king over all the children of pride" (41:33-34). Behemoth was the chief of the ways of God (40:19), and leviathan was king over all the children of pride (41:34), and God spends two chapters rubbing them in Job's face because Job dared to ask, "Why do these things happen to me?" Learn two things from Job: don't ask that question, and your Father is way bigger than has come to your mind when you do.

An Essay for week #29 Jul 17, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs160717.mp3

Msg#1630 Lift Up, Defy, and Stand

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Oh the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God” (Rom 11:33). King David's last words describing his might men capture depth and richness. In 2Sam 23 David's top three men have a historical depiction, a portrayal of a Christians present challenge, and a Hebrew linguistic richness that only God could orchestrate. It is like reading in three dimensions! “The Tachmonite that sat in the seat (Hbrw - thou hast made me wise)... The same was Adino (Hbrw - his ornament) the Eznite (Hbrw - sharp, strong spear), he lift up his spear against eight-hundred” (23:8). Eight-hundred to one are the odds for the believer today, and just as Adino lift up his spear, we are to lift up Christ (John 12:32), his preserved, inerrant, infallible, inspired Word (2Tim 3:16, Heb 4:12), and our sword (Eph 6:17).

Eleazar (Hbrw – God has helped) the son of Dodo (Hbrw – his beloved) the Alhohite (Hbrw – brother of rest) defied the Philistines, got weary, but cleave to his sword (23:9-10). The believer today needs to defy the “triple-A.” The 'A'theistic evolutionist, the 'A'gnostic apathy, and the 'A'postacy of the Protestant church; they modernize Bibles and deny Israel with their Replacement Reformed Theology. Jeremiah 33:14 is not allegorical, “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah.” The more “AAA” makes one weary, the more one should cleave to their sword.

Shammah (Hbrw – astonishment) the son of Agee (Hbrw- I shall increase) the Hararite (Hbrw – mountain dweller) stood the ground and defended it (23:11-12). “Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth... and having done all, to stand” (Eph 6).

An Essay for week #30 Jul 24, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60724.mp3

Msg#1631 Pour Out Living Water

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“David longed, and said, Oh that one would give me drink of the water of the well of Bethlehem, which is by the gate” (2Sam 23:15). People still long for water from that well: living water, spiritual water, everlasting water. Jesus described it, “Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14). Born and raised in Bethlehem, David longed for the cold refreshing water he remembered from the well by the gate. His three most noble men broke through the garrison of the Philistines to get it to him. In America, in an election year, it is obvious that the Philistines still exist, but the believer does not need to pearl his life to make the living water available to the thirsty. The fulfilled “Well of Bethlehem,” our Lord Jesus Christ, said, “He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water” (John 7:38). David knew how precious the water was, and the blood and jeopardy involved in securing it. “He would not drink thereof, but poured it out unto the LORD.” Roman Catholics and their Protestant denominations think they have holy water; Baptists know better. “Behold God is my salvation.... Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation” (Isa 12:2-3). Christ said “I am Alpha and Omega... I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely.... And the Spirit and bride say, Come.... And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely” (Rev 21:6, 22:17). In the next hundred days pour out some water in America.

An Essay for week #31 Jul 31, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60731.mp3

Msg#1632 No Worries With Four Commands

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

At the NE Summit Dr. Gibbs outlined the four commands related to a worry free life. Philippians 4:7 defines it, “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Worry festers where uncertainty exists. In our life, more so in our spouse and children, health issues, financial quandaries, life changing decisions,... if one does not know for certain who is holding their future, they tend to worry. Peace with God comes with our justification, but the peace of God is an added bonus acquired by obedience. The promise of perfect peace is connected to ones rejoicing, “Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice” (4:4). Always rejoicing is a mental challenge. When the moron cuts me off and leaves me setting at a red light I could have avoided,... well, sometimes and always are quite different commodities. Don't ask a person, “How are you doing?” Ask Dr. Lee Roberson's question, “How is your rejoicing?” “Let your moderation be know unto all men. The Lord is at hand” (4:5). Moderation is what a moderator does, keeping everything under control and flowing smoothly. A believer's life should be like that, because the Lord is at hand, never leaving, always helping, and soon returning. Before one can have that perfect peace seeping into their heart and mind they also need to be careful for nothing, and pray about everything (4:6). Everything means every little thing. When one prays without ceasing the big things that come into their lives come with the peace of God already present. Lastly, verse eight commands us to be incredibly careful about where we put our mind. Do those four commands and then, if you ever worry again, it is because you choose to.

An Essay for week #32 Aug 7, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60807.mp3

Msg#1633 Big Mistake? Press On Anyway.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

At the NE Summit Dr. Fisher pointed out that Joshua made the biggest mistake of his life and God recorded it for all to see. Granted he was deceived, lied to, and likely eager to be allied with somebody. The Bible says, “And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD” (Josh 9:14). Men of Gibeon took advantage and Joshua made peace with “ites” he was commanded to destroy. The league was only three days old when the lie was discovered. Doubtless there were many remedies at hand, but Joshua honored his word, and so did the LORD God. All the congregation murmured against the princes because of Joshua's blunder, and Joshua made the Gibeonites hewers of wood and drawers of water for the congregation and for the altar of the LORD. When five armies combined forces to wipe out the Gibeonites, Joshua could have set back and said, “Problem solved,” but instead he put his blunder behind him and pressed on with his integrity; he defended Gideon. Would to God, I could put my foolish blunders behind me, and press on in the battle like Joshua. God vindicated Joshua with a promise, hailstones and the longest day (10:8,11,12); it was in Gibeon where the Sun stood still. The men of Gibeon became such an asset to the altar of God that the whole tabernacle was moved from Shilo to Gibeon, and there God appeared to Solomon (1Chron 21:29, 2Chron 1:3). Saul had tried to annihilate Gibeon and David allowed them to hang seven sons of Saul for it (2Sam 21). If you are ministering, you will be lied to, you will blunder, and people will murmur about you too. Press on; God can vindicate you; he did Joshua.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 14, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60814.mp3

Msg#1634 Presidents Change, Jesus Doe's Not

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Evangelist Patterson preached Friday night that “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Heb 13:8), will be unchanged after America's pitiful election. 1) The Holy Bible will still have all the answers and give perfect hope (Rom 15:4). 2) God anointed preaching will still find some pulpits and do our Lord Jesus Christ's work (Isa 61:1). 3) The Holy Spirit will still move on hearts, seal believers and fill believers. “Grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption” (Eph 4:30). Persecution will still come. “He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his holy Spirit” (1Thes 4:8). 4) Prayer will still work. No matter who is elected president, no matter how Godless the supreme court justices, no matter if the economy collapses, keep praying. God answers prayer. “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass” (Luke 21:36). 5) God will still pour out blessings. “Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.... That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ” (Gal 3:7,14). 6) There will still be room at the cross. “And, having made peace through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself; by him, I say, whether they be things in earth, or things in heaven.... Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross” (Col 1:20, 2:14). And 7) the lost will still be saved by the gospel of Jesus Christ. Okay vote, but keep living for him.

An Essay for week #34 Aug 21, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60819.mp3

Msg#1635 Surviving As a Non-Attainer

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

David's last words talked of his three most mighty men, but this preacher, not the sharpest pencil in the box, loves how David lists that others “attained not unto the first three” (2Sam 23:19,23). Some of us may never attain to what others do for Christ. I know the world has yet to see what God could do with a man completely surrendered to him. I know the only ability that God needs is availability, but I also know that in this agnostic, apostate, atheistic society, pastoring for twenty years to keep twenty people pointed in the right direction does not “feel” like great accomplishment. Oswald's “My Utmost for His Highest” tells that “God plants his saints in the most useless places. We say God intends me to be here because I am so useful. Jesus never estimated his life along the lines of greatest use. God puts his saints where they will glorify him, and we are no judge at all of where that is” (Aug 10th). David's non-attainer Abishai lifted up his spear just like Adino did. Lift up Christ, lift up his Word. David's non-attainer Benaiah fought the devils lionlike men, and slew the devil himself (23:20). He even used the world's (Egypt) own weapon to destroy the world in his life. Okay, lets let the conspirators go their way. Don't spend days studying condensation trails, airplanes over Antarctica, or angel's breeding habits, it is naught. Keep the main thing the main thing. Get a Sword, and rightly divide the Word of truth! I am not promoting that you strive to be a non-attainer, I am just saying, although not given great esteem by man, we too can have a noted place as the apple of God's eye. David had non-attainers. God does too.

An Essay for week #35 Aug 28, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60828.mp3

Msg#1636 I Shall Not Be Moved

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When David writes the sixty second Psalm it is evident that he is in the throws of learning the lesson that he writes. It is easy to preach “Wait upon the Lord,” but practice is the great challenge in this regard. “Truly my soul waiteth upon God: from him cometh my salvation” (vr. 1). English is a slovenly language. The fifty-seven linguistic experts who took seven years to translate the Bible did an unparalleled job. The added word “cometh” is fruit of their superior work. Salvation is not just something that happened in an English past tense: it happened in the past, Christ saved me; it happens in the present, Christs saves me; and it will happen in the future, he will save me. It is laborious to capture that in English, but in the Bible languages of Greek and Hebrew such a tense is built right into the exacting language. The advantage of learning Greek and Hebrew is not a deeper insight into what God says, but in a deeper assurance that God said what he meant and meant what he said. In that regard do not trust a modernist scholar who promises to tell you what God meant to say. If it is copyright it is not copied right. “He only is my rock and salvation: he is my defence; I shall not be greatly moved” (vr.2). The act of writing this Psalm moves David. Notice when he rehearses this reasoning in verse six, he leaves out one word. In this day and age it is chore enough to get Christians to shut off the TV and read God's Word, but I would advance that getting out a pen and writing God's stuff down will cause one to be “greatly moved.” Then they shall not be moved.

An Essay for week #36 Sep 4, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60904.mp3

Msg#1637 Day 9-11 and Peace of Jerusalem

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpeh, and I will pray for you unto the LORD” (1Sam 7:5). In June 2014 the 221st General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church USA considered banning the word “Israel” from its prayers. Instead they settled on promoting an antisemitic divide between the ancient land and the modern state. Their despise of God's chosen people, Israel, stems from their deep seated Covenant Theology. Covenant Theology, which originated in the Roman Church and resonates in every Protestant denomination, contends that God replaced the Jewish people with the church. They contend that NOW Christians, not Jews, not Hebrews, not the twelve tribes of Israel, are the chosen and elect people. They suppose that Jews rejected Messiah, and thus God rejected Jews. Bible believers need to take particular note that John Calvin's misrepresentation of election is more diabolical than ripping the “whosoever's” out of the Bible, it is intent on ripping God's chosen and elect people, Israel, out of the world. The propensity of our leaders to turn their backs on Israel, to call them occupiers, to side with antisemitic movements, and to support a Palestinian state, comes from 240 years of church pulpits sounding out their diabolical Replacement Theology. The Protestant churches still use the Roman's allegorical methods to deny the millennial reign of Christ, deny a seven year tribulation, deny Jerusalem as God's holy city and Zion as the place we are marching to, deny the pre-tribulational rapture, and to call the Revelation of Jesus Christ “Allegorical Literature.” Bible believers need to know God's dispensational teachings and sway their friends and relatives from the apostate Protestant Denominations, and then “Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.... Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem” (Psalm 122).

An Essay for week #37 Sep 11, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60911.mp3

Msg#1638 An Ark in the House

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Striving to do the right thing in the wrong way kindles the anger of the LORD. Praise the Lord we are under grace. Christians have a mediator who is our propitiation and we are not appointed to wrath. Just the same, doing things God's way ought to occupy more of our attention. In the throws of David moving the Ark of God to the City of God he obtained a proper fear of God, and “So David brought not the ark home to himself in the city of David, but carried it aside into the house of Obededom the Gittite” (1Chron13:12-13). At the Northeast Summit Pastor Shirley showed why we should be diligent students of Obededom. When the ark came to Obededom's house that day everything changed. It took David three months to put in order the whole house of Levi. In Scripture they were the ones charged with ministering before the ark. David set in order the Levitical priesthood and it was followed until the coming of Christ. It is laborious to read all the Hebrew names that Ezra records in the Chronicles, but worth the effort when we follow the family name Obededom. When David took the Ark of the Covenant from Obededom's house, Obededom went with it. In those three months Obed signed up for harp lessons. God put a new song in this heart and he became both an ark porter, and a harp player (1Chron 15:18-21). Obededom also became a door keeper for the ark (vr. 25). It seems he, his eight sons, and sixty-eight of his kin volunteered for every position available (16:38, 26:4). They became door keepers, recorders, thanks givers and the ark praise team (16:5, 26:13-15). I should be doing more because in 1958 the Ark came to my dad's house.

An Essay for week #38 Sep 18, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60918.mp3

Msg#1639 Angels All Around Me

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christians tend to fuss and fret when politicians, circumstances, and/or friends turn against them. A stand for righteousness does that. In similar circumstances Elisha's servant cried out, "Alas, my master! How shall we do?" (2Kings 6:15). At IBPF Pastor Calibretta pointed out that the servant needed to know, and we need reminded, that, "They that be with us are more than they that be with them" (Vr. 16). There is an army of Satan around us. We wrestle not with flesh and blood, and Satan's "got the whole world in his hand." He hates what God loves: Israel, marriage, children (they call them embryos), law and order, Christians, and whatsoever things are honest. He is the enemy of God, and born-again believers are the servants of God. Roll-play the servant. A servant is one who works to make another a success. Just as Gehazi, Elisha's previous servant was sent to tell commander Naaman how to be healed of leprosy, Christ's servants are sent to be ministers of reconciliation (2Cor 5:17-19). The normal progression is believer, to disciple, to servant, to friend of God, but the foremost roll is that of a servant. So that his servant would recognize their advantage, Elisha asked God to open his eyes. So that the enemy would do his beck and call, Elisha asked God to close theirs. If you, as his servant are going to see the angels all around you, you must turn to 2Kings 6; he wrote it down for our learning. It would behoove all of us to fret and stew about our circumstances a little less and recall that we have his enemies out numbered and out gunned. They are indeed in blindness and confusion of face. There has never been a better time to be a minister of reconciliation.

An Essay for week #39 Sep 25, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl60925.mp3

Msg#1640 The Rapture

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The second coming of Christ is in two phases: when he comes FOR his saints in accord with 1Thes 4:16-17 and when he comes WITH his saints in accord with 1Thes 3:18 and of course Revelation 19. The ability to discern the seven year separation between the two is not present in any Roman or Reformed theologian. Both use the ancient allegorical method of Roman Catholic Saint Origen (AD 185-254) to suppose that the Catholic Church has replaced Israel and it is presently living through the tribulation period. Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of those scornful protestants. Keep your delight in the law of the LORD, and it says “We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1Cor 15:51b-52). The resurrection and life said, “Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die.” This last trump and catching away of believers is portrayed in the NONALLEGORICAL Revelation of Jesus Christ when John “looked, and, behold, a door was open in heaven: and the first voice which I heard was as it were a trumpet talking with me; which said, Come up hither, and I will shew thee things which must be hereafter” (Rev 4:1). John was *caught away, transported, raptured* and did indeed see the things which must be hereafter. Literal things, not allegorical, catholic things. Trust God's Word; he means what he says and he says what he means. The rapture of the church is not some come-lately doctrine of Baptists, it is pure Bible.

An Essay for week #40 Oct 2, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61002.mp3**Msg#1641 The Tribulation**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The disciples were eager for Christ to set up his kingdom but before that comes he said, “Then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be” (Matt24:21). Understanding Biblical prophecy of the last days hangs on the acceptance of the fact that the dispensation of grace that we live in must end before the dispensation of the Millennial Kingdom can begin. And before the Kingdom, God will judge the nations of the Earth and pour out his wrath in a seven year tribulation period. That seven year period involves the twelve tribes of Israel, it doesn't involve the Church. “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel” is then given to the 144 thousand, the church has been raptured. This is a time when God fulfills promises to Israel, and theologians can't force fit it into the church. Charles Hodge, a noted Presbyterian theologian who wrote 2,400 pages of Systematic Theology, said of the Second Advent of Christ, “This is a very comprehensive and very difficult subject.” He goes on to say that he has no qualifications to write about such a difficult subject. Presbyterian doctrine is that they are the new elect of God and that he is forever done with the twelve tribes of Israel. Discerning God's dispensations makes the “very difficult” very straight forward. The seven year tribulation period does not involve the Church. Fleeing from Jerusalem when the abomination of desolation is seen, enduring to the end, and refusing the mark of the beast are things written to tribulation period saints, and they are different from Church-age saints. Pursuing Biblical prophecy properly can open up a lot of Bible truths, but only when one rightly divides the Word of truth.

An Essay for week #41 Oct 9, 2016

Msg#1642 Armageddon

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The one word from Biblical Eschatology most know in all the world is “*Armageddon*.” Christians dare not be ignorant of its

significance. It is a Hebrew word from our Greek New Testament. Justly so, because it brings an end to the “times of the Gentiles” (Luke 21:24), and installs the Throne of David in the city of Jerusalem (Psalm 2). Transliterated from Hebrew, Armageddon is the mountain (Hebrew *הר* – *har*) at Megiddo, the place of crowds. It is a place where the seventh and final vial full of the wrath of God is poured out on the Gentile nations (Rev 16:12-17). A place where all the kings and armies of the world gather themselves together to annihilate Israel (Isa 34:1-2, Jer 25:31-33, Ezek 39:24-24, Joel 3:9-16, Obd 1:15-16, Zeph 3:8), Zech 12:9). A place where the KING of kings and LORD of lords comes riding in to save his chosen and elect nation, Israel (Rev 19:11-19, Isa 24:21-23, 26:20-21, 63:1-3, 66:15, Joel 2:1-2, Zech 14:3-4). The Roman Church and their Protestant Reformers do not believe in the restoration of Israel, so they cannot begin to understand this Battle of Armageddon. In fact they end up riding with the great red dragon having seven heads and ten horns (Rev 12:3, 17:3). That Roman/Protestant Church is called the evil woman (Prov 6:24), Jezebel (Rev 2:20), and the Mother of Harlots (Rev 17:5). Her robed “Clergy” are not just woefully ignorant of this Battle of Armageddon, they are diabolically involved. Armageddon is not the end of the world, it is the end of Gentile kings ruling in God's Holy City, Jerusalem. If a Christian is going to rightly divide the word of truth, they need to know some things about the Second Advent of Christ. Even so come Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #42 Oct 16, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61016.mp3

Msg#1643 The Kingdom Age

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever” (Rev.11:15). That our Lord Jesus Christ would one day be King of kings cannot be disputed by anyone who has read their Bible. Roman theologians, their mean-well-reformers, and Satan himself, have insisted that he not rule from the Throne of David situated on God's holy hill of Zion in the city Jerusalem, and that he not rule for a millennium. Revelation 20 insists six times that it is a millennium, but they call that “*allegorical.*” For the Bible believer, Christ being King of kings, occupying the Throne of David in Zion, and regathering all twelve tribes of Israel to their promised land is perfect fulfillment of what he promised. “Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it (Isa.9:7)... Behold, a king shall reign in righteousness, and princes shall rule in judgment (32:1).... And my people shall dwell in a peaceable habitation (32:18)... Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty (33:17)... Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation,... For the LORD is our judge, the LORD is our lawgiver, the LORD is our king; he will save us (33:20-22)... No lion shall be there, nor any ravenous beast shall go up thereon, ... but the redeemed shall walk there: And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with songs and everlasting joy upon their heads” (35:9-10). The Kingdom Age is the seventh and last dispensation.

An Essay for week #43 Oct 23, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61023.mp3

Msg#1644 The New Heaven, The New Earth

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is not yet given that man could understand God's eternity past, but in an intimate gesture of his great love for man he has revealed his eternity future. For those who would pursue it, for those who would believe it, it begins, "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth," and it ends, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God." Getting to that end requires only that one be saved from the eternal death that God, our Creator and righteous judge, has assigned to all that sin. "Once in the end of the world hath Christ (the Only Begotten Son of God) appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many (Heb 9:26, 28). "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). Religionists have mucked up the simplicity of that message but for the saved there is a place where we will spend eternity with God. There "the street of the city is pure gold, as it were transparent glass" (Rev 21:21), and since "the former things are passed away," there will be no more 1) tears, 2) death, 3) sorrow, 4) crying, 5) pain, 6) night and 7) no more sin or curse (Rev 21:4, 8,25). In eternity future there is a special place for those who believe every word between "In the beginning God..." and "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Many are deceived by clergy, or the world, so one should "study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" (2Tim 2:15).

An Essay for week #44 Oct 30, 2016

Msg#1645 Your Family Altar

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A leader always keeps the big picture in view, includes all and excludes no one, and meets the needs of his followers. Dennis Corle's "Spiritual Leadership Series," explores Jesus' ability to meet needs because 1) he knew things people wanted to know, 2) he did things people wanted to do, 3) he knew Someone people wanted to know, 4) he had power that people wanted to have, and 5) he was going somewhere people wanted to go. Jesus was a leader of leaders. Fathers, husbands, and men need to be leaders, and belly up to the responsibility of leading their homes in a consistent, daily, family altar where the Holy Bible is systematically read aloud together. Deuteronomy chapter six commands no less; Daniel, the beloved of God, did it three times a day; and David, a man after God's own heart, did it seven times a day. Christians are failing in America's famine, "not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the LORD" (Amos 8:11). Men fail to lead in family Bible reading because 1) they never saw it done, i.e. their fathers failed them, 2) they are insecure about the Bible, 3) the hassle that it involves, 4) the negative nagging, i.e. human nature always opposes that which is good, 5) the positive nagging; i.e. nagging produces the rebellion, "You can't tell me what to do!", 6) the time that it takes in the morning, and 7) the habit has not been established, i.e. it takes a minimum of ten days of accountable consistency to form a habit. Men, be the leader, be accountable, take the time every morning, overcome the nagging and lead in a consistent daily family devotion. God has promised "then thou shalt have good success" (Josh1:8).

An Essay for week #45 Nov 6, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61106.mp3

Msg#1646 Your Family Prayer Time

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This morning while sitting in the woods, waiting for the sun and whitetail, I spent half an hour in Thompson Manitoba, and then Kenya Africa. Christians can do that sort of thing when they talk with the Creator of the universe, their Father, their Friend. The American can affect who gets on the supreme court with a vote, but a praying Christian can affect the thoughts of Chief Justice Roberts while he is having his morning coffee. Liberal Justice Kegan has a life outside the courtroom and our Father has open access to every situation that affects her thinking. The power to pray categorically trumps the power to vote. "Men ought always to pray and not to faint" (Luke 18:1). "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men" (1Tim 2:1). The Bible goes on here to teach that men, i.e. males, are to be the leaders in that exhortation to pray. Husbands, and especially fathers, who do not daily lead their homes in supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, are delinquent in Christian responsibility. The husband who will not out-loud lead their wife and family in daily prayers is not competent to lead. The husband hearing the wife and family members talk to their Lord and Saviour has lead to the wall plaque which says, "The family that prays together stays together." A generation has squandered the great power of the promise, "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name..." Let's not let it go on, pull your family aside, lead in family altar and family prayer. There is a whole world of need that could be touched with the bended knee. The whitetail are here so I will close with the prayer, "Lord, teach us to pray."

An Essay for week #46 Nov 13, 2016

Msg#1647 Your Family Thanksgiving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

These are troublous times in our nation because of troublous times in our homes. Most have set aside God's tools for building homes and a fundamental tool is Thanksgiving. In the seven steps away from godliness the first steps are, "Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful" (Rom 1:21). Dads set the precedence in a home's thankfulness.

Abraham Lincoln addressed a very divided nation in 1863 when he gave this Thanks Giving Proclamation, "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown.

"But we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us.

"It has seemed to me fit and proper that God should be solemnly, reverently, and gratefully acknowledged, as with one heart and one voice, by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens."

Set your precedence, this is not turkey-day or football-day, or black Fri-day, it is Thanks Giving Day.

An Essay for week #47 Nov 20, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61120.mp3

Msg#1648 Your Family Singing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When one has a new birth they get a new name and a new song. Except ye be born-again, ye cannot enter the kingdom of God (John 3:1-18). “To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the hidden manna, and will give him a white stone, and in the stone a new name written, which no man knoweth saving he that receiveth it” (Rev 2:17). “And he hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God: many shall see it, and fear, and shall trust in the LORD” (Ps 40:3). “Praise ye the LORD. Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise in the congregation of saints” (Ps 149:1) “Sing unto the LORD a new song, and his praise from the end of the earth” (Isa 42:10). “Sing unto the LORD, all the earth; shew forth from day to day his salvation” (1Chr 16:23). “And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood” (Rev 5:9). Some Christians have their new song squelched out by their old one. Mind altering rock music fits well with the mind altering drug culture of this world, but not with the new song of the redeemed. Those who are “a little bit country” lose their love, their dog, and their pickup-truck in their music and need to drown their loss in some booze, but “It is not for kings to drink wine; nor for princes strong drink” (Prov 31:4). As a Christian you need to always be “speaking to yourself in psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord” (Eph 5:19, cf Col 3:16).

An Essay for week #48 Nov 27, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61127.mp3

Msg#1649 Unto Us a Child is Born

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The believer knows the Old Testament prophecies align exactly with the New Testament's presentation of the Christ, but the scoffer, the skeptic and the modernist scholar cannot deal with such miraculous revelation. In what is likely the first book ever written for God's Bible Job said, "I need a daysman... I know that my redeemer liveth... and in my flesh I shall see God" (Job 9:33, 19:25, 26). David's Psalm records God's decree, "Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion... Thou art my son; this day have I begotten thee... I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance" (Psalm 2:6, 7, 8). When God had Isaiah the prophet pronounce woe on Israel he gave them hope with, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this" (Isa 9:6-7). Every manger scene should cause one to recall Gabriel's declaration to Mary, "Behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David: And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end" (Luke 1:31-33). God was made flesh and dwelt among us.

An Essay for week #49 Dec 4, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61204.mp3

Msg#1650 The Son of the Highest

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined” (Isa 9:2). Our Heavenly Father shines best in desperate darkness. Israel, in the throws of their mighty God's severe judgment, needed hope. There were seven woes pronounced against her before this promise was rehearsed but they needed to know that their God would keep the promise about Messiah. They needed a hope to hang onto. The light that their God gave them pierces through three-thousand years and shines into lives today. His promise is led with this premise, “If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established” (7:9). Belief in the virgin birth of Christ is a fundamental of the Christian faith. “The Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (7:14). Belief that Jesus was God in the flesh is also fundamental. Belief that he will soon have the government upon his shoulder and be King of kings and Lord of lords is fundamental. “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace” (9:6). Those seven woes hang over America. Israel rejected her Redeemer and embraced dumb idols. America has rejected her Creator and embraced Charles Darwin. As the woes come to fruition we find troublous times in the kingdom. Christ is the Light of the world. In all the celebration of his birth light beams abound, reflect the true Light into the lives around you. There is hope in Christ alone.

An Essay for week #50 Dec 11, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61211.mp3

Msg#1651 Wise Men Still Seek Him

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Armed with thirty-six books of the Old Testament Scripture the wise men who came to Christ's birth, as recorded by Matthew, knew more than many give them credit for. They knew the birth of the King of the Jews was imminent (Daniel 7). They knew he was to be the Son of God (Psalm 2), and worthy of their worship (Matthew 2:2). They knew to worship no other God and not to bow to any graven image (Exodus 20:3-4), and they bowed to the Christ child and worshiped him (Matt 2:11). They knew the child was to be called "the Mighty God", "the Everlasting Father" (Isaiah 9:6). They knew of a supernatural star that eventually pointed out the house where the Christ child was found (Matt 2:9). Jupiter, Saturn, and Mars crisscrossing like a beacon is a natural occurrence, and never points out a specific house. The wise men knew Christ's star was a supernatural sign just for them and they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. They knew that true worship involves sacrifice, time, bowing, reverence, and an offering. They knew the voice of God in a dream (2:12). I'd say the only thing they missed was that reference in Micah 5:2 about Bethlehem. The Bible says that God revealed a supernatural promise, that Abraham believed God, that God saw his faith, and "it was imputed to him for righteousness" (Rom 4). These wise men did no less, and you and I are required to do the same. "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved" (John 3:16-17) Merry Christmas!

An Essay for week #51 Dec 18, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61218.mp3

Msg#1652 Wrapped in Swaddling Clothes

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the lambing season, while shepherds watched their flock by night, there came to some in Judea the announcement that the Lamb of God was born. Shepherds were the news network of the day, their travels from town to town and market to market caused this Noel to be broadcast. “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass.” The angel of the Lord had given them two signs to look for, but the announcement of the birth of their Saviour, which is Christ the Lord is what caused them to leave their flocks in the middle of the night and trek to the city of David. The Bible does not say the shepherds came to worship; they came to see and announce. They became the news network, “and all they that heard it wondered.” When I was saved as a young lad I had an angel of the Lord come to me, and there were a host of heavenly hosts praising God. The angel was a Baptist Preacher named Cecil Palm; the praising hosts were my mom and dad and the Gang Mills Baptist Chapel. Under-shepherds are still God's good news network. “How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!” (Romans 10:14-15). We need uncompromised preachers of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ in every corner of God's green earth. It is white unto harvest, and very soon the harvest will be passed.

An Essay for week #52 Dec 25, 2016

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl61225.mp3

Msg #1701 Day One Relationship #1

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The very best relationship cannot continue when the lines of communication are cut off. It is headed for trouble when those lines are strained or broken. Any married couple knows the importance of keeping communications in good working order, and have, at one time, tasted the joy of having a right relationship. A relationship with the Lord is the most important one in life. Others will not do well if this one is not right. Lines of communication to our Lord are prayer and Scripture. In this new year spending more time in both can enhance an intimate, personal, gratifying relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ. I need that. The Apostle John, the beloved disciple, had it, and said, "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full" (1John 1:3-4). Jesus had told John, "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you" (John 15:15). The fellowship that can make your joy full is friendship with God. That is a relationship worth pursuing. Prayer, talking with your friend, and Scripture, hearing from a friend, are more important than anything else in this new year. All of our relationships could be improved, this one first and foremost. When this one is right, all the others fall into proper place. Read your Bible, Genesis to Revelation of Jesus Christ, this year. It will improve your life more than the greatest diet known to man.

An Essay for week #1 Jan 1, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170101.mp3

Msg #1702 Abide IN Him

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There are things one can do to improve relationships this year. Lines of communication need to be improved. Showing affections and feelings needs some practice. Making effort to spend more time together is always commendable. The latter, the time together thing, would be called abiding together, and Jesus commanded it of us. "I am the true vine and my Father is the husbandman.... Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine" (John 15:1,4). In the military, with frequent TDYs that took me from family weeks at a time, abiding together took on a new urgency. Ninety-five percent of marriages broke during remote tours. But abiding is bigger than living together, or even being together. Jesus stressed "Abide IN me, and I IN you." When born-again, one is baptized into Christ (wholly immersed into), and indwelt by the Only Begotten Son of God. It is a permanent arrangement. He said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." It is, however, possible that a born-again one might step out on Christ, to not abide with him, to, as it were, excuse themselves from his presence while they go out on their Ranger Bass boat, or their white-tail deer hunting trip. We need to make it a practice to consciously ask His permission before we step out. "Excuse me Lord, I am going on this drunken binge and I will be back in a few days." See how that works out for you. No... abiding in him means we keep our mind stayed on him. That is why God directed, "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Don't step out on the Lord Jesus Christ, abide in him.

An Essay for week #2 Jan 8, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170108.mp3

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Msg #1703 Nine Fruits of the Spirit

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples” (John 15:8). Much fruit is God's goal for every believer. “The branch in me that beareth not fruit,” Jesus said, “The Father taketh away” (vrs.2). The wayside, stony, and thorny soil bear no fruit (Matt13). When a professed believer bears no fruit, recall what Jesus said, “By their fruits ye shall know them” (Matt 7). Eternity does not depend on our knowing, so at the funeral give them the benefit of the doubt. In the mean time plead and pray for loved ones as lost souls. The fruitless are taken away and the fruitful are purged to bring more fruit. God's goal is much fruit. In Galatians the Apostle Paul gives eighteen WORKS of the flesh, and nine FRUITS of the Spirit. Consider these nine fruits, consider if they are for your consumption or for others to consume. The fruit “love” that comes from you is for others, but joy and peace are fruits that you enjoy for yourself. Your longsuffering, gentleness, and goodness, others enjoy, while your faith, meekness, and temperance are fruit feasts for everyone to enjoy. The first fruit mentioned, love, is first on purpose. The Apostle John, who mentions us to abiding in Christ to bear fruit, writes his first epistle as a dissertation on love. Love is the first fruit that needs to be tender and plentiful in our lives. John's dissertation contends that love's absence is God's absence. The well purged vineyards around our church bear much fruit when branches are overflowing with sap. It is the presence of the sap that pushes out much fruit. No sap, no fruit! Abide in Christ, keep your mind stayed on him, and bear fruit.

An Essay for week #3 Jan 15, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70115.mp3

Msg #1704 Saturday's Woman's Rights March

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I attended the “woman's rights” march on the Saturday after Donald Trump's inauguration; he is our new president. In Seneca Falls they considered it their right to flood the crosswalks on every green light, so I stayed longer than I wanted. Nobody knew exactly why they were marching, so I took a survey of their signs to see what all the hubbub was about. I saw five planks. The first was the right to be amoral in every way. Every sexual perversion never asked about paraded on the crosswalks. Being incensed about the Y chromosome and insisting it does not matter is not very scientific, but it was the main battle cry of “woman's rights.” The right to abort a human life and throw it in the trash was also claimed as their amoral right but it took a back seat to sodomy and the Y chromosome denial. They devised the term “transgender” and cram it down our throats, as if Y chromosomes present or lacking, don't really matter in their artificial world. The reality is that Jehovah God, man's Creator, made Y-chromosomed and not-Y-chromosomed, and He has the say for our moral right and wrong. There is no transgender and He has declared who should have sex with whom. He also clarified when a new soul is conceived and takes his image and likeness. Amoral rights are wrong, God's rights are supreme.

The second plank they marched across during green lights is that black-lives matter more than blue-lives matter, and way more than white-lives matter. It is kind of their affirmative action of who should matter more. Reality is that blue-lives, being commissioned to stand between the good and evil of society, matter more. Green-lives, commissioned to stand between the good and evil of nations, are right up there as well, but black-lives are not more deserving of rights because of race or color. Saying otherwise is actually racism.

The third plank I saw on the crosswalk was that carbon dioxide, simple CO₂, was going to end the world as we know it. The brain-washing ability of the liberal progressive is displayed in earnest by their calling CO₂ the most dangerous pollutant in our world. The reality is that it is a perfectly natural ingredient in God's green earth. We exhale it daily. Real science knows that ocean temperatures rise, algae populations quadruple, and all the CO₂, that we could every feed them is devoured,

turned into the O₂, that we inhale. Algae's photosynthesis produces over half of our oxygen and consumes CO₂ to do it. They grossly exaggerate what rain forests do for us. Liberals look at one tiny piece of God's impressive, self-regulating, cyclic system, i.e. CO₂ levels, and suppose the world is coming to an end unless they step in and save it. The progressive demagogues call that "science," and have pulled blinders across the eyes of three generations. They have fossil-fuel-phobia because of the hoax. Carbon dioxide labeled as a dangerous pollutant, give me a break, where is the "logic and reason" Barrack boasted about.

The illegal cross walkers also supposed that the Muslim religion has more religious rights than those who pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God. It was affirmative action for Islam and Shari'a law. Ignore the Islamic invasions of the past, the 17th century of Spain, the Islamic State called for in Muhammad's '*Qur'an*', the sociology-economic-political-militant-religious-system and pretend it to be a peace loving religion. There is nothing peaceful about suicide-bombers and terrorist truck drivers. It is mass delusion that they be given more rights in our public schools than the teacher who would read a Holy Bible, and pray in Jesus' name. The Islamic invasion, not CO₂ levels, is what will change the world as we know it. "Woman's rights" march indeed; these are planks of the progressive liberal's agenda!

Lastly, the plank that "woman's rights" marchers paraded in my windshield was to take Jerusalem away from God's chosen people, Israel, and force them to make a two state solution. They would label Israel as "occupiers of Palestinian land," and force them to share God's ancient "city of peace" with the terrorists that have vowed to "wipe Israel and Judaism off the face of the earth." That is nothing but diabolical. Satan and the powers of hell were jubilant at Saturdays march and his minions are eager that all five planks get nailed down. Pray that our new president will have the wherewithal to rip up every one of these progressive planks. It is a formidable task for a minority group. Obama had a pen and a phone, but we have a Book and an Almighty God.

An Essay for week #4 Jan 22, 2017 (a 785 word oped)

Msg #1705 The Abider's Promise

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts, because they have not hearkened unto my words, nor to my law, but rejected it” (Jer6:19). In Jeremiah the prophet's day, God had a grievance with his chosen people, Israel. In our day God has the same grievance with America. A preacher of righteousness will not be popular. Jesus tells us that the world will hate those who abide in him, and gives love and hate in stark contrast (John 15). There is no room for straddling the fence. He pleads that you continue in his love, assuring that we have the ability to step out of it. “If ye keep my commandments, ye shall abide in my love” (15:10). Christ's plea to abide in his love is followed by three sobering realities. First we will be his friend, not his servant. He has intimately shared everything with us in the Holy Bible; all of his plans and wishes are written down for us We can be a friend of God, like Abraham, Moses or Daniel. Second is that the world is going to hate God's friends. It is not about you, it is about Christ. He has uncovered the sins of the world, and they are not going to like your candle. Thirdly, his friends have a Comforter and Spirit of truth dwelling in them and are commissioned to bear witness, as they bring forth fruit. There is a tremendous promise associated with these three sobering realities. “That whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you” (15:16). Two things, the promise is only for those abiding, as witnesses, with fruit, and the word “may” is different than the legal term “shall.” Abide in him.

An Essay for week #5 Jan 29, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70129.mp3

Msg #1706 Spring Time and Love

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Happy Valentines Day comes in February like a carrot on a string. It is meant to entice us to press through the cold, dark, frigid throws of winter, remembering the love of life, and push towards the rejuvenating breath of spring time and love. This essay focuses on ten building blocks of blissful matrimony, while you focus on this question, “Why in the world did I marry this woman?” (or gender specific?) List item 1) get your life priorities right, love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind and strength. That includes a weekly tithe of all that He has blessed you with. The physical and emotional will take care of themselves when we get this one right, God said so. 2) Love and be faithful to your local independent, Bible believing, Baptist Church, it is His most important resource in the maintenance of your life and home. 3) Regularly share your salvation testimony, with a when, where, and HOW. The latter should include so much Roman's Road that anyone could do what you did. It should be your most told story, in that your wife, children, and grandchildren could recite it from memory. These three are building blocks for life as well as blissful marriage. 4) Marriage is a spiritual union, put your main emphasis there; remember Christ's illustrations of the lily and the song-bird. 5) An intimate, personal, passionate relationship with your spouse only comes from one you have with Christ. 6) Learn to communicate well, it is a learned behavior. 7) Children are motivated only by feelings, don't be childish. 8) Use the two golden phrases often (but not together), “I am sorry,” and “I love you.” 9) Control your thought life, casting down imaginations (2Cor10:5). 10) Come back for this one next week.

An Essay for week #6 Feb 5, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70205.mp3

Msg #1707 Holding Her Heart

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.” The most challenging construct in a blissful marriage is a husband who knows how to hold on to his wife's heart. It cannot be done with force or manipulation, in fact holding her heart must be an ongoing, thoughtful, tender, deliberate art. God held Abraham's but lost Israel's, held King David's but lost King Solomon's, held Daniel's but lost Belshazzar's. If you will do it successfully it will require selfless love. Immature love is selfish and most do not go much past that. Jesus said, “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” Giving your time, priority, attention, even your wallet are less than your life, but many falter there. Your wife also knows when you make her the most significant person in your life... or not. Selfless love will lead to one's genuine significance. She will feel significant physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Don't leave out the latter, God says that if a wife is to learn spiritual truths, let her ask her husband at home. Husbands better open their Bible and teach spiritual truths in the home. Take the lead here or loose her heart. The third aspect of holding on to her heart is giving her security. A wife needs to know that this arrangement is “till death do us part.” Our Saviour and Lord said, “I will never leave you, nor forsake you.” A husband must learn to pass on God's selfless love, his genuine showing of significance, and heart felt security. All three must be physical, emotional, and spiritual. Use these to cradle her heart in strong gentleness. Hold it gently, and marriage is a taste of Paradise. Happy Valentines.

An Essay for week #7 Feb 12, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170212.mp3

Msg #1708 What Every Christian Should Be

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Ephesians is the first of the Apostle Paul's prison Epistles, written after two years of his silent reckoning. The Holy Spirit of God aptly inserts a depth in his communication. "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God.; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.... To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God" (2:19-20, 3:10). In this boldness every christian should be under a pastor, a shepherd and teacher, for the perfecting of the saints, that we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine (4:8-16). Hebrews 13:7 and 17 (mark them in your Bible) stating that your pastor should have "the rule over you." Every christian should also be active in the body of Christ (Eph 4:4-7). Not a denomination, with their catholic church, but an independent, autonomous, Bible believing, solid, local, Baptist one. Every christian should be effectually working their vocation, i.e. calling (4:1,4, Php3:14, 1Cor 1:26, 7:20). Don't be deceived by Presbyterians and Calvinists, your calling and election are not to salvation but to service. Effectiveness comes from dedication to the work, dedication to prayer, humility of heart but authority in purpose. And every christian needs to be exercised in the Word. "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night... Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly... but his delight is in the law of the LORD" (Josh1:8, Ps1). This I say, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk.

An Essay for week #8 Feb 19, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70219.mp3

Msg #1709 Your Praise And Worship Team

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In a Laodicean church a good praise and worship team can raise the dead, make the spirit of man feel ever-so alive, cause the slumbering one to clap their hands and the lame to dance. But when your praise and worship team is God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit dwelling in your soul, your team will slay that resurrected spirit and teach you to die daily. God teaches, “Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord” (Rom6:11). The Laodicean team uses their powerful, sensuous, repetitive pounding music to awaken and energize the spirit. The Trinity Team uses the quick and powerful two edged sword to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart... for if ye live after the flesh ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify (put to death) the deeds of the body ye shall live (Heb4:12, Rom8:13). The worship team you follow is a matter of life and death. The Laodicean team readily admits that their copyright bible is a Not Inspired Version (NIV). They suppose that only the autographs were inspired and nobody has an inspired, infallible, inerrant Bible from God. But God, in his inspired Word calls them wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked. He counsels them to buy his gold tried in the fire, white raiment, and eyesalve (Rev3:17-18). Don't be settled into the Laodicean church with their rock bands. They have a different Word, a different Way, a different Truth, and a different Life. Be honest, they have a different Christ. The Word said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me” (John14:6). Worship in Spirit and Truth.

An Essay for week #9 Feb 26, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g170226.mp3

Msg #1710 The Good, Great, and Chief Shepherd

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When David wrote “The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want,” God was using a shepherd boy as a pen to write a preamble for his only begotten Son. Jesus said, “I am the Good Shepherd... I am the Great Shepherd... I am the Chief Shepherd” (John 10:11, Heb 13:20, 1Pet 5:4). How disparaging it would be to go through life with David's twenty-third Psalm memorized, yet not knowing its three-fold fulfillment. “The Good Shepherd giveth his life for the sheep,” and can say, “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved” (John 10:9). The Good Shepherd is God's fulfillment of David's twenty-second Psalm, “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?... All they that see me laugh me to scorn... saying He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him... they pierced my hands and my feet... They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture” (Psalm 22). On the cruel cross of Calvary the Good Shepherd gave his life FOR the sheep, in place of, instead of, in substitution for, in propitiation of, the sinner... For while we were yet sinners, Christ died FOR us. Have you used the Door? Only the SAVED have a Great Shepherd, that fulfills David's twenty-third Psalm. That Great Shepherd of the sheep, brought from the dead, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, can make you perfect in every good work, as he “maketh me to lie down in green pastures... restoreth my soul, leadeth me in paths of righteousness for his names sake.” At Christ's 2nd coming that Chief Shepherd shall appear with my crown of Glory and fulfill David's twenty-fourth Psalm, “The earth is the LORD's and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.”

An Essay for week #10 Mar 5, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70305.mp3

Msg #1711 Despise Not Propesyings.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The book of Daniel can be gloomful if one does not align it with the Revelation of Jesus Christ. There are ten toes of iron mingled with clay (2), world image worship (3), resurrected tree stumps (4), hand writing on the wall (5), dens of lions (6), a dreadful, terrible, ten horned beast over-run by a “little-horn” (7), a “little-horn” that practiced, prospered, and became a King of fierce countenance for 2,300 days (8), and seventy weeks of years with the last week divided into three-and-one-half year periods (9). In chapter ten Daniel is in mourning, in eleven there are wars and rumors of wars, and in twelve there is a time of trouble such as never was. Believers are not to spend their time looking for the anti-christ, giants in the land, or half-breed angels, but for a rallying trumpet, and then for the coming King of kings, and Lord of lords. Those who allegorize the Revelation of Jesus Christ do not recognize God's dispensational divisions and cannot rightly divide the Word of Truth. Pay them little heed. These chapters in Daniel detail the Stone cut out without hands (2), the fourth Man in the fire (3), the King of heaven and earth (4), the Hand of God writing (5), the Lion of the Tribe of Judah (6), the Ancient of Days (7), the Prince of princes (8) and the Messiah the Prince (9). In chapter ten Daniel saw His “eyes as lamps of fire,” in eleven he stood to confirm and strengthen him, and in twelve Daniel understood God's timing in all these things. Be a student of Biblical prophecy, “comfort one another with these words,” and “despise not prophesyings” (1Thes 5:20). “According to the prophecies which went before on thee,... war a good warfare” (1Tim 1:18).

An Essay for week #11 Mar 12, 2017

Msg #1712 Stepping Out of the Box For God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed” (Hebrews 11:8a). This verse, from Hebrews 11, called the Hall of Fame of Faith, seems straight forward enough, but make no mistake Abram's obedience was marked by great personal conflict and sacrifice. Even his first step of obedience took a great faith that only comes from God's great grace. The record of Abram's call is in Genesis 12, “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house” (Genesis 12:1a). When the LORD “had” said, “get thee from thy fathers house,” that house consisted of Noah, the oldest man on earth, Shem, Noah's son who helped build the ark, Grandpa Eber, that gave him the family name “Hebrew,” and Eber's son, Peleg, who was named because of the great division of nations occurring at the rebellious tower now called Babel. We have errorantly been taught, and then taught, that Abram was only stepping away from the Godless Ur of the Chaldees, but Abram was actually told to leave Noah, and the whole Godly line of Shem, the only Godly line left on earth. Separating from the Chaldees is a no-brainer. We are not sure how compromised the Godly line of Shem had become, but Abram was now called to step out and become his own-man, a friend of God who believed him, trusted him, and obeyed him. It is a good thing to live under the shadow of a godly father, but God only has children, no grandchildren. You don't get in on coat-tails. Some may need to strike out on their own in their relationship with God. Abram did.

An Essay for week #12 Mar 19, 2017

Msg #1713 Faith Without Works

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A Bible believer has a great reverence for all sixty-six books of God's revealed Word, but the very first epistle ever written to the Church should hold a special place in our awe. James is that epistle. God wrote us twenty-one epistles, this one was his first. James, the half brother of Jesus himself, wrote it before Gentiles were included in the gospel's outreach. If you do not get the eight things in his outline, get these three, God wrote you an epistle by inspiration, it is the first epistle he ever wrote, and you will not get out of it what he put in it unless you, "Study to show thyself approved unto God." The eight things are completely interwoven in this epistle. "Faith without works is dead" (2:17). Curiously, his epistle written to Gentiles several years later teaches that "works without faith is dead" (Rom 4:1-5). Faith without discrimination is good. (2:1-9). Society currently teaches that all discrimination is bad, but my parents taught me when it came to my friends discriminating carefully is wise. It is only blind or stereo-typed discrimination that is bad; be sure that all have sinned, and God can save anybody. Faith without trial is fake, and faith with an unbridled tongue is a fire. Faith without receiving is empty lust (4:1-3). Faith without wisdom is vain (1:5-8). Remember the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom. James discriminates between Godly wisdom and man's wisdom. A brain forging ahead without God is called philosophy, and it ends up unstable in all his ways. Faith without patience is spoiled-figs, and finally, faith without grudging is real (5:9). Faith that holds a grudge is not pleasing to God, or anybody else. These eight qualities of faith are neatly interwoven throughout five chapters James.

An Essay for week #13 Mar 26, 2017

Msg #1714 Before This Coming Palm Sunday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On Friday, six days before Passover, Mary took a pound of ointment of spikenard, very costly, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped his feet with her hair. (John 12). This was a reenactment of her salvation experience. John 11:2 says she had done this before and Luke 7 records that previous there was an alabaster box, tears and weeping, and three Christ-honoring customs fulfilled by the most unworthy woman. The Pharisee who thought himself worthy of Jesus, ignored the custom of foot washing done to every guest of a dinner, the custom of the greeting kiss, given to both cheeks of the most familiar guests, and the custom of anointing the head with oil, done for only the most honored guest. In John 12, three years latter, Mary still did not consider herself worthy of the presence of the Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Lamb of God, the Prince of Peace, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the one called Jesus. Nor am I. Recall Jesus' words to the hypocritical Pharisee, "Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little" (Luke 7:44-47). Before Palm Sunday reenact your salvation experience, it will make the next two weeks most holy.

An Essay for week #14 Apr 2, 2017

Msg #1715 A Picture of A Passover Lamb

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, ... And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening” (Exodus 12:3,6). God knows how to operate a calendar. God knows how to paint a picture. God knows how to depict His Passover Lamb. Fifteen-hundred years after God's paint dried his King, his Only Begotten Son, offered himself as the King of Israel on the tenth day of the ancient Bible month of Abib. God in heaven knew, and his Anointed Son on earth knew, that he was instead going to be The Passover Lamb. They knew that in four short days, on the fourteenth day of this holy month, the Lamb that taketh away the sin of the world, would be nailed to an old rugged cross. For fifteen-hundred years Hebrews had separated a Passover lamb on the tenth day and slit that little lambs throat on the fourteenth day of the month. God knows how to paint the picture; the Pope in Rome would smudge up God's picture with a “Good Friday;” the Arch-Bishop of Canterbury would smear it with “Maundy Money Thursdays.” It is apostasy. If Moses was kept from the promised land because he put one little fingerprint smear on God's holy picture, what will these apostate churches answer? Disregard the “clergy;” focus on the week before us. Focus on God's Passover Lamb. The lens you use to examine God's Lamb cannot be an ecumenical copyright bible accepted by the apostate churches. In English, it will only be an Authorized King James Bible. Make no apologies. Watch the Lamb.

An Essay for week #15 Apr 9, 2017

Msg #1716 Resurrection Morning

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In 1840, in Paris France, Louis Gaussen, a French theologian published his book "*Theopneustia*" (Inspiration). It thoroughly defended against the onslaught of attacks that skeptics, scoffers, scorners and scholars were leveling against the infallible, inerrant, verbally inspired Word of God. In his first revision he added eleven pages that rebuke and refute the scoffers who supposed eleven contradictions in the Bible's four resurrection accounts. (p218-228). Dr. Gaussen says that the eleven wild speculations appeared to be ill-founded and too often solved already to be in his first edition. Nevertheless, the scoffers perpetuated the list and, "We have thought proper to make a replay" (p220). The skeptics, scoffers, scorners, and scholars did not change their course or tactic in one-hundred-and sixty years, and the believer need not change the defense. The details of the resurrection accounts are all exactly true because the details of God's Holy Bible are all exactly inspired. Inspiration, inerrancy, and infallibility must be received by faith, and is only viable for those who first have the faith and indwelling of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Truth. Now all the scoffers have their own copyright version of what they think God meant to say. (There are still a few gender-neutral and sodomite-friendly versions vying for copyrights but the vile pollution has already been accomplished.) The resurrection of the Only Begotten Son of God, the Anointed One, the Messiah, the Christ, is a fundamental doctrine of true Christianity. It is appalling today how many "churches" align themselves with the scorners. Blessed is the man that sitteth not in the pews of the scornful. I don't trust their copyright bibles either. Every Lord's day, every Sunday, every first day of the week, as it dawns in the morning, believers worship and acknowledge Christ's resurrection. We have for nineteen-hundred years.

An Essay for week #16 Apr 16, 2017

Msg #1717 A Precious Type of Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Holy Bible, from Genesis to maps, is about our Lord Jesus Christ, but there is a name recorded more than his in its pages. That name comes second to his in the New Testament's beginning and second to his in its ending. God chose a shepherd boy, “a man after God's own heart”, and anointed him to be King of Israel. Jesus, the Only Begotten Son of God, is God's Anointed One (Hebrew - *Messiah*, Greek – *Christ*). In believing that, the Apostle John affirms, “you may have life through his name” (John20:31). So David is the Bible's most recorded “*type*” of Christ. King Saul's great beginning, ongoing struggle to destroy David, and keeping him from the kingdom typifies Satan's struggle against Christ. God giving David the heathen for his inheritance, and the uttermost for his possession is exactly what David records as upcoming for Christ in his second Psalm. Even David being deposed and driven from Jerusalem, and later reinstated as king is a depiction of our present distress. Bible believers know that Christ will soon come back to Jerusalem as King of kings, and Lord of lords. As much as David typifies Christ, he typifies man. His adultery and first degree murder cap the truth that “There is none righteous, no not one... For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:10.23). With deep insight David wrote “The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.... The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise” (Psalm 34:18, 51:17). The life of David is worth another look. One can learn of Christ; one can learn of his own vile nature.

An Essay for week #17 Apr 23, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70423.mp3

Msg #1718 A Disturbing Type of Man

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

While David as a type of Christ is invigorating, David as a type for man is disheartening. When Nathan, the prophet of God, portrayed a man's thoughtless, selfish, injustice “David's anger was greatly kindled against the man” (2Samuel 12:5). Someone else's sin comes into instant focus. “As the LORD liveth the man shall surely die. And he shall restore the lamb four-fold... because he had no pity.” God's anger against David's sin was no less. The death penalty was passed to David's child of adultery, and the four-fold price was paid as God said, “Behold I will rise up evil against thee out of thine own house.” Evil in our own house is an awful price for ones selfish sin. In the next chapter David's daughter, Tamar was raped by her half brother, her rapist, Amnon was murdered by David's son Absalom, and Absalom was exiled and banished from his father. “And David mourned for his son every day.” After this three-fold payment in one chapter David is tricked into bringing his exiled son home. David's enemies could never topple his kingdom, but Absalom did. “*Aba*” - Hebrew for “*father*” and “*shalome*” - Hebrew for “*peace*” combine in the name of “Absalom” who brought his father not peace but war, because of sin. “Wherefore hast thou despised the commandment of the LORD, to do evil in his sight?... by this deed thou hast given great occasion to the enemies of the LORD to blaspheme.” God hates man's sin, because sin will take you farther than you want to go, sin will keep you longer than you want to stay, and sin will cost you more than you want to pay. Sin has dire consequence. Learn some valuable lessons from David, teach them to our children.

An Essay for week #18 Apr 30, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70430.mp3

Msg #1719 Not by Law, Works, or Penance

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Galatians is the first epistle written to the Gentiles. The Gospel of Christ is to the Jew first, and also to the Greek, and so is the New Testament. The first of the Gospel records, Matthew is aimed to the Jews, the first of the epistles, James, is aimed to the Jews. The second epistle written was Galatians, and it deals with the line between Judaism and Christianity, i.e. law vs. grace. "Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, ... for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified" (Gal 2:16). Ecumenical bibles make this faith "*in*" Christ, but God's word says it is the faith "*of*" Christ that saves. Salvation is through faith, that not of ourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2). It is not our faith, nor our will. "Not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God." (John 1:13) Judaism, like all religions, had risen to the ultimate "we can do it our self" attitude. Their righteousness, attained by keeping the law, was man made righteousness, rebuked as hypocritical by Jesus Christ our Lord. "For by the works of the law there shall no flesh be justified." Defiled religions weigh the works of man, or the penance of man. True repentance requires that one see his helpless estate and call on, trust in, and believe in Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God. "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you?" False teachers, false priests, and mislead clergy, are still bewitching. Miraculously, "God sent forth his Son to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons" (Gal 4:4-5).

An Essay for week #19 May 7, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170507.mp3

Msg #1720 Independent Baptist Needed

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This week I accepted a degree from a theological seminary whose university worships pragmatism. I am grateful that they have acknowledged my seven years of ceaseless studies. I am grateful that in years gone by they held a position on the fundamentals of the faith, the inerrancy of the Scriptures, and the purity of King James Bible. Their keynote speaker Dr. Elmer Towns and his wife Jackie, spent over three hours mocking Baptist distinctives and deriding these three positions as my heart broke. Dr. Towns will be a great financial help to them, just like Syria was a great military help to Judah's King Asa in 2Chronicles 16:7-9. The world of the Independent Baptist shrinks as the Hybel-Warren-Syrian kingdoms grow, install rock bands, lower standards, mock my King James Bible, and advance their interpretive-dance-drama. Lord help us.

This week, 1600 miles from home, my granddaughter's friends admitted an uncensored worship of fantasy's Iron Throne of the Seven Kingdoms, but no knowledge whatsoever of Christ, the Coming King of kings. If grandchildren are to put more stock in Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Universe than in David Benioff's "Game of Thrones," or Peter Jackson's "Lord of the Rings," it will take Independent Baptist's going door to door and talking about the True King, interpretive dance won't cut it. Will you walk by someones grandchild this week and NOT tell them about the King of Glory? Lord help us. Lord help the Independent Baptists who go door-to-door with your Gospel, and herald your holy plea on the street corner. People need the Lord. If you would this week, when you knock on a door or hand out a Gospel track, pray for our 1600 mile heart-string to Texas. God can do anything, God can reach anywhere.

An Essay for week #20 May 14, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70514.mp3

Msg #1720a Independent Baptists Unedited

What The Bible Says Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This week I accepted a degree from a theological seminary whose university worships pragmatism. I am grateful that they have acknowledged my seven years of ceaseless studies. I am grateful that in years gone by they held a position on the fundamentals of the faith, the inerrancy of the Scriptures, and the purity of King James Bible. Their keynote speaker Dr. Elmer Towns and his wife Jackie, spent over three hours mocking Baptist distinctives and deriding these three positions as my heart broke. Dr. Towns will be a great financial help to them, just like Syria was a great military help to Judah's King Asa in 2Chronicles 16:7-9. The world of the Independent Baptist shrinks as the Hybel-Warren-Syrian kingdoms grow, install rock bands, lower standards, mock my King James Bible, and advance their interpretive-dance-drama. Lord help us.

Also this week, we had been 1600 miles from our oldest granddaughters for four years. It was such a blessing to take them out to dinner, and also see our great granddaughter, and great grandson. We were just enthralled to spend a little time with them, and only wish we could get to know them, and they us, but alas we are headed back to New York tomorrow. My granddaughter's friends admitted an uncensored worship of fantasy's Iron Throne of the Seven Kingdoms, but no knowledge whatsoever of Christ, the Coming King of kings. If grandchildren are to put more stock in Jesus Christ, the Lord of the Universe than in David Benioff's "Game of Thrones," or Peter Jackson's "Lord of the Rings," it will take Independent Baptist's going door to door and talking about the True King, interpretive dance won't cut it. Next week when I knock on the door of a complete stranger with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, I will be praying for Pastor Erick Knight and my friend Gary Dyess of Victory Baptist in Copperas Cove Texas. When I give a Gospel Track to a stranger on the street, I will whisper a prayer for Pastor Bragdon of Gateway Baptist, Gatesville Texas. Will you walk by someones grandchild this week and NOT tell them about the King of Glory? Lord help us. Lord help the Independent Baptists who go door-to-door with your Gospel, and herald your holy plea on the street corner. People need the Lord. If you would this week, when you knock on a door or hand out a Gospel track, pray for our 1600 mile heart-string to Texas. God can do anything, God can reach anywhere.

An Unedited Essay for week #20 May 14, 2017

Msg #1721 What Independent Baptists Preach

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Consider that Jesus likened the kingdom of heaven to ten virgins that took their lamps, and went forth to meet the bridegroom, but consider first that the gospel is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek. The very first Gospel record is to the Jews and presents Jesus as the Christ, the king that will sit on the throne of David and rule the world from Zion, the City of David. The parallels for the kingdom of heaven that are depicted in the Gospel According to Matthew are not about Christ's Church, nor it's soon coming rapture. Matthew is to the Jews and all about the King being put in place in his kingdom on earth. The parallel about the ten virgins is no exception to this rule. No Protestant clergy or theologian can give a proper commentary on these ten virgins because they hold that a catholic, universal church has taken over all promises made to the Jews; they see no dispensational divides whatsoever, and are covenant theologians at best. To see the depth of the parallel of the five foolish virgins with insufficient oil, and five wise virgins prepared to meet the coming bridegroom, one needs to rightly divide the Word of Truth with a dispensational discernment. Independent Baptists are not Protestant, not Calvinists, and not Denominational and do that very well. Certainly the application is clear, the soon coming Kingdom of Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people, but in a day when lukewarm Christianity abounds you should connect to the truth taught in an Independent Fundamental Baptist Church following the Old Paths. The Laodicean rock bands draw crowds and entertain the flesh, but they have no "Gold tried in the fire."

An Essay for week #21 May 21, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170521.mp3

Msg #1722 The Bewitching of America

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In God's very first epistle to Gentiles he asks, "O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you?" Trying to keep the law instead of relying on faith of Christ was a bewitching accomplished by Judaizers who feigned praise on the young Gentile believers. Today this same bewitching is obviously attempted by Elen G. White's Seven Day Adventists, but more subtly by Rome and her Protestants. The average accepted model is that, "At the 'Gate' Saint Peter weighs ones good deeds against their bad and hopefully they get in." When one is bewitched they are charmed under a spell and that describes most of "Christendom" which sets under "Clergy," and do not read their Bible. Now, even if they do, their "Clergy" give them an ecumenical, uninspired version that is not "quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword." What is a believer to do against such a spell bound world? Might I recommend that you sharpen your sword. Don't try and defend your KJB, try and use it. The sword is not a defensive weapon it is an offensive weapon. The gates of hell are not offensive weapons, they are defensive. "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night," is not a suggestion for Joshua as he invaded God's occupied promised land. If you want to be a tree planted by the rivers of water, a young man with a cleansed way, one with great peace who lets nothing offend them, you need to memorize and use the Word that is forever settled in heaven. Discard all of man's copyright versions; use an inspired inerrant Holy Bible on your spell bound neighbors and kin. The Sword of the Spirit is the Word of God, memorize it.

An Essay for week #22 May 28, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170528.mp3

Msg #1723 Use Your Talents, or Die?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God wrote his first gospel to report to the Jews the Kingdom of Heaven was at hand, but the King was rejected, and now it would be a long time before he would install his kingdom. It is assured that he will come. Jesus illustrates his coming in the Olivet Discourse. In Matthew 25 the parable of the ten virgins, and the servants given talents drives home that one must watch, and has serious stewardship responsibilities. Notice that the five talents, the two talents and the single talent were given out based on a servant's ability (25:15). Notice the one who got one, and did not use the talent, was cast into outer darkness. The talents that the Lord gave the servants are no less than a knowledge of God. Romans teaches that "the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men," and John reveals that the Christ, the true light, "lighteth every man that cometh into the world." Everyone has at least the one "talent." "For the invisible things of (God) from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead: so that they are without excuse" (Romans 1:20). When a man buries that "talent" under an evolutionist's "science" text book, and does not put that resource to the exchangers, nor pay heed to its importance, that unprofitable servant is "cast into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth" (Matthew 25:30). The Lord is soon returning. He is first coming for his own; make sure you are one of those, and then watch for him, with your lamp shining bright, and your "talents" well invested. Matthew writes an awesome gospel, it should be revisited often.

An Essay for week #23 Jun 4, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170604.mp3

Msg #1724 Trust God's Words

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An infinite God writes a book to his finite creation. It says that six-thousand years ago he created everything in six days and rested on the seventh. It says he sent his Only Begotten Son to save his people from their sin and he died as a “*propitiation*.” It says that a day is as a thousand years and his earth would have a day of rest when his Only Begotten Son, his Anointed One (in Hebrew, “*Messiah*,” in Greek, “*Christ*”) would come back and rule and reign for a thousand years. He says the words of his book are *His* words, the truths of his book are inerrant truths (without error), the “thus saith the Lord”’s of his book are infallible (they will never fail), and that every jot (the smallest Hebrew letter) and every tittle (their tiny letter demarcations) will be fulfilled. The rebellious, finite, rational, man scoffs at his book and changes its words. He theorizes that it took billions of years for natural science to produce planets and life. He swears that reducing our carbon-footprint is the only salvation for mankind. He is certain that our utopia will come when love conquers hate and we hush, ban, and exile those believers who know that God's book says sodomy is an abomination. Christendom is embarrassed by their infinite God's Holy Book. They change its words, delete its verses, insert gaps in his creation account and copyright what they think God meant to say. The people all agree, “This is so much easier to understand,” they say. Now and again, you might find a believer; their finite minds won't understand all the words of their infinite God, but they cling to, and believe, every one of them. “Blessed are all they that put their trust in him.”

An Essay for week #24 Jun 11, 2017

Msg #1725 The Good Samaritan

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Jesus' story of the Good Samaritan more eloquently answers the unscrupulous lawyer's first question than his second. The eloquent answering of, "Who is my neighbor?" is so renowned that it made "Good Samaritan" a cliché, but look more carefully at that lawyer's first question, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" (Luke 10:25). This lawyer was tempting Christ, with his question, and likely emphasized the "I" as if he were a special case, and the "do" as if there were some kind of work in the answer. Jesus, knowing "there is none righteous, no not one" (Rom 3), knowing that "all we like sheep have gone astray" (Isa 53), knowing that "by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified" (Gal 2:16), and knowing "the law was a schoolmaster, to bring us to Christ" (3:24), told the haughty lawyer, "Go ahead, keep the law." A mature believer can look into the depth of Jesus' parable of the Good Samaritan and see that no human priest can give out eternal life. They might just have a Roman dress and backward collar, or be a legitimate Aaronic Priest, but there is no salvation from a priest, he passed by on the other side. So to the Levite, with the keeping of all the Levitical law, and ministering daily in the temple, had no power to save. But when there came a despised and rejected one, who reached out with compassion and touched the half-dead pilgrim, salvation came from his hand. To inherit eternal life, you need to be touched by the Good Samaritan, the Lord Jesus Christ, who said "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14). Priests and works won't cut it. Praise His Holy Name.

An Essay for week #25 Jun 18, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170618.mp3

Msg #1725.5 Humor In Church

What The Bible Does NOT Say

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Baby boomers are turning seventy and hearing-aids are only aids. Our adult Sunday School class teacher was closing his lesson early in order to entertain some provocative questions. His lesson was on God putting a new song in the believers heart and his question was, "What is it that makes you want to start singing?"

A faithful member in the second row didn't hardly ponder the question before he gave a resounding observation, "When I am standing next to a beautiful woman, that is what does it for me."

As the pastor, I had no idea where Bill was going with this, so I winked at my wife seated beside me and gave Bill a hearty, "Amen, that makes me want to sing too."

"Especially with summer coming on and most of them are only half dressed!"

An older lady sitting behind him put her hand on her mouth and said, "Oh my.... Ooh my!"

A younger man behind me, not sure what was going on, woke up, "Yeah, brother, Amen, that's what I'm talking about."

Bill knew he had an audience. "And the way they walk down the street right in front of you, like there is nothing wrong!"

Her hand still on her mouth, and shaking her head, "Lordy, Loordy."

A fellow on my left was audible, but more soft spoken, "Singing, not sinning! SINGING!" Two others began to wake up.

Bill's wife was grabbing his arm and leaning over to whisper something, but he would not be stopped. "And then they put them on billboards, with black-velvet dresses so you will buy their whiskey! It's a big production to get us all sinning!"

"Bill,... Bill! Stop a minute!" his wife now had him leaning his good ear in her direction.

The teacher could not contain his huge smile. "Well that brought more input than I was expecting." People were eager to move on to the next question and pretend everything was good.

This preacher was there, April 9th, 2017. A good sense of humor is essential in the ministry. If I could get this down to three-hundred words, I might publish it as a Penny Pulpit, but Call-To-Glory would not likely publish it as a devotional.

Another Essay for week #25 Jun 18, 2017

Msg #1726 The Fate of the Rich Man

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Robert Ingersoll, credited as the founder of atheism in America, listened to his father, a Presbyterian Pastor, preach, “The rich man also died, and was buried; And in hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torment... in the flame...” (Luke 16). A faithful witness for John Calvin, his father taught him that God, before the foundation of the earth, chose this rich man to go to hell, and there was nothing the rich man could do about it. To these false teachings of Calvinism Robert Ingersoll wrote in 1878, “If that is the God of the Bible, I want nothing to do with him.” Calvinism brought a similar response from Charles Taze Russell, Joseph Smith, Mary Baker Glover Eddy, and Ellen White, all of whom founded cults opposing Calvinism, but also violating the simple truths of God's Word. That is pretty sobering, but Jesus' account of Lazarus and the rich man is very sobering. The rich man did not have another life. He did not have another chance. He did not have another witness to his family. Our life is like a vapor that appears for a little while, then vanishes away. Eternity is looming in your not too distant future and hell is real. The Bible says more about hell than it does about heaven. In life the rich man had options. “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved” (Rom 10). “Whosoever believeth in (the only begotten Son of God) shall not perish” (John 3). There are 164 “whosoever” in the Bible, ninety-three are in the New Testament. All of us have the power and responsibility of choosing who we are going to believe, and there is a judgment day coming. Choose you this day whom you will serve. Trust Christ.

An Essay for week #26 Jun 25, 2017

Msg #1727 Wanted: Full Time Reconcilers

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In Luke 16 the unjust steward goes haplessly about using his lord's resources to secure his own well being just before he gets fired from his job. He has authority to barter the forgiveness of peoples great debt to his lord, and he uses that authority to gander their gratitude. No wonder he is called *unjust*, but look what our Lord says about him, "And the lord commended that unjust steward, because he had done wisely: for the children of this world are in their generation wiser than the children of light" (Luke 16:8). This is not hidden allegorical stuff, it would be wise for you to do what this unjust steward did. You have authority to barter the forgiveness of peoples great debt to our Lord. II Corinthians 5:18 calls that "the ministry of reconciliation," and, sure enough, you and I, as born-again believers, are supposed to be in that ministry. Too many stop memorizing at verse 17 and never connect to verse 18! All that "new creature" stuff and the "old things passing away" is so that we can be full time reconcilers. All around us are souls indebted by their sin, and we have our Lord's authority to adjudicate their sentence. Luke 16 charges that we would be wise to do so, that people would be grateful to us for it, and that we should be about our Father's business, full time – recall the theme here, we cannot serve two masters (Luke 16:13). Be a minister of reconciliation today, give some indebted soul the gospel. If they take the deal, they will be forever free from sin's debt, and forever grateful to you for preaching to them, just like in Jesus' Luke 16 parable. Awesome.

An Essay for week #27 Jul 2, 2017

Msg #1728 Only Those Who Believe, See.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Prophet Isaiah records God's words with such fervor that one needs to carefully heed every first, second, and third person pronoun. "My servant shall deal prudently, he shall be exalted and extolled, and be very high" (Isaiah 52:13). Dr. Luke records in his *Acts of the Apostles* that a newly ordained deacon, Philip, found an Ethiopian eunuch who was confused by these pronouns (Acts 8:34). When he got it straight he got born-again! So it behooves us to read carefully. God's inerrant word has no misplaced, dangling or squinting modifiers. None. Zip. Notta. "Who hath believed our report? and to whom is the arm of the LORD revealed?" *That man*, it says in Isaiah 53, will see this soon-to-be exalted servant, the Christ (Hebrew - *Messiah*), grow up as a tender plant (vr2). *That man* will see *him* despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief (vr3). *That man*, the believer, to whom the arm of the LORD is revealed, will see *him* carry *our* sorrow, see *him* wounded for *our* transgressions, see *him* bruised for *our* iniquity (vr4-5). Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson won't see it. Bill Nye the Science Guy won't see it. Bill Maher the atheist comedian won't see it. That trio of frogs (Rev 16:13) say Bible believers are child abusers when they teach God's Holy Word as truth! Isaiah, however, carefully uses the first-person plural pronoun when he records, "All *we* like sheep have gone astray; *we* have turned everyone to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on *him* the iniquity of *us all*" (vr6). Evangelist Loren Dawson used to say, "If you go in under the first *all* and come out under the second *all* you will be born-again." It is just that simple, Neil.

An Essay for week #28 Jul 9, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70709.mp3

Msg #1729 The Foolishness of Preaching

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When God moved on Dr. Luke to write down accounts about His Only Begotten Son he did not just arrange them in chronological order, there is always a theme unfolding. When the corrupt lawyer tempted Christ, “Master, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus answered with the parable of the Good Samaritan. That chapter starts with seventy disciples sent out into the villages. Jesus warned them, as lambs among wolves, that they might not be well received. Jesus promptly pronounced woes on Chorazin and Bethsaida, they should have repented. The city where God's Son did innumerable miracles, Capernaum, is given a special condemnation because of their rejection of the Christ. The nineteen-fifties were marked by a tremendous reception of the gospel, and a growth of Independent Baptist Churches. The agnosticism and apostasy of the 21st century has ground most of that to a halt. The gospel is not being well received. Christ's woe could be pronounced on our cities and like Capernium, America has seen a special side of Christ and is all the more accountable. The disciple is not to glory that the message is well received. It is not. They are not even to glory in the devils being subject unto them. “Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, ... but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven” (Luke 10:20). In the military and in business we are goal oriented and success driven. As a feckless preacher of the gospel our satisfaction and our joy must come from three things: 1) our names are written down, 2) our “boss” is pleased with our service, even if our audience is not, and 3) we get to call our “boss” Aba-Father. The lawyer was taunting Jesus with his sarcasm, and that is not unusual today. Preach the gospel.

An Essay for week #29 Jul 16, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70716.mp3

Msg #1730 Be Ye Also Ready

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible says, “What is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away” (James 4:14). But Jesus said, “I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also” (John 14:2-3). Jesus' prepared place for prepared people has been in the works for one-thousand and eighty years and we have every reason to expect him to return in 2017. If he don't, live the year anticipating that you might go to him. Consider that a prepared people can't go to a heavenly mansion with this old body. “For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality” (1Cor 15:53). If our mortality catches up with us this year, Jesus gives us example. Death is separation. Jesus said, “Father, into they hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost” (Luke 23:46). And the Bible says “For thou shalt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption” (Psalm 16:10, Acts 2:27). That is the separation. His spirit went to God, his soul to hell (for us), and his body went to the tomb. If the saved die before Christ's return the body goes to the grave, but the soul and spirit go straight to our LORD God. We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord” (2Cor 5:8). Believers with such confidence are a tremendous testimony. Some may have more cause to anticipate going this year, but any one could. Carry yourself with confidence in Christ.

An Essay for week #30 Jul 23, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70723.mp3

Msg #1731 Deep Water People

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Trials of life can soften the soul, but for some God sends enough trial to completely melt the soul. When a soul is melted it can be poured out like water. Jesus Christ was (Ps 22:14). One is therein equipped to pour out their soul to God. Hannah did (1Sam 1:15). At the NE Vision Summit Pastor Doug Fisher aptly described *soul melt* using Psalm 107:21-30. There, those “that do business in great waters... see the works of the LORD, and his wonders in the deep.” It is God who brings the stormy wind on these deep water people, and “their soul is melted because of trouble” (107:26). Perhaps you've been there. Perhaps you are there now. You surely know someone doing such a melt down. Know that cancer can put one there. “They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wits' end” (107:27). At wits' end one loses all understanding of a situation, none of it makes sense. “Why Lord?... What am I supposed to do?” We reel to and fro. The leader Moses was there; the prophet Elijah was there; the rich man Job was there. They all said, “God, just kill me!” but he didn't. (Num 11, 1Kngs 19, Job 3). Naomi was there, and could have turned bitter, but she didn't (Ruth 1:20-22). Go back and visit why God melts souls, “Oh that men would praise the LORD for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving and declare his works with rejoicing (107:21-22). Keep that foremost and you will soon get to verse twenty-eight, twenty-nine, and thirty, the desired haven. God is good, all the time.

An Essay for week #31 Jul 30, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170730.mp3

Msg #1732 Going to a City

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Curiously, the New Jerusalem, that God lowers from the new heaven to the new earth, has walls, gates and foundations. Roman Catholic Saint Origin taught the Catholic Church how to allegorize away all the literalness of God's Holy Word, but a true Bible believer dare not follow their pernicious ways. Logically this new city, where God literally dwells with man, needs no gated walls standing on stone foundations, but it sure enough has them. When a born-again Christians departs this world they immediately stand in the presence of God. That is heaven, but there is coming a city that is described in Revelation 21. Abraham looked for a city whose builder and maker is God, and when the Revelation of Jesus Christ reveals it to our eye it has description and dimension that this world cannot contain. Only a precious few would believe it to be literal, and one might call them Bible believers. The walls signify that some things will not be allowed in; the Pearled Gates, the twelve tribes of Israel whereby the Only Begotten Son entered into this world; the twelve foundation stones reflect the Apostles who laid the doctrinal foundation of the the New Covenant. These symbols present in the New City of Peace will be reminders through all eternity. As incorruptible but finite humans walk on streets of pure gold, they will remember Apostles of the New Covenant that got them there, the tribes of Israel that opened the way for Messiah, and the walls that ban all sin from the presence of a Holy God. Bob and Darlene Puffer sing, "Jesus Knows Me, This I Love." If he don't know you, you too will be banned from this city. Receive Christ before it is eternally to late. I am going to a City.

An Essay for week #32 Aug 6, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70806.mp3

Msg #1733 With a River of Life

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Apostle John saw “A pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb.” Revelations twenty-two continues the description of the New Jerusalem, a prepared place for a prepared people. Everything in this description of heaven will be a reminder of the seven dispensations of God that perfected his tabernacling with man. The walls, gates, foundations and streets are now accompanied by a river, a tree, and the throne of God and of the Lamb. The river of water is reminiscent of Jesus' declaration at the well, “Whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14). That springing well is to “flow rivers of living water” out of our belly (John 7:38). In the Kingdom Dispensation the pure water flowed out of the temple to heal the land (Ezek 47:1-9), and the fruit of the tree of life were for the healing of the nations (Ezek 47:7,12, Rev 22:2). Reminders abound but perfection is attained... “And there shall be no more curse.” The 144-thousand servants are called out as present in verse three. Those with his name in their foreheads (Rev 7:3-4) have a special place of service in heaven. Alas, however, the bulk of this chapter contains the assurance that “These sayings are faithful and true” (22:6, 10, 16, 18), and “Behold, I come quickly” (22:7, 12, 17, 20). The sixty-six books of the revelation of God, written by forty men over 1,500 years ends with the Revelation of Jesus Christ, and “if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy,...” God's warning is very clear.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 13, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70813.mp3

Msg #1734 The Romans Road

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

At that Church you went to (are going to) did anyone ever take the time to show you from the Bible how you could know for sure you are saved and going to heaven when you die? Could I show you right now, with just a few verses, out of this 400 year old English Bible how you could know that? John 3:16-18, 36 says God loved, and God gave, and if you believe what he did for you, you can be saved and have (present tense) everlasting life. God wrote out what you need to believe about his Only Begotten Son in what we call the Roman's Road. First, Romans 3:10, 23 says ALL have sinned, ALL come short. Romans 5:8 says while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us; He died in our place. Verse 12 tells how we got like this, we are not sinners because we sin, we sin because we are sinners. Now verse 18 shows that Adam brought us into condemnation, and only one man, Christ Jesus, can bring us out. Look here at Romans 6:23. Eternal death looms over us because of sin, but God, because he loves us, offers a gift. A gift has a giver and a receiver. The receiver does not pay for the gift, does not purchase the gift, and does not work for the gift; that's why its a gift. The giver has purchased the gift at a great price, all the receiver has to do is accept the gift, no strings attached. But the gift may be turned down. One could say to the giver, "I'll not accept this gift from you." The thing about salvation is, there is a formal method for accepting and receiving God's gift. Religions tell us we must work, be good, do penance, attend church, build karma, or change our life to deserve salvation, but look in Romans 10:9-13 what God says you must do to receive his gift, and look too, who all can receive it. Would you pray right now and accept God's gift? That is all it takes to receive eternal life.

You could show this Roman's Road to your neighbor and lives would change.

An Essay for week #34 Aug 20, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170820.mp3

Msg #1735 Know Christ, Know Peace

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In an essay one cannot describe the peace of God that passes all understanding (Phillipians 4:7), but surely the four commandments that precede it could be expounded (vr. 4, 5 & 6). “Rejoice in the Lord alway,” is easy until one gets to the “alway” part. In all things, in all circumstances, and in all ways can be a challenge for some of us. “Let your moderation be known unto all men.” Baptists are often extremists, and rarely, if ever, “moderationists.” Moderation around the dinner table dare not be addressed here, nor the exotic chemicals called “sugar-free” or “diet” that create and plague obese bodies, but we could point out a needed moderation in our point of view. Extremes plague our pulpits and pews. “Be careful for nothing,” is an interesting command. Our children often make us full-of-care instead. After enough exotic pills and aforementioned chemicals health issues often concern us. It is hard to be “careful for nothing” when our country is governed by infidels who pursue reprobate agendas; just the same this is not a mere suggestion. The last command before the superb promise is instrumental to accomplishing the previous three, “But in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.” To often we have a “word” of prayer, when we should have a “season” of prayer; we are “nestled” in prayer, not “wrestled” in prayer; we have “trivia” in prayer, but not “travail” in prayer. That perfect peace of God settles in only after the rejoicing, moderation, lack of worry, and seasons of prayer. Recall the line “NO Christ, NO peace. KNOW Christ, KNOW peace.” Let's get cracking, if there is ever a day in need of peace, it's today.

An Essay for week #35 Aug 27, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170827.mp3

Msg #1736 Redemption Remembered

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I had three occasions at the NYS Fair to watch parents force their child to say “Thank you.” God knows our nature to be unthankful and forgetful ingrates. When God redeemed his Hebrew people from their bondage in Egypt he commanded them to establish two memorials, the annual feast of unleavened bread and the perpetual dedication of all their firstborn to the LORD God. (Exodus 13). The unleavened bread was a reminder of the great haste with which they left out of Egypt: not even time for bread to rise. The dedication of all the first born was a reminder of the great cost that was paid for their redemption and the great hand of God that was shown in their behalf. Israel's redemption from bondage of Egypt was real and an undeniable historic event, but it is also a portrayal of the believers redemption from the bondage of this world. We too are to remember the haste with which we were snatched from sin; it is likened to a new-birth; with instantaneous change. Likewise, remember the great price and the great hand of God that caused our conversion, justification, indwelling, quickening, and baptism into Christ. We are to never forget that “So great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him” (Heb 2:3). Incidentally God gave the local Church two ordinances as memorials of the redemption purchased through our Lord Jesus Christ; believers baptism, whereby we show Christ's death, burial and resurrection, and the Lord's Table, whereby we display our communion and recall his broken body and shed blood till he comes. Are you saved? Then don't be an ingrate, rejoice that your name is written in heaven (Luke 10:20). Praise His Holy Name.

An Essay for week #36 Sep 3, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs170903.mp3

Msg #1737 The Baptist Canon

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The two things that Baptists rely upon to authenticate that the sixty-six books called the Holy Bible are the Holy Scriptures are the “Word” and the “Word.” These are the straight edge and measuring rods used to make sure the books of the Bible measure up to a canon. The Greek word *kanon* derives from “a straight reed” and means “rule.” The “Word” that was made flesh said, I am the way, I am the truth, and I am the life. Our Lord Jesus Christ accepted the Hebrew Scriptures with this qualification, “For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.” (Matthew 5:18) We should accept no less,... and no other. The second “Word” is the inerrant, infallible, inspired Word of God. The Holy Bible itself has distinct qualifiers of what is, and what is not, Holy Scripture. The Holy Bible is inspired because it says it is inspired and profitable that way. Likewise the Holy Scripture is Holy because it self-authenticates. The thirty-nine books of the Old Testament are genuine because our Lord Jesus Christ said so. The twenty-seven books of the New Testament are genuine because our Lord Jesus Christ ordained twelve apostles to write them, and the books can be traced to one of those apostle's hands or their authority. The Holy Bible itself gives witness to its genuineness. Baptists accepted the Holy Bible as their sole source of all faith and practice. No Roman Church, Papal decree, Romish Church Father, Church Council, or Church tradition is an acceptable source for that faith and practice... or canon. There is only one “Church Father,” and he determined what books should be, and should not be, considered Holy Scripture.

An Essay for week #37 Sep 10, 2017

Msg #1738 Yom Kippur Portrays Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“In the seventh month, in the first day of the month, shall ye have a sabbath, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, an holy convocation. ... Also on the tenth day of this seventh month there shall be a day of atonement” (Leviticus 23:24). Leviticus 16 details this atonement; it is a portrayal of what our Lord Jesus Christ did for us. There is an emphasis on Aaron's role, what he must do “that he die not” (vr.2,13), the linen he must wear (vr.4), the sin offering he must provide, being a mere human, (vr.3,6,11), and the incense he must burn within the vail (vr.12-13). Our priest, the Lord Jesus Christ, is the perfect High Priest, needing none of these. There are two rams consecrated for a burnt offering (vr.3,5,24), but this day of atonement is all about two goats, the LORD's goat, killed as a sin offering (vr.8,9,15), and the scapegoat let go bearing “all the iniquities of the children of Israel, and all their transgressions in all their sins, putting them upon the head of the goat” (vr.10,21-22). The Only Begotten Son of God bore the sins of the world; there is no other sacrifice accepted by the Father. The sin-offering-goat portrays his death, the scapegoat portrays what he, even as our Living Lord is left carrying. The tabernacle, the brazen altar, even the most holy place needed the atoning of the sin offering (vr.16,17,18), i.e. the very symbols that portray what God did cannot attain to his holiness. Romans 5:8 reveals what is contained in Leviticus 16, but Leviticus 16 reveals what all is contained in Romans 5:8, “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.” This Yom Kippur pay attention to the portrayals of Christ.

An Essay for week #38 Sep 17, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70917.mp3

Msg #1739 Worthy is the Lamb

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Revelation of Jesus Christ asks “Who is worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof?” There is no mere human, no man in heaven, nor in earth, neither under the earth worthy to open or look upon God's bookkeeping. But behold, the Lion of the tribe of Juda, the Root of David. In the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. The Lamb was worthy. The Lamb was prophesied as The Prophet, The Priest, and The King. Prophesied by Pentateuch, Poet, and Prophet. The Lamb was Personified in our New Testament, manifested as God in flesh. The Lamb of God was Spotless. The Lamb of God was Sacrificial. In Revelation 5 he was Wept for, Worshipped, and Worked for, but more than anything else the Lamb was Worthy. The four beasts, representative of all heavenly hosts, and four and twenty elders, twelve representative of the all Israel, twelve representative of all Christendom, fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. The number of them was ten thousand times ten thousand saying Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Every syllable of your Holy Bible is about this Lamb. God said, The seed of woman, it will bruise Satan's head; Abraham said, God would provide himself a lamb, Moses said, When I see the blood, I will pass over you, and Jesus said, I, if I be lifted up... Worship the Lamb.

An Essay for week #39 Sep 24, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl70924.mp3

Msg #1740 The Two Trumpets Will Sound

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Israel's autumn Feast of Trumpets marks a remembrance of the two trumpets that gathered the whole assembly for their journey, their holy convocation, or their battle. Christians are also instructed to listen for the trumpet that will call us to our journey, to the clouds, our holy convocation, as a bride gathered to the Bridegroom, and our battle, to return with the King of kings and Lord of lords to a battle called, in the Hebrew tongue, *Armageddon*. True Bible believers have always understood that Christ's 2nd advent will be in two phases; when he comes FOR his saints (John 11:26, 14:3, Acts 1:11, 1 Cor 15:51-58, 1 Thes 4:13-18, Rev 4:1) and when he comes WITH his saints (1 Thes 3:13, Jude 1:14, Zech 14:5, Luke 12:32, 36). This has always been the teaching of Baptists and never been the teaching of the Roman mother of harlots nor her offspring denominations. Preterism holds that Ancient Israel finds its continuation or fulfillment in the Christian catholic church. From the Latin "*praeter*" denoting that something is past, Preterists suppose that God is all done with Israel, Hebrews, and Jews and had them annihilated at the destruction of Jerusalem in AD 70. They developed and practice their allegorical interpretations to transfer all the promises made to Israel to the catholic church. The Roman Catholic Church embraced this teaching, denying the literal return of Christ to the literal throne of David. All Protestant denominations carried this teaching of Rome and scoff at the Biblical teaching of rapture, holding instead to replacement theology. Since 1948, when their errant theology became embarrassingly obvious, they quit teaching it. But they still hold to it, and ignore or oppose the teachings of dispensationalism. Keep your ear tuned to the trumpet, your eye on the cloud, and your heart on the harvest, we will soon be going home.

An Essay for week #40 Oct 1, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171001.mp3

Msg #1741 Tribulation – Judgment – Repentance

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is coming a judgment of the nations, a “great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time.” Jeremiah 30:7 speaks of it, “Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob’s trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.” Daniel was given special insight to it, “When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains.” (Matt 24). The Revelation of Jesus Christ gives specific narrative to this great tribulation. The book of judgment is not open until the Lion of the tribe of Judah opens the seven seals of the book, in preparation, sounds seven trumpets, in warning, and then pours out seven vials of the Wrath of God upon the whole earth. For all this, men “blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give him glory” (Rev 16:9,11) America could repent to solve her bedlam in our streets, her bedlam in our capitals, and her bedlam in our climate. Repentance: 1) Turn wholeheartedly from evolution and acknowledge and worship the holy omnipotent LORD God and his Only Begotten Son as our Creator and Lord. 2) Turn wholeheartedly from socialism of every form, most pointedly our socialized health insurance, and embrace once more the aged US Government motto “In God We Trust.” And 3) Turn wholeheartedly from our immorality, most pointedly from the embrace of sodomy and other sexual perversions, and acknowledge the LORD God's Holy Bible as the supreme rule of all moral right and wrong. Nineveh did it; they repented and God repented.

An Essay for week #41 Oct 8, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71008.mp3

America is headed for More Tribulation and Final Judgment

What Biblical Steps Could America Take?

America could repent to solve her bedlam in our streets, her bedlam in our capitals, and her bedlam in our climate (Global Warnings).

- 1) Turn wholeheartedly from evolution and acknowledge and worship the holy omnipotent LORD God and his Only Begotten Son as our Creator and our Lord.
- 2) Turn wholeheartedly from socialism of every form, most pointedly our socialized health insurance, and embrace our constitution, capitalism, and the aged US Government motto “In God We Trust.” And...
- 3) Turn wholeheartedly from our immorality, most pointedly from the embrace of sodomy and other sexual perversions, and acknowledge the LORD God's Holy Bible as the supreme rule of all moral right and wrong.

Nineveh did it; they wholeheartedly repented and God repented of the judgment he had purposed for them. “The sea is his, and he made it: and his hands formed the dry land. O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the LORD our maker” (Psalm 95:5-6 Holy Bible).

Msg #1742 Armageddon

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Armageddon, the whole world knows the name. The number six-six-six, they know of its implication. In the Revelation of Jesus Christ, God closes out his whole written revelation to man. Therein is the one mention of Armageddon, in Rev 16:16, and therein is the one mention of that number, in 13:18. Both speak to the climactic end of the world as we know it. Both speak to the rebellious hatred of depraved humanity. And both speak to the coming judgment of this world, which comes when the Only Begotten Son of God, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David, the Lamb-as it had been slain, the Lamb having seven horns and seven eyes, the Lord Jesus Christ, comes with his saints as described in Revelation 19 & 20 et. al.. Jesus said, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). Unrighteous men hold the truth, that which may be known of God is manifest in them. "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse" (Rom 1:20). President Obama called Islam "a great religion," and it is muscling-in, but today America's god is Evolution. "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, ... Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen." (vr 22, 23, 25). Armageddon, don't go there, be saved instead. (Rom 10:13).

An Essay for week #42 Oct 15, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71015.mp3

Msg #1743 The Millennial Reign of Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The kings (presidents and prime ministers) of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD (Jehovah God), and against his anointed (*Messiah, Christ*)... the Lord (Hbr-*Anonay*, Grk-*Kurios*- owner, possessor, creator, master) shall have them in derision... Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion, I will declare the decree: the LORD (Jehovah God) hath said unto me (*Messiah, Christ*) Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee” (Psalm 2:2,4,6,7). The seventh and final dispensation (Grk-*oikonomia* – period of human management or stewardship) is the Millennial Reign of Christ. While previous dispensations were supervised by 1) man's innocence, 2) man's conscious, 3) man's governance, 4) the promises of God, 5) the laws of God, and 6) the Holy Spirit of God, the upcoming dispensation will be supervised by our Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, from his seat on David's throne in God's holy city of Jerusalem, in God's holy hill of Zion. The Roman amillennialism of the Protestants and Reformed has done three things for American Churches: 1) it has kept them embedded in replacement theology wherein they learned a hatred for God's real chosen and elect people Israel, 2) it kept them from a literal-grammatical-historical interpretation of the Holy Bible, wherein the amoral feminist movement has invaded, and taken over, and 3) it has kept them apostate to the point of no return. The end of the 19th century found Fundamentalists with this realization. The resurgence of Christian Fundamentalism in America is over. Apostasy rules in American religion and reprobates rule in our government. What is a Bible believer to do? That is easy, get into a Bible believing church and “Preach the Gospel to every creature.” It is our commission.

An Essay for week #43 Oct 22, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171022.mp3

Briefing Slides at http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1744 A New Heaven and New Earth

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When the redeemed step into the presence of our eternal God we will gain a proper and holy perspective of all things. In the mean time we are to study to shew ourselves approved unto God, and to rightly divide the Word of truth. That Word of truth unfolds the most intimate plans of God. Biblical prophecy is ennobling; it is written for our comfort, not our curiosity. The rapture, the Bema Seat Judgment of the bride, the marriage supper and our eternal union with Christ are a consolation. Even the described seven year tribulation, the battle of Armageddon and the salvation of Israel culminating in the thousand year reign of Christ from the throne of David are to bring us solace. There is coming a second resurrection wherein all unregenerate souls stand before our Holy God on his Great White Throne (Rev20:11) before they partake of their second death. And then, finally, there is a new heaven and a new earth. This present heaven and earth “shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat” (2Pet3:10). Peter gives pause to ponder these prophecies, “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in holy conversation and godliness?” (vr.11). It is ennobling that God has shared his hopes and plans for the future; it is a great act of intimacy when friends do that. Only the believing eye can see these portrayals in Scripture. The old adage is reversed for Revelation, here, “Believing is seeing.” Bible revelation is thus meant to change our attitude as our world plunges toward his prophesied end. As our country leans reprobate, what manner of persons ought we to be? Ministers of reconciliation (2Cor 5:17-21). Another adage, “Let's get cracking.”

An Essay for week #44 Oct 29, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171029.mp3

Briefing Slides at http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1745 So-Great-Salvation and its Villains

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The account of Naaman being healed of his leprosy is a superb portrait of what Hebrews 2:3 calls “so great salvation,” but 2Kings 5 also reveals salvation's villain. In 5:3-12 one first has to admire the persistent 3rd person testimony of a child, the blundering kings who know nothing about how God works, and the man-of-God who only sends a messenger, and confounds all of Naaman's preconceived notions. After Naaman's cleansing don't miss the seven results of authentic salvation recorded in 5:15-19: 1) He returned with his whole company to the man-of-God, 2) A “Now I know” salvation, 3) Overwhelming gratitude, 4) Silver and gold are nothing more than “burden of earth,” 5) A “No other God” mentality, 6) A consciousness of sin, and a need of pardon, and 7) A “Go in peace” joy of salvation. But notice, oh man of God, the seven traits of the villain of this account. In 5:20-25 for Gehazi 1) Gold is not as dirt, 2) long time service is obscured by greed, 3) he pursues after new-converts, 4) he lies about the man-of-God, what he did, what he said, and what he wants, 5) Gehazi is trusted by the new convert, 6) he sneaks around and hides things, and 7) he lies to the man-of-God. Wow, what a portrait. It reminds us that the faithful man of God will indeed be challenged in this old world. Don't miss Elisha's compassion on the villain as he confronts him, rebukes him, and leaves all punishment to the hand of God. Seven years later chapter 8 reveals that the villain struck pay-dirt for a new job, is still talking about the man-of-God, still bumping into people changed by the man-of-God, and is, coincidentally, providentially used to bring God's blessing on them. God is good.

An Essay for week #45 Nov 5, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71105.mp3

Msg #1746 Called to be Faithful Till Death

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is striking how the signs assuring Saul's anointing are so very specific; so much so that they tell a story in themselves. Two men meeting Saul near Rachel's sepulcher highlights the importance of those who went before us, at the border of Benjamin, the importance of stepping out of a comfort zone. The father caring for Saul has evident significance, and one cannot miss the irony that Saul chasing after stubborn asses was now called to lead stiffnecked Israel. The next sign took place at the plain of Tabor, where Deborah had to take Barak by the hand and lead him into battle. Much could be said about God's demand for male leadership here, but let it suffice that three men going up to God to Bethel was Saul's sign. There are the kids, the bread, and the wine showing that God won't buy you the farm, but will provide your daily bread. The third sign involved the hill of God and the garrison of Philistines. We are in a battle, and the enemy has us outnumbered, and outgunned. The company of prophets with psaltery, tabret, pipe and harp tells something about our music and the new song he puts in our heart. It is not just the old song with new lyrics crammed in, note the difference. God gave Saul another heart and all these signs came to pass that day. Is Saul among the prophets? Turns out not. We know Saul's obedience was short lived. The signs were so sure, God's call and anointing so certain, yet Saul's terrible fall was such a tragic failure. He became an opposer of God. This accounting is meant to be sobering. So many great starts for God end like Saul. Lord, may I be faithful till death.

An Essay for week #46 Nov 12, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171112.mp3

Msg #1747 Thanksgiving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible reveals a couple interesting things about our thanksgiving. For the Bible believer thanksgiving is not a mere suggestion. Philippians four connects it to a peace that passes all understandings. The Psalmist reveals its spontaneity in a quickened soul, “Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name” (Psalm 100:4). But the Bible makes mentions of the *sacrifice* of thanksgiving, “And let them sacrifice the sacrifices of thanksgiving, and declare his works with rejoicing. ... I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving, and will call upon the name of the LORD. ... By him (Christ) therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of our lips giving thanks to his name” (Psalm 107:22, 116:7, Hebrews 13:15). Recall that King David said he would not offer a sacrifice “which doth cost me nothing” (2Samuel 24:24). Thanksgiving is commanded, has great promise attached, and is often spontaneous, but sometimes it might be a sacrifice that costs you something. Note also that its lack is one of the steps that spirals us down and away from our God. Romans chapter one describes that spiraling stairway, but note that first God shows man as being without excuse. God does not believe in atheists. Every man knows internally about the Godhead and the wrath he is deserving of (Rom 1:18-20). So the staircase has a top step, “When they knew God,” a first step down, “they glorified him not as God,” and the next step down, which holds our attention here, “neither were thankful.” This stairway spirals down to a pretty disturbing depth of depravity, but this week just focus on this one step, and don't even go there. Happy Thanksgiving.

An Essay for week #47 Nov 19, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71119.mp3

Msg #1748 Saul's Type-A Personality

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There were three signs in King Saul's calling and three sins in King Saul's falling. In 1 Samuel 13 God staged Israel's great victory over the Philistines. The new king and his Type-A personality was nervous, but he was in his place,... until he stepped out of his place. Saul's first sin was well thought out and very practical. He rationalized it superbly, it was pragmatic. At first glance it seems that God completely overreacted.... Barred from the kingdom for one burnt offering? "Thou hast done foolishly; thou has not kept the commandment of the LORD thy God, which he commanded thee" (1Sam 13:13). God wanted "a man after his own heart;" Saul was not that man; he could get things done, alright, but didn't do them God's way. God places utmost importance on HOW things get done, Type-As on THAT things get done. Israel won the victory over the Philistines, but not via Saul, it was Johnathan who slew the Garrison of Philistines (Chap. 14).

In 1 Samuel 15 God staged the annihilation of the Amalekites. Saul's Type-A personality stepped in to do the job and his second sin was well thought out, very practical, rationalized superbly, pragmatic,... and disobedience. The next victory over the Philistines was secured, not by Saul, but by a shepherd boy, a man after God's own heart, who slew a giant. Saul's third sin was opposing God's man. The Type-A personality is competitive, aggressive, organized, fast talking, ambitious, impatient, and a good time manager. Type-B is more relaxed, non-competitive, non-aggressive. I re-wrote the song "Learning to Lean" with lyrics "Learning to "B", Learning to "B", I'm learning to "B" like Jesus. Finding more power than I ever knew, I'm learning to "B" like Jesus. God makes us new creatures, conformed to Christ, some are slow learners.

An Essay for week #48 Nov 26, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71126.mp3

Msg #1749 There is Much in a Name

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christology must be the Bible believer's favorite “ology,” and my favorite part is learning how God uses various titles for his Only Begotten Son. It is important to pay close attention. First note that all modernist bibles have stripped the name “Jesus” from 47 verses, “Christ” from 37 verses, and “Lord” from 40 verses. Twice they had the audacity to strip “Lord Jesus Christ” out of their copyright bibles (Col 1:2, 1Thes 1:1). For this study you must use an Authorized KJB. *Jesus* is his name before his death and resurrection, before salvation was made complete; it is his earthly name; it speaks of his humiliation, his humanness, his finiteness; it means saviour. Consequently the Gospels use *Jesus* 612 times, Epistles 71 times, while *Christ* is used only 56 times in the Gospels, 256 times in the Epistles. Before his crucifixion he was never called *Jesus* to his face, they called him *Master* or *Rabbi*, believers called him *Lord*, thus a Christian is not one who believes in *Jesus*- the world believes there was a *Jesus* – but a Christian is one who believes in “The Lord Jesus Christ.” The word *Christ* (Hebrew *Messiah*) means the Anointed One, and is the *official* title of the Son of God. He is the anointed *Prophet*, *Priest*, and *King*. When the compound name *Jesus Christ* is used, the emphasis is on what he *was* over what he *is*, when *Christ Jesus* is used it emphasizes him exalted who was once humiliated. He is *Lord* when he owns you. His fullest title is *the Lord Jesus Christ*. Differentiate between the Son of God and the Son of Man, the Son of Abraham and the Son of David. Discover the seven “I AM” titles in John... be a student of his names, in a KJB.

An Essay for week #49 Dec 3, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71203.mp3

Msg #1750 The Incarnation of Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The incarnation of Christ is a study directly linked to a believer's Christmas celebration. When the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (and we *behold* his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth, we must stand in bewildered wonder at an infant wrapped in swaddling cloths. The Prophet, The Priest, and The King so aptly promised in prophecy is first announced in New Testament Scripture, “The book of the generation (singular) of Jesus Christ, the Son of David, the Son of Abraham” (Matthew 1:1). He was a Hebrew, a Jew, the promised seed, and descendant of King David. As Matthew shows the face of this Lion he presents the royal lineage from Abraham, through King David, and up to his stand-in father Joseph. As Mark shows the face of this Servant he presents no lineage whatsoever. As Luke shows the face of this Man, of whom God says, “Thou art my beloved son; in thee I am well pleased” (Luke 3:22b), he lists the lineage of the Seed of Woman from Mary's father Heli, all the way back to the first Adam, the son of God (Luke 3:23-38). We worship the last Adam, the Son of God, as so aptly described in 1Cor 15:45-47. Therein Romans 5:12&18 depicts Christ as the only remedy for man's sin. This birth of the Lamb of God, wherein The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, robed himself in flesh, likely occurred during lambing season, while shepherds watched their flocks by night, but as we celebrate it in North's longest, ergo darkest, night comprehend the incarnation of Christ that the Apostle John so aptly portrays, “In the beginning was the WORD,... and the WORD was made flesh and dwelt among us...” (John 1). Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #50 Dec 10, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171210.mp3

Msg #1751 Have a Very Merry Marriage

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Happy Holy-Days are marked by many couples as less than happy, and far less than holy. We have a dysfunctional nation springing from dysfunctional homes, rooted in dysfunctional marriages. A Bible believing Christian has ample opportunity to be a testimony and witness in these days, ergo it is wise to first take a healthy inventory of our own marriages. It is sobering to discover that many “Christian-Homes” having the wall plaque “A Family that Prays Together, Stays Together,” does not have a husband led family altar where they pray together! Dr. Coomer, of Hope Biblical Counseling Center (.com), supposes that Christian homes are plagued with four major failings; 1) A lacking intimate, personal, passionate relationship with our Creator, the Lord Jesus Christ; 2) Immature emotion led, feeling dominated individuals; 3) “Christians” living their lives for lusts and not for Christ, selfishness vs selflessness; and 4) Broken vows and broken trusts. He springboards from Ephesians 5:17-25 to develop a Biblical marriage manual that addresses all four of these, but I especially like (and need) his capstone about our communications in the home. All of us need a reminder, an emphasis, and more learning on keeping our communications Godly (Christlike), edifying, and altogether loving. That takes effort, maturity, and practice. No corrupt or corrupting communication, as required by Eph. 4:29-32, now requires a television off switch, and so much more. Corruption has multiple inroads to our brain and home. Consequently anger opens to many conversations, edification to few. Spiteful vengeance leads much talk and Christ's compassion far less. Idle jesting gets to much focus, the glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, far to little. Fix your marital communications and be that testimony of light in these days of darkness, you will be amazed how far a little candle light reaches.

An Essay for week #51 Dec 17, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs171217.mp3

Msg #1752 Jesus Comes to Our House

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In my childhood on vinyl in high-fi, Red Harper sang a song, “If Jesus came to your house to spend a day or two, If he came unexpected, I wonder what you'd do.... would you hide some magazines, put the Bible where they'd been?...” When the Only Begotten Son of God came into our world to visit for awhile, consider the plight that was placed in each life that was involved. The New Testament opens with the plight of Joseph and his espoused wife. Its 22nd verse calls out the plight of the prophets who each could say, “Who hath believed our report, and to whom is the arm of the Lord revealed?” The Gospel of Luke opens with the plight of Zacharias (Hbrw- Jehovah remembers) who at first couldn't believe, and then the plight of Mary who immediately did. The plight of the shepherds, whether to go and see; the wise men, of course, and how to find him. The plight of Herod needs consideration, it tells how depraved humanity can get. The plight of just and devout Simeon (Hbrw- a rock or stone) and Anna widowed son of Phanuel (Hbrw- grace & facing God), each would not see death till they had seen the Lord's Christ. A favorite of mine, often overlooked, is the plight of the doctors who were both hearing the twelve year old, and asking him questions; none should get a doctorate until they have at least done that. Any, or all ten, of these plights are good studies for those celebrating the birth of the Only Begotten Son of God, born in the barn, in that manger, in those swaddling cloths, under that star. And therein you have only touched the hem of his garment. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #52 Dec 24, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71224.mp3

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If Jesus Came to Your House by Red Sovine

If Jesus came to your house, to spend a day or two.
If he came without warning, I wonder what you'd do.
Yes if Jesus came to your house, to spend a day or two.
If he came unexpected, just dropped in on you.
Ahh I know you'd give your nicest room, to such an honored guest.
And all the food you'd serve to him, would be your the best.
And you would keep reassuring him, that you're glad to have him there.
That serving him in your home, is joy beyond compare.
But when you saw him coming, would you meet him at the door,
With arms out stretched in welcome, to your heavenly visitor.
Or would you have to change you clothes, before you'd let him in.
Or hide some magazines, and put the bible where they had been.
Would you turn off the radio, and hope he hadn't heard.
And wish you hadn't uttered, that last loud hasty word.
Would you hide your worldly music, and put some hymn books out.
Could you just let Jesus walk right in, or would you rush about.
And I wonder, if the savior spent a day or two with you.
Would you go right on doing, the things you always do.
Would you go right on saying, the things you always say.
Would life for you continue, as it does from day to day.
Would your family conversations, keep up its normal pace.
And would you find it hard each meal to say a table grace.
Would you sing the songs you always sing,
And read the books you read.
And let him know the things on which you mind and spirit feed.
Would you take Jesus with you everywhere you planned to go.
Or maybe would you change your plans, for just a day or so.
Would you be glad for him meet your very closest friends.
Or hope that they'd stay away, until his visit ends.
Would you be glad to have him stay forever on and on.
Or would you sigh with great relief, when he at last was gone.
It might be interesting to know the things that you would do,
If Jesus came in person, to spend some time with you.
If Jesus came to your house, I wonder what you'd do.

Songwriters: Craig Starrett / Lois Blanchard
If Jesus Came to Your House by Red Sovine

Msg #1753 Down But Not Out

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As one steps into a new year it is not unusual, even for the Believer, to leave the celebration and step into depression. Clinical depression, called manic, or bi-polar, by psychiatrists, is all too common in our world, but the Apostle Paul writes that it should never be present in the Believer. The darkness of depression leaves one so dismayed that they cease to function. The Born-Again always have a light that can pierce that darkness, “For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ” (2Cor 3:6). This treasure is in “earthen vessels” (we are only human), so God clarifies, “that the excellency of the power (i.e. the light of the knowledge of His glory) may be of God, and not of us” (vr. 7). Be very careful here, the counsel of the ungodly is to use the power of pharmaceuticals to treat depression (and everything else). The Light shining in the face of Jesus Christ is the genuine cure. Ergo, “We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body” (vr.8-10). For a Believer there is a line drawn that we dare not cross. To stay on this side of the line, read your KJ Bible, and pray everyday, memorize to meditate, journal your thoughts to cogitate, and rub shoulders with Believers thrice weekly for edification and accountability. Those incidentally, are the five RU Recovery (.com) principles which have rescued innumerable lives from addictions.

An Essay for week #53 Dec 31, 2017

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl71231.mp3

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Msg #1801 Counting The Cost

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I have sketched five little cross-eyed bears in the margin of my Bible, two in Matthew, two in Mark, and the ugliest near Luke 14:27, that says, “And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.” Get it? “Cross-eyed bear.” That little clause, “Cannot be my disciple,” is repeated thrice in this chapter and is a stark contrast to, “Whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.” We seem to be talking about two different commodities here; the rich man who went away grieved in Mark 10 mightn't teach that, but if you will be a disciple with Christ as Lord, you should count the cost. You will have *Conflict* with his enemy, and his arch enemy is presently the prince of the power of the air. You will have *Contention* and the *Contempt* of this world; even from family, as Christ explained. There will be *Constraints* on your life, a lot of “thou shalt not” conditions come with him as Lord. There will be *Convictions* that handle the “gray-areas” of life; i.e. things you cannot do, watch, eat, drink, or play with, places you cannot go, thoughts you cannot harbor, even though other Christians have and do them. Convictions keep filth out of your life; one cannot have faith and filth together, nor fellowship, nor fervor for our Lord. As his disciple you will have *Correction* and *Chastisement*; you will never sin and enjoy it again. And *Contributions* will only start with a tithe, law or not; offerings are not to raise money, they are to raise Christians. Count the cost, but hear a couple crusty testimonies too, and learn the song, “It will be worth it all, when we see Jesus.” Be a disciple, and finish the course.

An Essay for week #1 Jan 7, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl80107.mp3To receive this pp in weekly email, visit us at www.GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1802 God Save America

What The Bible Says - Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When one hears “God bless America” the thought must rise “He has blessed America,” and hearing “God save America” should elicit “save her from her pride, her arrogance, and her pernicious, progressive ways.” Isaiah 25 succinctly promises that salvation, “Thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth... therefore shall the strong people glorify thee, the city of the terrible nations shall fear thee” (Isa 25:1,3). Democrats think they are the strength to the poor and down-trodden, Republicans suppose they are the strength of economic conservatives, but God says there is a veil over their understanding, a reprobate heart in their chest, “And he will destroy in this mountain (i.e. Zion, i.e. Jerusalem, where we properly place our Israeli embassy) the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations” (25:7). The salvation of a nation that preaches Evolution as their creator and god, sodomy as their alternate lifestyle, and murder in the womb as their privilege will first be a day of darkness, a terror-able day, the Day of the Lord. “He shall spread forth his hands in the midst of them... and he shall bring down their pride together with the spoils of their hands” (Isa 25:11). Days are short in this January of 2018. The believer longs for his salvation because “He will swallow up death in victory, and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from off all faces, and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from off all the earth; for the LORD hath spoken it” (25:8). That upcoming “Earth Day” is in reality the upcoming “Day of the Lord.” “God bless America, God save America, but first save my children, save my family, save my neighbor.” Preach the gospel, the Lord is soon returning.

An Essay for week #2 Jan 14, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs180114.mp3

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Msg #1802b Worship Canceled

What Your Pastor Says - Good Samaritan Baptist Church Pastor Ed Rice

Dear Member/Guest

The frozen water pipes from our two broke furnaces kept me from preaching what God had laid on my heart for the second Sunday of 2018. The attached Penny Pulpit must suffice for that, but God has other lessons for GSBC to take away from the cancellations. For those that gathered at 10 am and shared a song and a prayer, God blessed your short and stunned worship and gave safe travels in bitter cold. Thanks for not flushing.

For those alerted of the dilemma and averted from cold travels, God blessed you with a longing for Christian fellowship on a Lord's day, and an answer to your prayer. It was simply a reset on the oil burner, a new fuse on the gas furnace, and not a single pipe was broken.

For those to ill, or old, or hospitalized to tackle twelve degrees of cold we missed you, and prayed for you, knowing you missed us and prayed for us.

To those with no intention of attending this 2nd worship service of 2018, the cancellation can still be a blessing because you hold this letter, and perhaps a new appreciation of the importance we place on our gathering with other believers on the first day of the week, the Lord's Day, the day God rose his Christ, our Lord, from death to life.

On the twentieth anniversary of my pastoring Good Samaritan Baptist Church I must say that this Sunday, with frozen pipes, the breath of saints visible in the cold air, and the singing of three verses of "Jesus Loves Me" was a memorable blessing. Be blessed, and I'll see you when the heat is back up.

Your Pastor

Msg#1803 The Three Veils

What The Bible Says Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible reveals three veils that were removed because Christ gave his life for the remission of sin. The most familiar is found in Exodus 26, “And thou shalt make a vail of blue, and purple, and scarlet,... and the vail shall divide unto you between the holy place and the most holy” (vr. 31,33). The holy and sanctified were separated from the most holy presence of the LORD God himself and it is marvelous that that separation is rent in twain by the cross of Christ (Matt27:51, Mark15:38, Luke23:45). A second veil is found in Exod 34, “Behold the skin of his face shone and they were afraid and (Moses) gave them in commandment all that the LORD had spoken with him in mount Sinai. And till Moses had done speaking with them, he put a vail on his face. But when Moses went before the LORD to speak with him he took the vail off” (vr. 30,32-34). The Apostle Paul writes, “(Israeli) minds were blinded: for until this day remaineth the same vail untaken away in the reading of the old testament; which vail is done away in Christ... Seeing then we have such hope, we use great plainness of speech” (2Cor 3:14, 12). The Holy Bible is not veiled in Christ. The third veil covers the face as a maiden offers herself to her beloved. Rebekah shows it such in a beautiful picture in Genesis 24:64. Tamar shows it ugly, soiled, and polluted in 38:14,19. But the picture is redeemed forever in the Ruth 3:15. Most do not understand the song, “Sweet Beulah Land” (Isa 62:4), but a Christian is married to Christ, and like Ruth our veil is off and filled with six measures of barley to sustain us “until the morning.” Three beautiful portrayals.

An Essay for week #3 Jan 21, 2018

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Msg#1804 Rebekah

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

This year we have discussed the book of Job wherein the trials of our lives, no matter how great are not worthy to be compared to the greatness of our God, and the importance of his glory, and his glorying. We are to trust him, no matter what besets us in our pilgrimage here. We have walked to Egypt with Joseph, the late coming beloved son of Israel, who was rejected by his own brothers, and scorned by the world, but raised up to be their salvation, raised up to reign over them all. We have a marvelous Christ who would do no less. Prior we climbed Mount Moriah with Abraham and Isaac to watch a father offer his son, “thine only son Isaac,” on a hill shaped like a skull, called Golgatha in Aramaic, Cranium in Greek, Calvary in Latin, Precious in Salvation. It now comes as no surprise that when God preserves sixty-seven verses to describe how Abraham's eldest servant is sent with his ten camels to secure Rebekah as a cherished wife for his only begotten son, ... well God has a much grander story to tell in the picture. The Father, played by Abraham, sends his Holy Spirit, played by the eldest servant, carried by kneeling saints, played by ten camels made to kneel by the well, to secure a chaste virgin, played by Rebekah, for his Only Begotten Son, played by Isaac waiting by the well, called, incidently, *Lahai-roi* (for all those Hebrew language buffs). We should all read Genesis 24 with more tender care. Valentines Day is just around the corner and this is the most precious of love stories. In Rebekah's wooing every little detail, painted and preserved for 3,875 years, is extremely important to God; so too to his Son's chaste virgin.

An Essay for week #4 Jan 28, 2018

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Msg#1805 A Marriage Mirror

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In love and marriage God intends that a couple live in the most intimate relationship that is humanly possible, and that that arrangement, in becoming one flesh, foreshadow the intimate relation we are to have with our Lord Jesus Christ. The love, the significance, and the security that is found in each relationship is to mirror the other perfectly. The mirror, however, fractures when one does not first follow the “role of the sexes” called out by our Creator. Note them, as you note how much rebellion against them is found in society, even by many professed “Christians.” Genesis 3:16 states that the husband is to “rule over the wife,” and it goes on to state that the man shall provide for the home “in the sweat of his face.” The carnal church of Corinth is rebuked for letting women lead in prayer, reprimanded for letting them prophesy, and exhorted with clarity that women are not to be the leaders (1Cor 11:1-9). God goes on to rebuke their abuse of tongues and states, “Let your women keep silence in the churches; for it is not permitted for them to speak” (1Cor 14:34, cf 23-40). God continues the refrain in a charge to young Timothy, “I will therefore that men (males) pray everywhere... But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor usurp authority over the man (male), but be in silence. For Adam was first formed then Eve” (1Tim 2:8,12-13). God's role for women, his purpose in creating females, and a wife's submission in the home (Eph 6:21-33, 1Pet 3:1-7) are all points of contention in our rebellious society, but these are clearly communicated in God's Holy Word. Being a believer and ordering your marriage his way can make your home a taste of paradise. Rebellion,... not so much.

An Essay for week #5 Feb 4, 2018

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Msg#1806 One Flesh Communicating

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In God's design for your love and marriage there are three distinct roles. These are not roles to be “played,” or “acted out,” but are actions (and attitudes) which are assigned, required, and expected by God himself. There is the role of the wife, the role of the husband, and the role of one-flesh. The latter role has three essentials, Faithfulness, Forgiveness, and Communication. Any of these roles or essentials might fill this short essay, but focus on that third essential – communication. Via our communication we 1) Grow in knowledge and understanding of our spouse (and our Lord), 2) we interchange information and ideas to work as a team, 3) we work out differences and resolve conflicts, and 4) we grow in the same direction in support of each other. When our lifeline of communications is healthy we 1) never have to be careful what we talk about together and there is a sense of freedom to express ourselves, 2) we have a sense of being understood, 3) we see an absence of win/lose arguments, 4) we find that talking reduces tension, and 5) we feel a sense of being safe and secure in this relationship. Those are two excellent checklists to ensure a robust effective lifeline of communication in a husband's and wife's role of becoming one-flesh. A critically impaired lifeline would have one or the other always assuming a negative intent on the part of their spouse, or an increasing distance and increasing silence. Watch for those as well, and as the spring time of our year approaches let's revisit the spring time of our love and romance. God's model makes our homes a taste of paradise here on earth. Rejecting God's way will make it taste like something else altogether.

An Essay for week #6 Feb 11, 2018

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Msg #1807 Children Killing Children

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

America has “evolved” to a place where a significant number of our children, raised with no nurture and admonition of the Lord Jesus Christ, are psychotic, first degree murderers. Recall that the first man born in this world became the first first-degree murderer. Our depraved society uses statistical studies to show that capital-punishment does not deter crime, but God says to Israel, “And all men of his city shall stone him with stones, that he die: so shalt thou put evil away from among you; and all Israel shall hear, and fear” (Deut 21:21). Also society, in its rebellion against our Creator, uses statistical surveys to show that corporal-punishment in the home is “uncivil.” Indeed they have, and will again, used social services to “rescue” children from corporal-punishment used in Christian homes. The LORD God says in Holy Scripture, “He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.... Chasten thy son while there is hope, and let not thy soul spare for his crying.... Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.... Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.... The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame.... Correct thy son, and he shall give thee rest; yea, he shall give delight unto thy soul” (Proverbs 13:24,19:18,22:15,23:13-14,29:15,17). Our sick society says it is evolving, on a progressive path, they say, moving away from the things of God. Ugly fruit of that “progressiveness” is children killing children, and a blindness that makes them blame the AR-15. God, Help us.

An Essay for week #7 Feb 18, 2018

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Msg #1808 John's First Epistle

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The disciple that Jesus loved wrote five books in our Bible and the letter he aimed at Gentile believers is unprecedented in beauty and power. The Apostle John was commissioned by Christ to “write the things which thou hast seen.” He did so with a very careful consideration of his audience. His gospel was written to all people, his first epistle was written to Gentile believers, his second to Jewish believers (“the elder unto the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the Lord”) (Notice that Catholic, Protestant and Reformed theologians suppose that they are the “elect-lady” and consequently they miss the heart of this little epistle, ... they generally miss the heart of Scripture altogether with that same self-righteous blunder), and John's third epistle was to a man named Gaius. John's carefulness to identify his audience is only one characteristic that makes him a superb writer. He refers to himself in the third person and glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ with every syllable. John was a disciple before Christ had disciples. Most people miss that John was the “other-disciple” when John the Baptist sent his two loyal disciples off to follow Jesus. (John 1:35-37). The Apostle John was thus the very first of the disciples at Christ's side. It takes a talented writer to capture a good introduction and conclusion, and a superb author to make them a prologue and epilogue. John is thus a superb writer in his own right, and when the Holy Spirit is dictating the very words that he records, well, undertaking the study of John's first epistle will make for an interesting adventure. Reading any of the Apostle John's works is equally so. John begins this epistle with his prologue addressing everything found in the body of the work. Let us begin there.

An Essay for week #8 Feb 25, 2018

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Msg #1809 All In the Family

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

That which was from the beginning, the Life of God that was manifested, the Light of God that shined in darkness, the Truth of God that talked with mankind, we have bold eyewitnesses who saw the Word of Life. “This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all” (1John 1:5). The beloved disciple of our Lord Jesus Christ is a bold eyewitness and the extraordinary author in our focus, and the little letter he addressed to “my little children” captures our study. In introduction he emphasizes the fellowship that we now have with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ. In raw simplicity fellowship has been called “two fellows in the same ship,” but a study of this little epistle will add depth and reality to that simplicity; we are family in this relationship, and family in Light will behave in a prescribed manner. The Reformed Protestant theologian explains that when one gets saved (confirmed, they suppose) they become part of the catholic church. They broke from the Romans so they now suppose that the catholic church is an invisible organization with 365 denominations and no organization. That's kind of awkward so they dare not say it out loud that much. In reality when one gets saved they become sons of God and are added to the family. John's precious first epistle is all about fellowship of family. “In him is no darkness at all” will deal with the question, “Are you truly in the family?” “If we confess our sins” will deal with any broken fellowship within the family. John's introduction promises a great understanding for “my little children;” if that is what you are, you'll love this epistle.

An Essay for week #9 Mar 4, 2018

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Msg #1810 Is It Really Real

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes, that have been taught to “act” Christian without understanding “be” Christian. In his “*My Little Children*” epistle the first thing the beloved Apostle John lays out is a means for determining the fidelity of ones faith; “Hereby we know that we know him” (1John 2:3a). The first stabbing probe is pointed, “He that saith I know him, and keepeth not his commandments is a liar and the truth is not in him” (verse 4). With John's clarification these are Christ's commandments, not Moses' ten (verses 5-8). This is a New Covenant in a New Dispensation that reprimands Covenant Theology and exposes Ellen G. White's chronic debacle. These probes are not designed to be thrust into a neighbor's heart or a loved-ones soul, they are intent on a self-examination. A second heart searching probe, “He that saith he is in the light and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now” (verse 9). Again this is not a club used to beat on someone else's feigned faith, it is to cut and reach into our own soul. Then, like the third tine of a pitch fork, from the pen of a ninety year old preacher, “If any man love the world the love of the Father is not in him” (verse 15b). Paul wrote to reprimanded carnal Christians, “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves, how Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?” (2Cor 13:5). The Apostle John gives us tools for that examination. In dealing with this Peter said to one Simon the Sorcerer, “Thy money perish with thee... for they heart is not right in the sight of God” (Acts 8:20,21). Be sure yours is, don't just “act” Christian.

An Essay for week #10 Mar 11, 2018

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Msg #1811 Denominations 101

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Little children, it is the last time... even now are there many antichrists... they went out from us... that they might be manifest that they were not all of us.... These things have I written unto you concerning them that seduce you” (1John 2:18,19,26). When the Roman Emperor Constantine mandated that all her citizens become “christian” the church in Rome delighted in declaring itself the catholic church, baptizing babies, worshiping Mary, and executing naysayers with their Roman sword. That is not “Christian” and calling it such is “fake-news.” The Roman Empire divided and two Orthodox daughters came of this mother of harlots. The king of England divorced and an Anglican daughter came out; Martin despised indulgences and the Lutherans were hatched. The Anglicans further divided into Episcopalians, Wesley brothers and their Methods, and John Calvin with his Presbyters. Now the harlot had multiple denominations. Calvin despised priest-craft, loved hating Israel, and decided Jews were not the elect, Christians were. Methodists took their salvation methods and United with catholic Episcopalians. The holiness movement wouldn't unite and birthed Pentecostals, who Oral Roberts and Benny Hinn divided into Church of God, Christ, Nazarene... et.al. All these are denominations, divided 157 ways, daughters of the Mother of Harlots, ergo anti-christs who deny Christ's power and think that salvation comes from sacraments or penance, baby-baptisms or baptismal regeneration, life methods or church mandates, election or enduring to the end ... et.al. These are mistakenly called “christian.” Nothing but free-will voluntary belief in the gospel message and calling solely on the Lord Jesus Christ can produce a Christian, and nothing but an autonomous, non-catholic, non-protestant, non-denominational, local, independent Bible believing church can represent what Christ called for in Holy Scripture. In brief, the latter is a Baptist. Praise the Lord.

An Essay for week #11 Mar 18, 2018

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Msg #1812 The Passover Lamb

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The passover lamb was selected and separated from the flock on the tenth of the month, examined for three days to be found without spot, and then slain on the fourteenth day of the month (Exod 12). God carefully followed this calendar when our Passover Lamb was crucified on Mount Calvary. On that Palm Sunday he was separated from the flock with a cry "Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." He purged the temple that evening and again on the morrow after cursing a fig tree, and the Bible says of him, "And in the day time he was teaching in the temple; and at night he went out, and abode in the mount that is called the Mount of Olives. And all the people came early in the morning to him in the temple, for to hear him" (Luke 21:37-38). To arrange that he be crucified on a Friday, fitting Roman Catholic tradition, scholars suppose Jesus took some time off and did nothing for one day, but those of us who can read God's calendar know that he was selected on the tenth and crucified on the fourteenth just like the 1,500 passover lambs before him. A Bible believer should study these last four days of the Christ's ministry with intrigue. They are addressed in Matthew 21-28, Mark 11-16, Luke 19-24, and John 12-21. (That's 30 of the 89 chapters of Gospel covering just the last week of Jesus' time on earth.) In these days of Church apostasy and compromised bibles it is important to study these days of his passion and resurrection for ourselves. Modernist ecumenical 'scholars' are not to be trusted with such a precious commodity. God bless your Easter Sunday worship.

An Essay for week #12 Mar 25, 2018

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Msg #1813 A Victorious Resurrection and More

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The **Victory in Resurrection** of our Lord Jesus Christ is preceded by three important things and followed by three important things, none should be overlooked. His **Vicarious Death** is essential to our saving faith as heralded by Romans 5:8, “But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, **Christ died for us.**” His **Virtuous Life** enabled him to be the Lamb of God, sacrificed for us, as proclaimed in 2Cor 5:21, “For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him,” and verified in Hebrews, “... **yet without sin**” (4:15, 9:28). Acknowledge also his **Virgin Birth**, he was not the son of a man, he was the Son of God (Luke 1:26-33). He was the “seed of woman” that would “bruise Satan's head” (Gen 3:15), and his Virgin Birth was a sign to all Israel that their Messiah had arrived to take away the sin of the world (Isaiah 7:14, 9:6). But there is even more to his victorious resurrection when we declare his **Vital Message**, “That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” (Rom 10:9). “For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved” (John 3:17). Further, he will have a **Visible Return** where every eye shall see him (Rev 1:7, 19:11-18). An honest Bible student also sees his **Virtual Return** at the rapture (1Thes 4:14-18). Then there is a 1,000 year **Vibrant Reign** from the Throne of David in Zion. Worship his Majesty in Spirit and in Truth (Ps 21:5,29:4, John 4:23, Jude 1:25).

An Essay for week #13 Apr 1, 2018

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Msg #1814 Sinless Perfection - NOT

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Apostle John carefully dictates some principles to determine the authentic conversion of professed believers around us. They are the same as those used to self-authenticate ones own conversion, obedience of Christ's commandments, a holy walk, and an authentic love for the brethren. But when rehearsing these he seems to over emphasize, perhaps because one cannot know another's heart as one's own. In this profound emphasis for authenticating a new-birth a person should abide in Christ and NOT abiding in sin. 1John 3:9 is the capstone of that emphasis. Be careful with this verse, even though a dozen verses earlier John says, "If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us" (1:8). Many use 1John 3:9, taken out of context, to support errant teachings about sinless perfection. Like some take Nebuchadnezzar's tree, or Satan's pinnacle to suppose that the world is flat! And some even suppose that it was half-angel half-human giants that caused God to destroyed the world with a flood The half-breed angles are the problem, they say, not man's depravity! False teachers take a verse out of its context and develop a whole system of error around it. Acts 2:38 might suppose ones baptismal regeneration, but the rest of the Bible cannot support it. Use great care in your Bible study and great criticism of charismatic teachers. Be a Borean (Acts 17:10-11) with your Bible. Don't be led down a crooked garden path. It is painstakingly Scriptural and obvious that believers still sin, but we now have an advocate with the Father, and he is the propitiation for sin. The point being (for 1 John 3:9) true believers use that advocate and do not continue in sin,..Every man that hath this hope in him is truly changed.

An Essay for week #14 Apr 8, 2018

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Msg #1815 Genuine Believers and 1John 3:16

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.” It seems so symmetrical that the Apostle John expounds the third ingredient of a genuine believer's evidence of a changed life in 1John 3:16. He mounts up this evidence so one can guard themselves against “pretend” believers that attract like moths to a light. “Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous” (3:7) There is no greater deceiver than one who deceives themselves and so the Apostle carefully mounts this evidence to point inward as well as outward. “In this the children of God are manifest, and the children of the devil: whosoever doeth not righteousness is not of God, neither he that loveth not his brother” (3:10). Ergo the genuine love for others is herein contrasted against Cain, against murder in general, and against closed up bowels of compassion. Cain hated Able because unrighteousness hates righteousness. The first born human became the first first-degree murderer illustrating the point. Just look at Washington DC, Albany, churches, families and 1John 3:13. And how serious is murder? “Whosoever hateth his brother is a murderer: and ye know that no murderer hath eternal life abiding in him” (3:15). In his Master's teaching murder was not an extreme, but a common carnal attitude (Matt 5:21-26). Genuine love will not stand guilty of murder nor be tolerant of such hatred, but neither will it withhold good when a brother is in need (3:17). Is your “Christian” friend's love genuine? Is yours? Do not be deceived, “And hereby we know that we are of the truth, and shall assure our hearts before him” (3:19). Authentic believers have genuine love.

An Essay for week #15 Apr 15, 2018

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Msg #1816 Genuine Revelation and 1John

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Expect that John, called the disciple that Jesus loved, would, when writing an epistle to Gentile believers, emphasizes the things Jesus emphasized. In Chapter two, three, and four he states it plainly and repeatedly, make sure you and others are truly saved, saved people have a different sort of love, and watch out for false teachers. An astute Bible student might take this theme of John and find it repeatedly interwoven in the teachings of our Lord and Saviour. After his nine blessed “R”s Jesus teaches that his commandments are higher than the commandments of the law (Matt 5:21 ,27, 31, 33, 38), and John says, “He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments is a liar” (1John 2:4). His sermon on the mount declared “If ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same?” (Matt 5:46), and John says “For this is the message that ye heard from the beginning, that we should love one another” (1John 3:11). Jesus taught on that mountain side, “Enter in at the straight gate,” and “beware of false prophets which come to you in sheep's clothing” (Matt 7:13,15), and John, “This is that spirit of antichrist, wherefore ye have heard that it should come” (1John 4:3). Man, as secular humanist, Roman religionist, or ecumenical modernist, teaches that the Bible is a man-made book. The Apostle John wrote the Truth down sixty years after he heard it from our Lord Jesus Christ. C. I. Scofield attests to the miracle of such inspiration with this thought, “These writers, some forty-four in number, writing through twenty centuries, have produced a perfect harmony of doctrine in progressive unfolding. This is, to every candid mind, the unanswerable proof of the Divine inspiration of the Bible. It is herein marvelous to behold.

An Essay for week #16 Apr 22, 2018

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Msg #1817 Tell Them, Tell Them, and Tell Them

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In a military briefing I was taught to tell what I was going to tell them, then tell them, then tell them what I told them. The Apostle John adds to that standard in that he tells us what he is going to tell us, then he tells us, and tells us, and tells us, then he tells us what he told us (1John 1,2-3-4,5). I love his clarity when he exhorts us to “try the spirits whether they are of God,” and that “Every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is the spirit of antichrist” (1John 4:1,3). The cults, Russel's JW's, Smith's LDS's, White's SDA's, are immediately classed as antichrists under this rule. But what of Roman Catholics and their Protestant children? These confess and defend the Deity of Christ; they confess that “Jesus is come in the flesh” (vr.2). Are they still considered “the spirit of error?” (vr.6). When “trying the spirits,” although a written creed may declare Christ's deity, the spirit of their error makes them antichrist. Their spirit teaches Mariology, or baptismal regeneration, or black cloaked priests with backward collars, or election of souls. Their emphasis is not the propitiation of a substitutionary death, burial, and resurrection of God's Only Begotten Son. They are deceivers with another gospel, let them be accursed, they are antichrist. There are many “good people” tangled in their web of deceit. Like a good parent, the Apostle John warns his little children “Be careful who your friends are.” There is a wide gate and broad path for the deceivers and their following. Enter ye in at the straight gate and warn your friends. It is more than belief in God, keep the Lordship of Christ your main thing.

An Essay for week #17 Apr 29, 2018

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Msg #1818 Ascension Thursday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Five Sundays plus four days marks out the forty days Jesus shewed himself in his resurrected body before a Thursday Ascension. Those forty days receive precious little study from the “normal” Christian, but a pure student of Christ, being a pure student of the Bible should mark them well. Twenty years ago when I found the Mennonite Farm Store closed for Ascension Thursday I began giving it brand new awareness. What was this all about? Why were other Christians paying this Thursday little heed? They twiddled around with an artificial Roman Fat-Tuesday, and a Catholic Ash-Wednesday but had no Ascension Thursday observed. When a Bible student ignores Rome they find Jesus was crucified on, and ascended on a Thursday. On resurrection Sunday disciples on the Emmaus Road said, “today is the third day since these things (the Thursday crucifixion) were done” (Luke 24:21b), and count off forty days in his resurrected body to find him ascending into heaven on a Thursday. We have tenaciously studied our Lord's appearances on resurrection Sunday, but in this week of his ascension we might further study his many appearances in his forty day shewing. I like three theories, he appeared every Lord's Day, he appeared on each week day, and he held a three day Bible conference (Acts 1:3-7). The Bible records seven appearances after resurrection day, eight days later to the eleven with Thomas present, (John 20:26), a Galilean visit (Mark 16:7), “After that he was seen of above 500 at once” (1Cor 15:6), seen of James, then of all the apostles (together? or individually?)(vr. 7). He appeared after Peter's fishing expedition (likely they were skipping a mid-week prayer service), then on Ascension Thursday (following his conference?). Be a Bible student who knows each of his appearances, and observes Ascension Thursday.

An Essay for week #18 May 6, 2018

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Msg #1819 A Virtuous Woman

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies” (Prov 31:10). The prophecy that king Lemuel's mother taught him closes with eighteen salient illustrations of what that woman would do (vr11-28). The list may be grouped into seven qualities, trustworthy, diligent, industrious (even entrepreneurial), strong, compassionate, wise, and successful. Examine some gems that may get overlooked in Lemuel's list. “She will do him good” (vr12) brings to mind Proverbs 17:22, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine....” In the darkest circumstance, in the deepest valley, in the greatest trial, men can quickly turn to the song “gloom, despair, and agony on me,” but a virtuous wife can keep a level of humor and merriment around her that does a family good “all the days of her life.” In verse 19 her diligence is subtly presented. “She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.” The spindle is twirled in the hand to spin thread, and the distaff holds the flax or wool that is to be spun. In third world countries, never in the USA, you see women spinning yarn whenever they find an idle moment. The virtuous woman does not spend hours in front of an idiot box. In verse 26 her mouth opens with wisdom tempered with kindness. Twice Lemuel's mother instructed him to “open his mouth,” once in compassion (vr8), once in righteous judgment (vr9). A woman who opens her mouth is not a rare thing, but the one who does it with wisdom and kindness, her price is far above rubies. Solomon was wise to commission his last chapter into the hands of king Lemuel. He aptly listened to the prophecy that his mother taught, Solomon,... not so much. Happy Mothers Day.

An Essay for week #19 May 13, 2018

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Msg #1820 Pentecost

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And ye shall count unto you from the morrow after the sabbath, from the day that ye brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven sabbaths shall be complete: Even unto the morrow after the seventh sabbath shall ye number fifty days; and ye shall offer a new meat offering unto the LORD” (Lev 23:15-16). The Lord Jesus Christ is our Sheaf of the Wave-Offering, and Passover Lamb and the feast of weeks marked off by these seven sabbaths ascribe a fulfilled Pentecost like no other. In 1492 Columbus sailed the ocean blue and Jews were banished from Spain and settled into Jerusalem in droves. At Pentecost of 1492 BC the Law was given at Mount Sinai and the Covenant of Law was established by God. How appropriate that at Pentecost, fifty days after Christ's resurrection the Covenant of Law officially died and the Covenant of Grace was installed with the outpouring of the Holy Spirit of God as recorded in Acts 2. God's calendar, when the fullness of time was come, has no flaws or coincidences. For Bible believers every day is holy, we esteem each, but consider the importance of Pentecost for the believer. The Covenant of Law is dead and gone on its birthday; the New Covenant of Grace, the New Testament in his blood, and God's sending the Comforter on that fiftieth day marks a whole new dispensation in time. Praise His Holy Name. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so. Let us shew forth all his mighty works. A Bible believer rejoices in Pentecost and knows a New Covenant. A Protestant Covenant Theologian knows nothing of God's grace, mercy and truth in these things. Keep your Bible open in these last days, this dispensation of grace will close when he removes his church.

An Essay for week #20 May 20, 2018

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Msg #1821 1John Five In Reality

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

1John 5:7 has embroiled the last chapter of the Apostle John's epistle to "My little children" in controversy when it should be exalted as one of the greatest written conclusions in Holy Scripture. Any student of the Bible could see it as genuine. Any student of history could know that Roman Catholic Saint Origin of Alexandria Egypt, the Father of their allegorical method, and the Father of their Bible criticism, was diabolically driven to omit this verse and twenty other whole verses of Holy Scripture. Indeed any student of diabolical methods and Biblical criticism could see their despise of inspiration and preservation of Holy Scripture. But not every student does. If your Bible does not contain 1John 5:7 as accurately translated in the Authorized King James Bible, I'll encourage you to become a student of the Bible, of history, and of Satan's textual criticisms, and then promptly drop his work into a suitable trash receptacle. From a KJB examine the conclusion of such a precious epistle. (If you prefer a modernist, ecumenical, copyright bible, I encourage you to all the more take heed here.) Is your salvation genuine? (vr.1-5). Is your love real? (vr.1). Is your obedience real? (vr.2-3). Are you an overcommer? (vr.4-5). Second, do you understand the triune witness who established these truths? (vr.6-9 KJB only)(Any shmo can see the "and" in verse 6 connects to the authentic verse 7, and that connection is all the more pronounced in the Greek.) Thirdly understand the simplicity and certainty of conversion, the gospel, and the new birth (vr.10-13). Lastly, understand and use the confidence that we now have in Christ. The confidence we have in Christ (The Word) springs from the confidence we have in the Holy Bible (The Word). Don't allow some Bible critic to mess with your faith.

An Essay for week #21 May 27, 2018

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Msg #1822 The Bell Tolls

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I had not heard Psalm 116 called the Death Psalm, but the title fits. It begins, "I love the LORD, because he hath heard my voice and my supplications," and proceeds to an exquisite salvation testimony, "The sorrows of death compassed me, and the pains of hell gat hold upon me... Then called I upon the name of the LORD; O LORD, I beseech thee, deliver my soul. ... yea, our God is merciful." This Psalm, not labeled such but presumed written by King Hezekiah, who understood some things about staring into death's door, now addresses "Return unto thy rest, O my soul..." and "I will walk before the LORD in the land of the living..." wherein attention is focused on dying. He reaffirms salvation, "I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the LORD..." before declaring in verse 15 the curiosity of this chapter, "Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints." The marvel of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ will always be, "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Romans 10:13). Some here have loved ones on deaths door, some are themselves dealing with a cancer that could take them home this year, and none of us are guaranteed another year or day here on earth. Even in a coma on the very edge of eternity one can call upon the name of the Lord. Rehearse this Psalm and the Romans Road of salvation (3:10,23, 5:8,12,18-19, 6:23,10: 9-10,13) out loud with your loved ones while there is time. Verse 14 and 18 of Psalm 116 talks of paying ones vows. You cannot pay your own way into heaven, our Lord Jesus Christ paid your necessary sacrificial vows. Call on him today.

An Essay for week #22 Jun 3, 2018

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Msg #1823 The World, The Word, and The Witness

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The majesty of Psalm 19 is brought to bear when one sees the faithful testimony of God in the World, the Word, and the Witness. “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handywork.... There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard” (vr.1, 3). This world faithfully testifies to every nation, creed, and kindred that there is a God. Further, Romans 1 declares that man knows about the pending wrath of God and is without excuse. The Psalmist continues, “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure,... The statutes of the LORD are right,...” (vr.7-8). The Only Begotten Son of God, the Way, the Truth, and the Life, the only Saviour, the only Redeemer, and the only Mediator between God and man, is not seen in the world, he is seen in the Word. Satan does everything he can to destroy the Word of God. It has been burned, polluted in Latin, and is presently being polluted with English copyright. God says the 400 year old King James Bible will endure forever as a gospel testimony that “while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). The Psalmist concludes, “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer” (vr.14). The third and final step for God getting his gospel message to every creature comes from your mouth (Romans 10:14). Satan roadblocks the gospel with evolution, bastardized ESVs and your fear to preach. Tare down a roadblock and preach the gospel to someone today. This message was preached by my son, missionary to Peru and Italy, while on a 2018 furlough. Contact Shane at www.ricefamilyministries.com.

An Essay for week #23 Jun 10, 2018

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Msg #1824 The Word Was Made Flesh

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christ humbled himself, took on the form of a servant, made himself of no reputation, was made in the likeness of men, was made a little lower than the angels. At one time prior to “the Word was made flesh,” and also “before the world was,” Christ had all the glory of the Father, and while robed in flesh, Jesus prayed to the Father that he would be restored to that glory (John17:5). Also consider what Jesus said, “The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do” (John5:19), and again, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also” (John14:12). These powerful revelations are brought into harmony with the understanding that to be Jesus, Christ set aside his omnipresence, his omnipotence, and his omniscience, and for thirty-three years he operated in the likeness of men, as you and I do. This truth escapes the orthodox theologian; they set these Scriptures aside and consternate about how Jesus got a soul and how a union of two natures is even possible. While on this point consider that we are not “Jesus-ians;” we are “Christ-ians.” One cannot be saved by believing on Jesus, one must believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (John20:31). God is very careful where he uses the names Lord, Jesus and Christ and we should be. Modernist translators striving to copyright God's words are cavalier, even callous, about their use, so a serious Bible student should get and use only an uncopyright Authorized Bible. The name Jesus references what he did while in the flesh, the name Christ references his eternal Godhead as Messiah the Anointed One. Even in their compound use God is very careful about their order. It is awesome what Christ did.

An Essay for week #24 Jun 17, 2018

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Msg #1825 Decisions Decisions

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision” (Joel 3:14). This week Dr. John Mills of H.E.L.P. addressed for us the importance of making wise decisions. The negative side is established by Joshua's league with the Gibeonites. He was uneasy about the decision and the Bible states, “And the men took of their victuals, and asked not counsel at the mouth of the LORD” (Josh 9:14). Like in this decision consequences can go on for generations. Adam blamed his wife, Flip Wilson the Devil, psychologists the parents. Take responsibility. “I'm sorry” does not erase consequences so practice these three principles for decision making. After making the greatest decision of life, receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as the savior of your soul, one has all new aptitude for them. First labor to please God every day of your life. We daily battle the world, the flesh, and the devil and to “in all thy ways acknowledge him” (Prov 3:5-6) is going to take determination, dedication, and discipline. Our desires ought to always please our Lord. Second habitually feed abundantly on the Word of God. Devotionals are wonderful tools, but they do not divide the thoughts and intents of our heart. Pick up your King James Bible and dedicate yourself to much reading, much study, and much meditation (Psalm 1, 119:97,104, Josh 1:8). It equips us for making wise decisions. Lastly practice the inverse of Joshua 9:14. James 1:5 says, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally.” Remember Psalm 27:14, “Wait on the LORD” and wait for a clear indication from the Lord; we often press on leaning on our own understanding, the inverse of Proverbs 3:5-6. Joshua failed in his chapter 9; it was recorded so that we need not fail.

An Essay for week #25 Jun 24, 2018

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Msg #1826 A More Sure Word

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When the Apostle Peter writes “We have also a more sure word of prophecy” (2Peter 1:19) comprehend what he is saying. Peter was an eyewitness of Christ's majesty (vr.16). He was present and saw with his own eyes when Christ “received from God the Father honour and glory.” There on that mount of transfiguration they saw “The Son of man coming in his Kingdom” (Matthew 16:28). Peter, James, and John saw Moses and Elias talking with Christ, the only begotten Son of God. “His face did shine as the sun, and his raiment as white as the light” (17:2). Then Peter heard out of the bright cloud that overshadowed them, “This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him” (vr.5). But now, in the close of Peter's ministry, he writes that, concerning the power and coming of our Lord Jesus, we have a more sure word of prophecy. The Holy-Bible we hold in our hand is a more sure word of prophecy concerning the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ than is the eyewitness of Peter who saw all these things. At the time of Peter's writing twenty-two of the twenty-seven books of the New Testament had been penned. These and all thirty-nine in the Old Testament were perfect inerrant, infallible, verbally inspired writings of God, and Peter declares it so with the label “more sure prophecy.” He goes on to say, “Where unto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts.” Don't let the ecumenical modernists tell you there is no inerrant, inspired Bible today. Hold your Holy-Bible close, it is a more sure word of prophecy than Peter in person.

An Essay for week #26 Jul 1, 2018

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Msg #1826b Some Giant Questions Answered

On 7/5/2018 7:58 AM, mike wrote:...

Pastor Ed, Some Bible Questions

Q. 1- Do you believe that verses indicate a "start over" i.e.- an event caused the vEarth to be w/o form and void?

Q 2- Do you believe a study of Nephillin and antediluvian tech/concepts to be wise and profitable.

Q 3- opinions on author Steven Quayle.

Thank you.

Brother Mike.

Brother Mike,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Good to hear from you. Quick answers A.1 - No, A.2 - No, A.3 - Quayle is a dangerous demon.

A.1 The gap theory tried to fix the Bible when it said the earth was only 6,000 years old and "science" (so-called) said it was millions of years old. Never correct the Bible because of atheistic science's explanations. Well after they got the "gap" pried open they started cramming all kinds of things into it. One Peter Ruckman was a whole-sale crammer and tried to justify a whole previous failed creation in "the gap." He could really stretch some verses to fill the gap with all kinds of junk. None of it fits with the theme of the book.

A.2 The idea that God destroyed the world in a flood because angel-human half-breeds messed things up has become all the rage and was likewise fueled by Peter Ruckman's wild and irresponsible speculations. It was not the depravity of man, they reason, it was those half-breed angels that mucked things up. Them nasty angels even copulated with animals, that is why the complete flood's destruction of them was necessary, ... they suppose. Then them nasty angels must have done it again because giants were in Canaan land. What's more they must have done it again, those nasty angels screwing around with our women, that's what's causing all the ill in this world. Those giants are being hid, they say, by those bureaucrats in Washington DC! Be careful the whole world is in on this conspiracy, don't you know?

A.3 Author Steve Quayle believes, promotes, and profits from teaching all this utter stupidity. His strong deception might have more followers than the KJV-Only crowd. It, and he, are demonic. We, the KJV-only crowd, stand on the truth of Scripture, which shows the depravity of man requiring the atoning blood of Christ, not the angel half-breed devils ruining everything scenario that Quayle is profitably promoting.

Thanks for asking. Stick to what the Bible says, avoid what charismatic teachers try to twist into its pages.

Pastor Ed Rice

Msg #1827 Plenary Inspiration

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

After the Apostle Peter called our Holy Bible a more sure word of prophecy, more sure than his eyewitness accounting, he give a tremendous insight as to how that happens. In my GARBC upbringing I was always taught that 2Peter 1:20 warns against using Scripture for our private interpretations, but it does not. Second Peter 1:20 is not about the reader of Scripture, it is about the writer of Scripture. The next verse clarifies that the holy men of God were not self-willed in providing the words of God, they were, instead, “moved by the Holy Ghost”. Understanding how inspiration works is like understanding how Jesus fed 5,000 with five loaves and two fish. Many have tried natural explanations for these Supernatural events. “Faith” is the noun, “believe” is its verb; by faith (noun) we believe (same word in verb form) that every word in the Holy Bible came directly from God. That's called “plenary verbal inspiration”. The Bible says this is so (2Tim3:16-17, 2Peter1:15-21, Psalm12:6, Gen15:1 et.al.). Further, His words are preserved to all generations (Psalm 33:11, 119:89, et.al.). The modernist lie is still the “not” in the Devils tale as they preach to the wide-gate and broad-way that only the original autographs are inspired, and make wholesale copyright changes to God's words. Paul did not say “all autographs are inspired,” all Timothy had were copies of copies of copies! Don't be taken in, hold your Holy Bible close, every word is from God, not man. And “me” think one can learn the nominative and accusative cases of words; it was pretty easy for “I”, and can be for thee (second person, singular, accusative). If you-all can learn where to use “I” vs. “me” at age five, thou mayest learn to properly parse all of God's pronouns.

An Essay for week #27 Jul 8, 2018

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Msg #1828 Suffer a Little

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the margin of my Bible next to Hebrews 5:8, “Though he were a Son, yet learned he obedience by the things which he suffered...” I have listed ten reasons why suffering is good for us. Foremost, we are here for His purposes not for ours, and in this Scripture God's purpose involved Christ's suffering. Recall Abraham who believed God but did not see fulfillment for twenty-two years. He and Sarah tried a man-made fulfillment... we know how that worked out. Isaac arrived in Genesis 21 but in chapter 22 God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only begotten son. God was painting a picture; the world waited a long time for the birth of the Messiah, he was then sacrificed for us. Suffering keeps us humble. In 2Corinthians 12 the Apostle Paul's thorn in the flesh brought humility and strength. In verse 9 God's strength is made perfect in weakness, and in verse 10 Paul himself was made strong in his weakness. Our immune system is made strong by fighting. Tonsils used to be ripped out regularly until we learned their role in our immune system. Exotic diet chemicals in the food industry destroy the immune system and cause numerous autoimmune diseases. Our suffering builds up our immunity to many other things, and produces our strength. When we are “dull of hearing” (Heb5:11) suffering holds our attention. Suffering teaches us to love, to enjoy blessings, to be Christlike, to be forgiving, to minister and long for heaven. “I walked a mile with happiness, she chatted all the way, but I was none the wiser for all she had to say. I walked a mile with sadness and not a word said she, but oh the things I learned from her, when sadness walked with me.”

An Essay for week #28 Jul 15, 2018

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Msg #1829 Do What Jesus Did

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The things that Christ did while made in the likeness of men he did because he was one with the Father. We often hear it said, “Of course he did no sin, ... he was God,” or “Of course he knew their thoughts, ... he was God,” or “Of course he could raise the dead, ... he was God.” A careful read of Scripture reveals he did not do these things in his own power, he did them because he was in perfect union with the Father. A Christian is to be in perfect union with the Father and that is why Jesus said, “He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also” (John 14:12). Many Scriptures come into clearer focus when we acknowledge that for 33 years Christ operated in the same flesh that we live in. John 5:10 declares, “Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself.” Granted, Christ, not born of the seed of man, had no sin nature drawing him to sin, but he was every bit as flesh and blood as you or I. Christ didn't do his own will (John 6:38), nor teach his own doctrine (7:16-18), it was the Father's. All he did in those 33 years he did in the power of the Father. You and I can and need to do the same. Christ took upon him the form of a servant (Phil 2:7), and operated here with the same rules that a believer operates under. When Christ rose victorious over death the Father restored him to the glory he had before the world was (John 17:1,5). Until we join him we are to live like he did, in complete surrender to the Father.

An Essay for week #29 Jul 22, 2018

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Msg #1830 Nuggets

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Here are some nuggets I jotted down from the preaching at the NE Pastor's Summit. It is more important that God is in the service, than it is how many people are in the service (Pastor Clark Jr.). Dr. Gibbs reminds us from Dan 9 to pray fervently, with repentance, fasting and faith! Pastor Christenson, don't chisel your rock (Exod 20:25), bring it just as you are; He will meet with you there; approach God just the way he says. The most spiritual thing a man of God can do is to love his wife (Pastor Clark Jr.). Dr. Gibbs reminds us, peace is promised to those who rejoice evermore, are moderated, don't worry, and talk to God about everything (Phil 4). Pastor Mike Clarke adds, Peace is easily lost and quickly stolen. Dr. Fisher reminds us that Jacob wrongfully blamed himself for Joseph's death, but the Holy Ghost NEVER says to us, "It's your fault"; He only gives us HOPE. Pastor Clark III adds, Discouragement is loss of heart, depression is loss of hope.

Dr. Don Sisk (85) shared his testimony with the men, then taught us, "Think about heaven, it will make you earthly good," and then, Finish well (Greek – *telesti* "it is finished") by 1) Knowing God is watching, preach to an audience of One; 2) Preach ALL Scripture; 3) Men with itching ears will not like you; 4) Watch – what you watch, both who and what; 5) Endure afflictions – not like a boy scout, like a soldier; 6) Do the work of an evangelist; 7) Make full proof of ministry.

Pastor Wilkerson reminds us that James writes five chapters promoting Christian maturity. A child screaming on an airplane cares nothing about others. A mature Christian cares about nothing but others. They are preserved through trials, have bridled speech, a benevolent spirit, a blameless separation, a blatant submission, and the patience of a wise farmer. Pastor Shirley closed reminding us that Nehemiah is a type of Christ in his concern for Jerusalem, intercession, participation, inspiration of others, taking the willing – whosoever will, building motivation, and standing by with a trumpeter to call everyone together before the biggest battle. It was a year of encouragement, packed into one week, I jotted down what I could.

An Essay for week #30 Jul 29, 2018

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Msg #1831 The Potters House

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God took Jeremiah to the potter's house to see some things that would cause him to hear God's words (Jeremiah 18). Evangelist Engesath, masterpotterministries.com, took us there Sunday for the same reason. The potter takes clay through eight stages to make a vessel meet for the master's use and prepared unto every good work (2Timothy 2:21). We too are made of clay and it is no coincidence that these eight refinements align with God's steps for our sanctification from 2Peter. The potter digs clay out of a pit like faith set our feet upon a rock when we believed God's Word (Psalm 40:1). The potter weathers the clay with water removing impurities like hiding God's Word in our heart adds to our faith virtue. He violently wedges the clay to homogenize and remove air-pockets like studying God's Word adds knowledge. After the clay is cut and wedged it is rested like meditating on God's Word adds temperance. These four sanctification processes involve absorbing God's pure words. They do not build in a column like we read them, but are layered like staggered bricks where three faiths hold up two virtues which hold one knowledge. The next four stages involve being a doer of the Word. After it is rested clay is shaped on the wheel like thankful trials add to our temperance patience (James 1:3-4). If marred it is re-wedged. The earthen vessel is now low-fired in a furnace to crystallize its chemistry like we add Godliness by our contented devotion and worship. A covering glaze is added like we are robed in righteousness (Isaiah 61:10) and add brotherly kindness. Finally the vessel is high-fired in the furnace, the glaze is bond with the clay like we add charity that never faileth. Wherever you are at, keep adding, keep building.

An Essay for week #31 Aug 5, 2018

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Msg #1832 Hope in Christ

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Evangelist Mike Patterson reminded us Sunday that “Christ in you, the hope of glory” is the mystery God uses to make known the riches of his glory (Col 1:26-27). With this hope there is no cause to be in the mulligrubs. *“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted in me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.* (Psalm 42:5). This hope in Christ manifests in seven ways. Titus 1:2 assures surety of eternal life, “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.” In Psalm 31:24 hope strengthens the heart, *“... he shall strengthen your heart, all ye that hope in the LORD.”* Hope will cause us to praise God (Psalm 42:5,11,43:5). Back in Titus 2 “Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ” (vr.13), causes us to speak and exhort (vr.15). The hope in this new covenant is an anchor, *“Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast...”* (Hebrews 6:19) Without the hope we would be “most miserable” (1Cor 15:19), so with it we can be most joyful. Lastly the hope we have in Christ makes us know God's mercy, *“Behold, the eye of the LORD is upon them that fear him, upon them that hope in his mercy; To deliver their soul from death, and to keep them alive in famine”*(Psalm 33:18-19). Even Job's “friend” Bildad knew some things about uncertain hope, *“So are the paths of all that forget God; and the hypocrite's hope shall perish”* (Job 8:13). *“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God”* (Psalm 42:11).

An Essay for week #32 Aug 12, 2018

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Msg #1833 Learn From Jacob's Mistakes

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As Jacob walks across twenty-six chapters of Genesis he teaches, by bad example, things about the believer's walk with God. To get the blessing he lied to his father about his name, and then tried for a deal with God,... if you bless me I'll have you as my God (Gen28:20-22). He cheated Laban out of his flocks. Lambs and calves are born at watering troughs and when drooped on pilled white strakes they are deeply stained and are "ringstraked, speckled, and spotted." This was not magic or superstition, this was thievery. And then to cover up his cheat he made up a dream from God and said God helped me do it. (31:9-13). Jacob's great fear and flight from Laban was completely unjustified. His fear and conniving to appease his brother Esau was also completely unjustified. Worry is interest paid on tomorrow's debt before it is due. We should not be living in fear. God has things in his control. When Jacob wrestles with God to get a blessing, God, like his father, asks "What is your name?" This time he didn't say Esau. At least Jacob had learned not to lie about it. When confronting the loss of his favorite son, Joseph,... "all his sons and all his daughters rose up to comfort him; but he refused to be comforted; and he said, For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning" (37:35). Doubtless Jacob blamed himself for the loss of Joseph, and was in depression for twenty years about it. It was unjustified, God was watching out for Jacob, but he never knew, and he never trusted God. The born-again believer has three things Jacob did not; Christ indwelling him, God as his Father, and the written record of Jacob's life; take full advantage.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 19, 2018

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Msg #1834 Repentance Is Required

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Have mercy upon me, O God, according to thy loving kindness: according unto the multitude of thy tender mercies blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin” (Psalm 51:1-2). David provides exhibit A for the need of our repentance. Mercy needs called for when the guilty and condemned want to escape just desert. Recall “the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes unto heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner” (Luke xviii.13). An hundred-and-ninety years ago J. Thornton was compelled to write a lengthy discourse, “Repentance – Explained and Enforced,” to confront false teachers who po-poed repentance of sin. He declares, “Repentance is contrition of heart, deep self-aborrence, where the genuinely penitent one is abased and confounded with a view of the greatness of his sins.” Among the many Scriptures defending this definition he points out Psalm xl. 12. “For innumerable evils have compassed me about: mine iniquities have taken hold upon me, so that I am not able to look up; they are more than the hairs of mine head: therefore my heart faileth me.” A hundred-and-thirty years ago Charles H. Spurgeon embarked on a similar defense stating, “Repentance is to leave the sin we loved before and show that we in earnest grieve by doing so no more.” The Roman's Latin Vulgate struck every occurrence of “repentance” from their translation and substituted “penance.” Ecumenical modernists would do it again today; be on guard for their pernicious ways. Forgiveness only comes to those who can lament “woe unto us, that we have sinned” (Lam 5:16). Our sacrifice for sin needs to be “A broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise” (Psalm li.17).

An Essay for week #34 Aug 26, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl80826.mp3

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Msg #1835 Extreme Christianity?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

To Capture attention in this day we have extreme sports, extreme racing, and extreme everything, but, unfortunately, we have lukewarm Christianity. Sunday our son Shane, missionary to Peru, Italy, and Ohio, aptly portrayed Josiah's walk through two chapters of our Bible as “Extreme Christianity” (2Kings 22-23). Despite an evil father and vile grandfather, as king, at eight years old, Josiah purposed to rebuild God's temple and found “The Book” (22:8). “When the king had heard the words of the book of the law he rent his clothes... for great is the wrath of the LORD that is kindled against us” (vr.11, 13). This was no “Not Inspired Version” giving what ecumenical counsels thought God meant to say, it was the inspired Word of God and it caused Josiah to weep over, and repent of, sin. “And the king stood by a pillar and made a covenant before the LORD, to walk after the LORD, and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all their heart and all their soul, to perform the words of this covenant that were written in this book” (23:3). He first purged his kingdom of evil; all the perversion, i.e. sodomites (vr.7), all the idolatry, all the all the false worship, and “all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book” (23:24). We need to perform the words of God's law, and must first purge, some things from our kingdoms. God said that before, or after, there was no king like unto Josiah, “that turned to the LORD with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his might” (23:25). Extreme Christianity, try it.

An Essay for week #35 Sep 2, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl80902.mp3

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Msg #1836 A Marriage Relationship With God?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The love, security and significance humans find in a Godly marriage prepares the heart, awakens the spirit, and tempers the soul for the type of relationship that our Creator desires to have with men. Genesis 2 tells us “it is not good that man should be alone” and goes on to describe the “appropriate-helper” that God made for him. In verse 24 God clarifies that marriage is 1) to form a new family relationship, 2) for one man and one woman, and 3) the forsaking of all others. Marriage is 4) to be “until death do us part,” and 5) a means of procreation where a mature, loving, faithful, and stable relationship provides the environment for rearing Godly children. So too, in our relationship with God, it is not good that man should be alone. 1) God pleads that we enter into this new “family” relationship “Come now, let us reason together” (Isa. 1:18). 2) “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other.... Ye cannot serve God and mammon” (Matt. 6:24). “The LORD our God is one LORD: And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy might” (Deut. 6:4-5). 3) “Thou shalt have no other gods before me” (Exodus 20:3), because he is a Jealous God (34:14). 4) “For he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” (Heb 13:5). And for Christian procreation, 5) Preach the gospel to every creature... baptizing them ... and teaching them to observe... (Matt.28:18-20, Mark16:15, Luke24:46-48, John20:21, Acts1:8, Rom.1:16). Yet only 5% of Christians ever lead a soul to Christ! With these five parallels we should take stock of marriage, and of our relationship with the Lord our God.

An Essay for week #36 Sep 9, 2018

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Msg #1837 Daniel Revealed In Revelation

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is curious that John in the Isle of Patmos was told by the Lord Jesus Christ to “write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter” (Rev1:19), and in Daniel 7 is written the things which Daniel had seen, the Babylonian and Medo-Persian Empires represented in the first and second beast, the things which are, being the third beast representative of the rising Grecian Empire, and the things which shall be hereafter, represented in the dreadful and terrible fourth beast. Daniel says, “Then I would know the truth of the fourth beast” (Dan7:19), and there follows a description of the end times which is fully fleshed out in the Revelation of Jesus Christ. Revelation is written in Greek but its soul is in the Hebrew imagery portrayed in Daniel. For those with ears to hear it lays out events that “must shortly come to pass.” The fourth beast of Daniel 7 is the dragon of Revelation 12:3, 13:1, 17:3,7; the ten horns are ten kings which receive dragon power for one hour (17:12,16). Their mother church taught all Protestants to read their Bibles as allegorical literature and they have no ears to hear. They cannot understand Christ on the Throne of David because they suppose they replaced Israel in God's promises. They so misconceive, “Thy kingdom come” that Ellen White (SDA) said it would in 1844, Charles Taze Russell (JW) in 1878, Edgar Whisenant in 1988, and Harold Camping in 2011. All these false teachers started with Roman misinformation about God's chosen people, Israel, and “no ears to hear” the Revelation of Jesus Christ. These anti-Christ's spring from MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS” (Revelation 17:5). They play right into the hand of that dragon.

An Essay for week #37 Sep 16, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl80916.mp3

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Msg #1838 Redemption Draweth Nigh

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The doom of the beast with ten horns in Daniel 7, Revelation 12,13 and 17 is certain and the time of his rise and fall is clearly prophesied. *“Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon the many waters... and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast... having seven heads and ten horns”* (Rev 17:1b,3b). Rome is the city on seven hills and in desperation to claim Peter as her first pope Catholics, because of 1Peter 5:13, ironically, diabolically, and voluntarily, assign themselves the label “Mystery Babylon.” *“The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman (Mystery Babylon, Mother of Harlots) sitteth... And the ten horns... shall hate the whore... and the woman is that great city which reigneth over the kings of the earth”* (Rev 17:9,16,18). The beast with ten horns and a mouth speaking great things (Daniel 7:8, Rev 13:5) is given power to continue only forty-two months (Rev 13:5) (one half of the seven years of the great tribulation, i.e. the seventieth week of Daniel 9:24). After that two-thousand and three-hundred days (Daniel 8:14,12:11, Rev 11:3,12:6) the beast is destroyed by the “Lord of lords and King of kings” of Rev 17:14, “The Ancient of Days” of Daniel 7:9, “The Son of man” of Daniel 7:13, and the “Faithful and True” who “in righteousness doth judge and make war” of Revelation 19:11! That dragon powered beast and the ten horns which receive power as kings for only “one hour” (Rev 17:12) only exist in the last half of the seven year tribulation. Romans and their Protestants do not have ears to hear these things but Bible believers are looking for the uppertaker not the undertaker, or the beast, or the anti-christ. Keep looking up.

An Essay for week #38 Sep 23, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs180923.mp3

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Msg #1839 Mind Your Own Business

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I am not advocating that we roll over but it is clear in Biblical prophecy who dominates in our battle against the lying, cheating, manipulating, power mongering, progressive liberal, championing sodomy and moral decay as a way of life, and their progressive socialism as a new world order. Babylon, meaning confusion, raises her seven heads and ten horns in Genesis 11, right after the world flood. She carries the scattered Gentile nations of this world as a vast river flowing through time, while Genesis 12 through Matthew 12 traces only a tiny creek of chosen people called Israel. God uses this rill to show that the LORD our God is one God, to show the great advantage of serving our God, to provide the oracles of God, and to bring His Messiah, His Anointed One, the Christ, the only Begotten Son of God (Psalm 2:2,7) into this world. In this rill is found the Dispensation of Promise, and Law. In the mean time, the larger river of mankind continues in “babylon” with only the Dispensation of Conscience and Human Government to keep her on course. After Matthew 12, when Christ turns his attention from Israel to offer himself as the Saviour of the whole world, all enter into the Dispensation of Grace (Eph 1:10, 3:2). The river Babylon then births from the Roman beast, Mystery Babylon the Mother of Harlots (Rev 17). It behooves the Bible believer to keep this larger picture in mind. That is why God laid out Revelation 17 and 18 for us to read. Some are inclined to march on DC and battle the beast, but it is above my pay-grade, battling Babylon; I am instead commissioned to preach the gospel to every creature. “Wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?”

An Essay for week #39 Sep 30, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl80930.mp3

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Msg #1840 Faith Promise Missions Giving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Turns out, the liberal giving that the Apostle Paul endorses for the Church at Corinth exactly fills the need for autonomous local churches supporting missionaries who preach the gospel to every creature. Paul's complete recommendation is captured in what many call "Faith Promise Missions Giving," wherein "we do you to wit of the grace of God bestowed on the churches... unto the riches of their liberality" (2Cor 8:1-2). Paul encourages this church, on the rebound from being the most carnal of churches, to pray, purpose, and with desire give "beyond their power" (vr.3). This "grace of liberal giving" is beyond their tithe, and is intended to minister to the needs of saints (vr. 4) who are out there fulfilling the great commission. Faith Promise Missions Giving and 2Cor 8-9 encourage every believer to be involved, to purpose an amount that God can give through them, and then to start giving that amount, trusting God to supply it each week. Just like these Scriptures teach, Faith Promise is not part of our tithe, it is a freewill offering; it is not a pledge to man, but a by faith promise to God, and it is not just doing what one is able to do, it is what God is able to do through us. God will give more through you than he will ever give to you. The grace of liberal giving taught in 2Cor 8-9 has put more gospel preaching Baptist missionaries on foreign fields than any other entity. Paul expresses the joy this type of giving produces and experience shows the tremendous effect it has on the local church. If your church does not use the Biblical Faith Promise Missions Giving method, read the chapters and investigate why not.

An Essay for week #40 Oct 7, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl81007.mp3

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Msg #1841 Enduring Unto the End?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Unless one has embraced errant Protestant eschatology, Matthew 24 clarifies a lot of things about the coming Kingdom. The coming Kingdom of God is not about the church it is about Israel. The Protestant/Reformed theologians suppose that they are Israel, and that we are presently living in the great tribulation. No, we are not Israel, and this is not the great tribulation. Thinking so, and treating the Revelation of Jesus Christ as allegorical literature, will never lead one to “rightly divide the word of truth” (2Tim.2:15). Also, if one is going to insert a gap between verses they should leave the Genesis account alone and insert it between verses two and three of Matthew 24. The time it took Jesus and his disciples to walk from the temple, where Jesus gave a profound prophecy about the temple stones, to the mount of Olives was adequate for the disciple's minds to stop reeling and start absorbing. At the mount they ask, “Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of thy coming? And of the end of the world?” (Matt.24:3). Jesus responds, “Take heed that no man deceive you,... ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars... nation shall rise against nation... ye shall be hated of all nations...” (vr.4-9). That is just an outline, when Jesus gets to “the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet” (vr.15), the Bible student is certain that Jesus is describing the “great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world...” (vr.21). For a believer to be saved in this tribulation he must “endure unto the end” (vr.13). Enduring to the end is not for the blood bought saints of today, “Beloved, now are we the sons of God” (1John 3:2). That is comforting.

An Essay for week #41 Oct 14, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181014.mp3

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What's Allegorical in Msg #1841?

Hi Pastor Ed,

The wrinkle in this is verse 34. "Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened." It seems to me that by ignoring this verse, or allegorizing it, we are making Matthew 24 allegorical. If I had to make a choice between taking Matthew 24 or Revelation allegorically, I would choose the book that is filled with allegory, head to toe. To me it is just more straightforward to read Jesus' words and see if it is possible He could be talking about something coming within the disciples lifetimes. The destruction of the temple was a massive upheaval, a literal destruction of the old covenantal ways. And one of the more brutal attacks on mankind recorded.

But it is okay to disagree with each other. And Like I said, I haven't studied this strongly, because it is a minor point and I have very little interest in end times. I am following, and encouraging my flock to follow Christ today, for today, for every day till He comes. Whether He comes in my lifetime or not, I am a blessed man to endure it all till the end. Praise Jesus.

Blessings to you Pastor!

Randy

Dear Pastor Randy,

Thank you for writing, I always enjoy your insights. What we have here is a failure to communicate. It's my fault. When I cram four pages into a three-hundred word essay I condense a lot. Let me expand three points; the complete and utter failure of the allegorical method anywhere in Scripture, the exact language of verse 34, and a reasonable understanding of the verse.

Roman Catholic Saint Origen (AD 185-254) of Alexandria Egypt is called the Father of the Allegorical Method. A good review of the three schools of hermeneutical methods, Jewish Exegesis, The School of Alexandria, and The School of Antioch, can be found in *Systematic Theology for the 21st Century, Section 2 Bibliology, Chapter 13 Christian Biblical Hermeneutics*⁶. In short Origen's allegorical method holds that all scripture has a deep secret meaning hidden behind the literal interpretation and that only the very pious and diligent lifetime student of scripture can read and discern this hidden meaning. Origen devised this method to eliminate Israel from Scripture, he and his mentor, Clement of Alexandria, had seen Israel annihilated from the face of the earth, and it was inconceivable that they would ever be back to claim the promises of God, ergo the promises must go to the catholic church, ergo the allegorical method would

6 Found in whole at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology .

accommodate such divergence from the literalness of Scripture. They supposed the literal interpretation was for the immature, (laity) the allegorical for the mature (clergy).

As stated in my systematic theology book: “Since Israel, Hebrews, and the Jews were now annihilated, Clement supposed that the catholic church would be the new recipients of every promise that the Old Testament Scriptures made to them. In response to his mentors oversight, Origen refined an allegorical method which could strip all the promises made to Israel, King David, and the Jews from the Old Testament Scripture and apply them to a catholic church. Little wonder that the Roman Catholic Church sainted both Clement and Origen posthumously a couple hundred years later.”⁷

Now Origen's allegorical method is very different from the Jewish Midrash methods. The Apostle Paul makes reference to their allegorical methods in Galatians 4:24, but even there he is more-so taking a stab at the foolishness in their allegories, than he is defending any use of allegory. Recall that Martin Luther was considered the very best Roman Catholic allegorist, until he understood that Romans 1:16 was not allegorical at all, it was literal. Then he became the Roman Catholic's worst nightmare. Baptists have always used the literal-grammatical-historical method that Jesus used; it was defined and defended by the School of Antioch and is in stark contrast to the School of Alexandria's methods. The literal-grammatical-historical method understands figurative, similitude and parable usages in the context of the Scriptures.

Brother Randy, you and I refuse to call Matthew 24:34 allegorical so lets look more particularly at that verse.

You said the verse says, “Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened,” but I must first clarify that it more accurately says, “Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled.” I'll contend that things being “fulfilled” is very different than things “happening.” Biblical prophecy often has a near term, literal fulfillment, fore-shadowed fulfillments and a complete fulfillment. For example consider Isa. 7:14, and the destruction of Ephraim and Syria that was a near term and literal fulfillment, i.e. what “happened” there. And/Or consider Jesus' prophecy that “*There be some standing here, which shall not taste of death, till they see the Son of man coming in his kingdom*” (Matt 16:28) and how that “happened” in the chapter 17, but it was not then fulfilled in its fullest sense. The Bible says what it means and means what it says, and one needs to be very careful with renderings which come from ecumenical counsels that did not believe in an inerrant, infallible verbally inspired Bible (and further they believed in the allegorical methods of Saint Origen). In the same way that Matthew 17:2 is a

7 http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/theology/21cent_vol02Bibliology.pdf pg 489

“lesser” fulfillment of “the Son of man coming in his kingdom,” there may be a “lesser” fulfillment or even several “lesser” fulfillments of Matthew 24:34.

Let's examine the full context of the verse by examining the verses around it, (I'll be using the Authorized Version) *“Now learn a parable of the fig tree; When his branch is yet tender, and putteth forth leaves, ye know that summer is nigh: So likewise ye, when ye shall see all these things, know that it is near, even at the doors. Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”*

Dr. DeHann taught me when I was a boy that “the generation that sees these things from this parable will not pass till all these things be fulfilled.” He contended that the fig tree putting forth leaves was the 1948 treaty once more making Israel a nation, and thereby expecting “all these things be fulfilled” before 1998. (Others contended for the 1967 Six Day War, as the leaf.) He was wrong but I learned a great deal about looking at Matthew 24:34 from Dr. DeHann; it did not necessarily singularly and completely apply to the disciples who heard Jesus say it. Surely “all these things” should include the abomination of desolation, the great tribulation, the flight from Judah and coming of Christ described in Matthew 24. The disciples generation passed away not seeing all these things. Obviously we need a larger picture to discern the truths of this passage. But never go allegorical on any Scripture, it is unbecoming of a Bible believer.

Just some uncondensed thoughts on you input. God bless you in your studies.

Pastor Ed Rice

From: Randy Date: 10/24/2018

To: "Pastor Edward Rice" <Pastor-Rice@GSBaptistChurch.com>

Awesome notes, Pastor. Thank you. ...

Having said that though, I still have to conclude that in discerning the next successive fulfillment, we would need to make it comfortable—that is, not stretch scripture too much. I think we could all agree that we don't have to stretch scripture too much to say that AD70 was a meaningful robust fulfillment of Matthew 24. Could there be a future successive fulfillment? Absolutely! We are solidly in agreement there. But, if I have to climb out on a limb and point my finger at the successive fulfillment, I am going to have to be certain beyond a shadow of a doubt.

So here's where we might be on different pages, perhaps.

- It seems to me many people are trying too hard to find reasons for the next fulfillment to be coming soon. I don't see it. Every generation has thought they were it. They were wrong. Statistically, this generation is wrong as

well.

· Stretching scripture to fit a theory seems man-made. I lived too long as a prideful man, trying to make up a god that I liked. I am being really cautious about ever doing that again. If I am in doubt about it being man-made or God-made, I am happy to wait on God to reveal it to me. 70 weeks of Daniel, two resurrections (beyond the one I already went through in being raised from the dead of my wretched old self), another great tribulation beyond 70 AD, two second comings of Christ, and there a few others that I can't think of right now within dispensationalism.

· I don't see that the secular nation of Israel has any more interest in following God than they ever did before 70AD. Nor can I see that God is going to go back on His second covenant. Jesus is the way. The only way. Forever. I think everyone is on equal footing now. The Father of the bride was not pleased with his invited guests, so He went out and burned their city, and invited everyone else in. So, my concern is that I and my flock are ready, wearing the right wedding clothes for His return (which could happen soon, but is highly likely not going to happen in my lifetime). Every Jew has equal opportunity to come back to the wedding, to be grafted back into the vine they were cut off from, but only on God's terms. Nobody has any special favor now. That covenant is over. The city was burned. We are not going back to the old covenant with a temple and animal sacrifices. The old covenant has been destroyed, even the Jews agree with that. They are practicing Rabbinic Judaism today, not the Law, and they are not going back to animal sacrifices. And without animal sacrifices, we have no old covenant. Moreover, even if they did, Christ already fulfilled the law, He was the final lamb to be slain, giving us access to the Holy of Holies.

· The fig leaves that they were to read came about 40 years later. And they read them correctly and fled Jerusalem. I am glad they did. Could there be a successive fulfillment of the fig tree, prior to His return on the last day? Absolutely, but I don't see it yet.

But I could be missing something! As I admitted before, I haven't studied this enough or felt it was important enough to be looking very hard!

Blessings to you Pastor! Glad to have these conversations with you.

Randy

Pastor Randy,
Thanks for again writing. Your insights are very helpful, and your caution is

appreciated. We are but Bible students comprehending the infinite God through his finite revelation. We will understand it better when he appears. Praise the Lord.

In the mean time I want to tweak two thoughts. Consider, when there is a prophecy there is often a “precursor” fulfillment, and sometimes successive (shadow) fulfillments, but always a final, primary, complete fulfillment. Seventy AD saw such a complete fulfillment of Matthew 24:3, but could not even approach what was prophesied in verses 15 or 21. I'm just saying, there is a whole bunch prophesied about the second coming of Christ that has yet to be fulfilled, it fits into the seventieth week of Daniel, and it fits perfectly with the non-allegorical reading of the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

Secondly the covenant with Israel is not done, nor is it dependent on Israel's interest in following after God. God made some promises to Israel that he cannot renege. Promises of restoration and national salvation: promises to completely occupy the Promised Land, to dwell there in peace and safety; promises of the only begotten Son of God sitting on the throne of David and reigning over the whole earth from Jerusalem, i.e. the holy hills of Zion (Psalm 2). These have had “precursor” fulfillment, and shadowed fulfillments, but not their final and complete fulfillment. Christ will sit on the throne of David for a millennial reign (Rev 20) and more. It is promised repeatedly.

Having taught college statistics, allow me to further say, statistics can never determine truth: statistically the Apostle Paul and all the saints after him were wrong about the second coming of Christ occurring in their lifetime. But I believe “The Lord is not slack concerning his promises...” and that I will “never die” because he will come in my lifetime, ... regardless, “The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night...” and it has not yet come. cf. John 11:25-26, and 2Peter 3:1-18.

May God richly bless *our* studies of his coming.
Pastor Ed Rice.

Msg #1842 The Big Picture of Bible Prophecy

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Gospel of Matthew chapter twenty-five comes just after Matthew chapter twenty-four. That is not profound, nor is it mentioned so a Bible student revert to baby-steps. People often segment God's Word into favorite stories, familiar passages, or memorized clips without keeping the holistic view of what God is communicating. This is all the more true when addressing Bible prophecy. When assembling a thousand piece jigsaw puzzle there is wisdom in putting the frame together first. Russel, Smith, White, Eddy and Camping had great followings but no idea where the frame-work fit. Matthew chapter twenty-four captures, "Tell us, when shall these things be? And what shall be the sign of the coming, and the end of the world? ..." and then, "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh" (vrs. 3, 44). Chapter twenty-five teaches in parable, be ready, be busy, and be sure the Righteous Judge is coming. It has five wise virgins, five invested talents, and five righteous deeds considered by the Judge. Many spend effort on oil not shared but bought, a talent not used but squandered, and good deeds withheld at great peril. Remember, parables have one major principle in view. Their intent is to drive home one major thought. Don't get lost or mislead in minutia. "Be ye also ready", "Occupy till I come", and "Shall not the Judge of all the earth do right?" ... always keep the big picture in view. Matthew chapter twenty-five pretty much drives home the premier point of all the prophecy on the second coming of Christ: be ready, be busy, the Righteous Judge will soon appear. There is coming a Last October for this vile world, the Righteous Judge will set everything straight.

An Essay for week #42 Oct 21, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181021.mp3

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Msg #1843 The Biblical Millennial Reign

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Millennial Kingdom, wherein the Lord Jesus Christ reigns over all the nations of the earth from the throne of David set in God's holy hill of Zion, has snippets of prophetic promises scattered throughout the whole Bible. A Bible student can assemble them like he would assemble a jig-saw puzzle after seeing the big picture and getting the frame together right. It takes study and rightly dividing the Word of Truth. The majority of Christendom holds up these prophetic promises to a back-drop painted by the Roman Catholic Church, and cannot piece together an accurate portrayal of the end times. They allegorize everything, suppose the lion lies with the lamb in the catholic church, and suppose that in AD 70 Emperor Titus was the "Abomination of Desolation" spoken of by Daniel and Christ. They suppose we are presently in the great tribulation, that Satan is presently bound, and that there is no 1,000 year reign of Christ because, in allegory, a thousand years is as a single day. So how does an honest Bible student study and understand the upcoming, non-church-age, millennial reign of Christ? Discard their big picture and realize that God made promises to Israel, God's elect and chosen nation, and he will very literally fulfill every one of them. Now look how well all the pieces fit together. Know too who Mystery Babylon, the Woman on the Beast, truly is. Get out of the apostate church and get into a Bible believing one. Already in a premillennial, pretribulational rapture teaching church? Praise your Blessed Redeemer, and, in this Laodicean Church age, stay on that straight and narrow path. Understand too, why some of your friends are so confused about end time prophecies, they have an old Roman/Protestant/Reformed allegorical backdrop held up in front of their Bible.

An Essay for week #43 Oct 28, 2018

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Msg #1844 Well Pleasing or Overthrown

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For the carnal church at Corinth the Apostle Paul solidifies a point about those who went before, “But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness” (2Cor 10:5). Those desiring to be well pleasing and avoid such an overthrow might pay earnest heed to Paul's poignant message. The overthrown all had the same advantageous start; they saw the Shekinah cloud and the dry path through the Red Sea (vrs.1-2); they ate the manna and drank the water from the Rock (vrs.3-4). Yet they displeased God and were overthrown for four primary reasons: 1) Idolatry (vr.7): making up and worshiping false gods. We do not do that with wood, stone and precious metals today, but many “Christians” have, in their mind, made up their false concepts about “the man upstairs,” and worship a false god. God is holy, and we are commended to “know him that is true” and “keep his commandments” (1John 5:20,2:3-4). 2) Fornication (vr.8): foreign use of one of God's most intimate and precious gifts. There is no greater human intimacy than sexual intimacy, no greater human pleasure than sexual pleasure, and no greater oneness of a male and female exists. When that is used “foreign” to God's intent it is called “fornication.” Twenty-three-thousand displeased God and were overthrown in one day. Pay attention. 3) Tempting Christ (vr.9): Jesus said, “Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God,” when Satan bid him to cast himself onto a promise of God. God is not here for our show-and-tell, nor does he play “Let's make a deal.” 4) Murmuring (vr.10): ... this short essay could not capture the extent of failure in our murmuring. Take heed lest ye fall... and here Paul gives us four things to take heed of.

An Essay for week #44 Nov 4, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181104.mp3

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Msg #1845 Signs for Saul

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The signs given to Saul, son of Kish, as he entered into a full time ministry are rich with insights that often get overlooked. Two men at Rachel's sepulcher in the border of Benjamin at Zelza (shadow) gave Saul advice about his present physical dilemma. The setting invites recognition of the old paths and the breaking down of borders. God gives called men wise advisers that stay on the old paths and know how to push back borders. Then three men met Saul in the plain of Tabor (mound). At Tabor stood an old oak tree that marked a mountain ridge extending across the plain to Nazareth. That is rich with symbolism. The men had meat, bread, and wine. Saul got only some bread. One might not always eat meat in the ministry, and one should not drink wine (Prov 20:1,23:29-35,31:4-7), but the bread of life, manna, and "not by bread alone" are all rich in symbolism for a God-called minister. Lastly one going into ministry is going to the hill of God, will cross a garrison of Philistines, and meet a company of prophets with all manner of musical instruments. Psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs of Col. 3:16 should come to mind here, not the rock bands of apostate Christendom. Look at the next thought, "And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man. And let it be, when these signs are come unto thee, that thou do as occasion serve thee; for God is with thee" (1Sam10:6-7). It is sad how Saul tainted his calling to the point where God set him aside and called another. But God's provision for his calling was impeccable. When God calls he provides all the needed resources.

An Essay for week #45 Nov 11, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181111.mp3

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Msg #1846 A National Day of Thanksgiving

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Give special thanks for being born in a country that has for the past hundred and fifty-five years observed a national day of thanksgiving, but in that thanksgiving prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Creator, and Sustainer of this world, plead for our country, “Because that when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful, but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened” (Rom 1:21). Our nation needs its foolish heart, and reprobate mind, enlightened by Christ. In his 1863 “Thanksgiving Proclamation” President Abraham Lincoln said it thus: “It is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations are blessed whose God is the Lord. ... We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; ... But we have forgotten God. ... and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. ... we have become ... too proud to pray to the God that made us.” Worse than forgetting God, we have actively tried to dismiss him and erase him and his Only Begotten Son from the minds of our children. (Song lyrics come to mind, “I don't believe in evolution I know creations true.. so praise the Lord for what he made, give credit where it's due...) Give thanks, and pray for revival of our nation. Happy Thanksgiving.

An Essay for week #46 Nov 18, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181118.mp3
View in power-point www.GSBaptistChurch.com/messages/thanksgiving

Msg #1847 Black Fridays

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Black Friday is not so named for the covetous, greedy, depraved, materialistic heart of the American consumer. It probably could have been. Shopping on Friday after the National Day of Thanksgiving can provide some keen insight to God's command, "Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbour's" (Exod. 20:17). To covet is to yearn, desire, or crave to have. Marketers know how to focus a yearning into an overpowering craving that blooms into full on greed. That's what they do. The Psalmist clarifies, "For the wicked boasteth of his heart's desire, and blesseth the covetous, whom the LORD abhorreth" (Psalm 10:3). Rather than being "abhorred" by the LORD, Christians should follow David's heart, "Incline my heart unto thy testimonies, and not to covetousness" (Psalm 119:36). Solomon says, "The desire of the slothful killeth him; for his hands refuse to labour. He coveteth greedily all the day long: but the righteous giveth and spareth not" (Prov. 21:25-26). Be a giver not a coveter. Covetousness is often listed with the vile affections and works of the flesh which are in the past-tense for Christians, but look at the insight given in Colossians 3:5, "Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry." Idolatry is praying to and worshiping false, man-made gods! On Black Friday it is easy to see it in others, but be careful that some of that idolatry isn't lodged in our own craw. In this season promoting materialism, be careful not to covet, and God Bless your Holy-Day season.

An Essay for week #47 Nov 25, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181125.mp3

To receive this pp in weekly email, visit us at www.GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1848 The First Advent in Scripture

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel” (Gen3:15). At least two things begin in this Genesis revelation; first is the tracing of the seed-line that would bring the Saviour of mankind into the world, second is the progressive revelation about the Messiah, (Greek, *the Christ*), the Only Begotten Son of God. In the Bible the seed-line traces through Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, and King David with an obscure clarity that is discerned with study. In our sick and twisted rebellious society that now rejects all knowledge of X and Y chromosomes it is doubtless necessary to point out that women do not have seed, they have egg, thus the seed of woman in Genesis 3:15 fits succinctly with “a virgin shall conceive” of Isaiah 7:14. The catholic church, Roman, Eastern or Protestant, has never done well at separating between Christ's first advent and his second advent. C.I. Scofield (1841-1921) pursued a “Fundamental” separation from their apostasy and wrote, “The O.T. foreview of the coming Messiah is in two aspects - that of rejection and suffering (as e.g. in Isa 53), and that of earthly glory and power (as e.g. Isa 11, Jer 23, Eze 37). Often these two aspects blend in one passage (e.g. Psalm 2).” It would behoove the serious student of Christ to read through Scofield's hundred-and-five chain referenced verses on the First Advent, (80 O.T., 25 N.T.) and note them as distinct from his hundred-and-seventy-six chained references on the Second Advent (50 O.T., 126 N.T.) Such a scripture study (never taught by Protestant Clergy) will enable a more profound worship of our Lord Jesus Christ as we acknowledge his virgin birth in Bethlehem. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #48 Dec 2, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181202.mp3

To see this msg in ppt slides www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs/advent_prophecy

Msg #1849 Bethlehem Ephratah

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Important things are often overlooked when one thinks of “O little town of Bethlehem,” a tiny town in the hill country of Judah but the birthplace of our Lord Jesus Christ. After Rachel died there in childbirth it came to be called Bethlehem Ephratah; Ephratah meaning both heap of ashes and place of fruitfulness. How is it that out of the ashes comes fruitfulness? Rachel called her child “son of my sorrow” but his father called him “son of the right hand.” So to the Christ was “despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief” (Isa 53:3), but in his death and resurrection he was fruitful, bringing everlasting life. A Benjaminite named Saul visited Rachel's tomb on his way to the throne (1Sam 10:2), and out of his failed kingdom rose King David, who was born in Bethlehem (1Sam 16:1). Bethlehem means “house of bread” and out of her comes he who said, “I am the bread of life... He that believeth on me hath everlasting life” (John 6:35-48). Despite the garrison of Philistines camped in Bethlehem, David desired water from its well (2Sam 23:14-17), and it is no coincidence that Jesus said, “whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst... (it) shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life” (John 4:14). “O little town of Bethlehem,” there is still a garrison of hate filled Palestinians there, but God in Micah 5 still promises great victories to come from that heap of ashes. God still takes ashes and turns them into fruitfulness. “Come to Bethlehem, and see, Him Whose birth the angels sing. Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.” Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #49 Dec 9, 2018

Msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs/advent_bethlehem

To receive this pp in weekly email, visit us at www.GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1850 Shepherds-Pastors

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

One can learn a lot from a shepherd. In the Bible a pastor, a shepherd, and a herdsman are all the same word. Able was one. In God's economy pastors-shepherds are the heralds of truth. At Jesus' birth, *"there were shepherds abiding in the fields"* (Luke 2). These heralds of truth were given first insight, special signs, and the time, curiosity, and initiative to pursue holy things. So is your pastor. *"And when they (shepherds-pastors) had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child."* So does your pastor. God wants you under a pastor-shepherd. *"Let the LORD, the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation, ... that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd"* (Num. 27:16). There are bad shepherds destroying God's vineyard (Jer. 12:10), causing sheep to go astray (50:6), brutish, not seeking God (10:21). Move away, God will deal with them (Jer. 23). In Ezekiel 34:2-6 God reveals seven things a good pastor-shepherd will do by showing what the bad didn't do, and in Jeremiah 23:4-6 he reveals that under a good pastor-shepherd sheep will be well fed, fear no evil, be not dismayed, and not be lacking. For the Christian, God is clear, "I will set up shepherds over them." Certainly in Christ we have a Good Shepherd (John 10:11, Psalm22), a Great Shepherd (Heb 13:20, Psalm23), and a soon coming Chief Shepherd (1Peter 5:4, Psalm24), but *"the God of the spirits of all flesh, set a man over the congregation."* Not a woman, not a brute, not a charismatic miss-leader, you need a pastor-shepherd, and you need to pray for him. In this day of apostasy he is God's herald of truth.

An Essay for week #50 Dec 16, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181216.mp3

Msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs/advent_shepherds

Msg #1851 Wise Men Worship the Son

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The wise men of Matthew chapter two knew some things, saw something, and did some thing. Wise men make a study of “he that is born King of the Jews.” These came from the 300 year old ashes of a world empire that once held God's chosen remnant of these Jews. They knew the newborn king would be the only begotten Son of God from Psalms 2; even the founder of the empire knew of that relationship (Daniel 3:25). Their instructor, Daniel, was a profound teacher of God's truths; he still is; he has been for all wise men studying Scripture. They knew this Messiah would arrive 483 years after the Jews were released from bondage (Daniel 9:24-26). They knew he would be the Saviour of the world (Gen 3:15), the seed of Abraham (12:3) occupy the throne of King David (2Sam7:16), be born of a virgin (Isa 7:13-14), and be called “The mighty God, the everlasting Father” (Isa 9:6-7). I would that my neighbor new that much about Messiah because, “Whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life” (John 3:15). These wise men saw a supernatural star that led them to a house where the child was. Those not believing in the supernatural suppose it was Mercury crossing Venus in 4 BC, or perhaps a supernova, but believers know it was not natural but a supernatural sign from God. We know because, “All scripture is given by inspiration of God” (that is copies of copies of copies that young Timothy had in 2Tim 3:16). The wise men of Matthew chapter two worshiped the Only Begotten Son of God, who said worship no other God but the LORD God. The Son is indeed “the mighty God, the everlasting Father,” and we should worship him too. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #51 Dec 23, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl81223.mp3

To view all 4 Advent msgs in ppt slides www.GSBaptistChurch.com/advent

Msg #1852 A 2nd Advent Manner of Life

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Apostle Peter closes his ministry with his second epistle and he closes that epistle penning the question, “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness?” (2Pet3:11). This endgame question is good consideration for ushering in a new year. Peter slams Charles Lyell's geological uniformitarianism (vr.4), exposes the willing ignorance of the evolutionist (vr.5), and corrects the world flood deniers (vr.6). The Godless “science” of our day denies God's supper-natural. They are sorely mistaken. Peter likewise derides those who deny Christ's second coming and God's endgame. He jumps right to Revelation 21, which the Apostle John had not even written down yet. Believers held these truths for two-thousand years now, and Peter's verse 8, about a thousand years being nothing at all to God, justifies that wait. It is sadly ironic that John and his Calvinist's use verse 8 to dismiss Christ's Millennial reign altogether! In verse 15-16 Peter even highlights the Apostle Paul's wisdom about the rapture (1Thes 4), the judgments to come (2Thes.2, 1Cor 3), and the dispensations of God (Eph 3); dispensations that Calvinists and Reformed theology denies. We can rest assured that our Saviour is coming back as the Judge, and in the end these elements shall melt with a fervent heat, i.e. it is all going to burn. The prose has been coined, “Only one life, twill soon be passed, only what's done for Christ will last.” The Apostle Peter's closing argument has begged the question, “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God.” Happy New Year.

An Essay for week #52 Dec 30, 2018

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs181230.mp3

Msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/advert

Msg #1901 Strength, Courage, Meditation

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As we embark into a new year consider Joshua's launch into the promised land. As a minister to Moses he saw God do some things; they crossed the Red Sea on dry ground, at Horeb the Struck-Rock gave water, and when Amalek rose up against them Moses held up his hand, and Joshua fought the battle. He went up Mount Sinai with Moses, came down with tables of stone, and made the people drink gold-water. God always prepares people for every trial and circumstance they face. When twelve went down to spy on Canaan, ten were bad,... but Joshua, at age 45, knew to trust God. Whatever God brings your way this year, you can trust him. Joshua, just the same, was given a sound charge about the challenge before him. God said be strong, be of good courage, and meditate in "this book of the law." Joshua stepped into his new year, crossed a flooded Jordan, fought the battle of Jericho, failed at Ai, got tricked by Gibionites, and was contested by seven kings at once. What a year he had. Heed the charge, be strong, be of good courage and learn to meditate. We know strength, we feel courage, and we do Bible study and meditation, but consider that the latter brings the previous two. In teaching college Algebra I harped that a little bit everyday of a semester is far superior to hours spent cramming for a test. Two Bible chapters read in the morning and one at night along with a psalm or proverb will do two things. It will get you through all 66 books, 1189 chapters, in one year, and it will set the stage for your meditating day and night. Strength and courage will follow supernaturally. Happy New Year. Read your Bible through in 2019.

An Essay for week #1 Jan 6, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190106.mp3

Msg #1902 Seven Woes Form God

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The prophet Isaiah reveals the heartbreak of God whose hand is to stretch out in punishment of his chosen nation. His heartbeat is in his song which begs the question, *“What could have been done more?”* (Isa5:1-2, 4) *“Come now, let us reason together”* (Isa 1:18) is followed by seven woes. A woe is a plea, “don’t go there”... “this will end badly”... “consider this carefully”... “step away quickly,” and God’s first woe from Isaiah is to “city dwellers” (Isa5:8-10). In Genesis 11 citiots wanted to be like the most high God, and in 2016 citiots wanted Hilary Rodham Clinton to lead our nation down a progressive liberal path. They promote abortion, sodomy, racial division and rehearse the line, *“Let us break their bands asunder and cast their cords from us,”* as they shake their fist at God and against his anointed (Messiah) (Psalm 2). God’s second woe is to the drunkard and drug addict, at epidemic levels in our society. (5:11-12). The third woe is to those who dabble in sin and iniquity, and the fourth to those who call evil good and good evil. (5:18-19,20). *“Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight”* (5:21). The sixth woe is to the elite and powerful, the mighty and the politician who refuse God’s counsel that, *“Wine is a mocker and strong drink raking”* (Prov 20:1). They would legalize drugs in America. But before one looks down his long nose to condemn, Isaiah ascribes a seventh woe, *“Woe is me for I am undone: because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips: for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts”* (Isa 6:5). Man “woes” with anger, God with compassion.

An Essay for week #2 Jan 13, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190113.mp3

Msg #1903 Matter Created From Nothing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters” (Genesis 1:1-2). Ignore “science-so-called” and pitch Roman allegorical methods and in these sentences God says what he means and he means what he says. Herein finite time, space, and matter continuums are created. In verse one “heaven” is singular because God only made one finite 3D space continuum for us. Correct your errant modernist bibles. Also earth is not a planet, that would have form. It is finite matter, without form and void, which could be a sea of *quarks*, not even assembled into a hydrogen atom as yet. In the last fifty years we have comprehended that matter is made of nothing. Electrons and quarks are only “particles” of energy. Quarks pack together inside protons and one proton orbited by one electron make a hydrogen atom. A carbon atom is six protons smashed into a nucleus with six orbiting electrons. Electrons are social and orbit in ten so four hydrogen atoms merge with one carbon and form methane gas. Oxygen has eight protons and eight orbiting electrons so two hydrogen atoms tag on to make H₂O which we call water. Water has form and is not void. Darkness on the face of the deep and then the Spirit of God moving on the face of the waters describes God creating matter out of nothing. The billions spent trying to advance man's theories has found every one of God's galaxies has a black-hole at its center. In that black-hole, which warps time and space, matter is turned back into the nothing from which it came. God is good, man is rebellious.

An Essay for week #3 Jan 20, 2019

Msg in dissertation at

www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf

Msg #1904 He Created The Stars Also

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night ... for signs and for seasons.... he made the stars also” (Genesis 1:14,16b). Some Bible “scholars” stumble because God created light, days and nights before he created the sun, moon and planets, but the Bible student who trusts God's accounting here knows that God is light and finds this truth fascinating. Peering into a billion stars in our galaxy, causes some to stumble. The Hubble telescope made a majority stumble; our galaxy with its billion stars is only one of billions of galaxies! How could God so love the world when there are likely millions of others out there, millions of light years away? Even when the Bible student knows that time, space, and matter all warp together into nothing but energy, $E = mc^2$, and can read that God stretched out the finite stars in that finite space (Isa45:12), it gives us pause. In February of 1987 we photographed a star's supernova. It was 168,000 light years away. Even when God says that to him a thousand years is as a single day, light traveling through space for 168,000 years in a universe that is only 6,000 years old (God's word says so) is a stumbling block to faith. It begs the question, “Who are you going to trust?” When God confronted Job with his waning faith he said, “*Canst thou bind the sweet influences of Pleiades, or loose the bands of Orion?... Knowest thou the ordinances of heaven? Canst thou set dominion thereof in the earth?*” (Job 38:31,33). Finite minds will never know all the ways of an infinite God. Just learn to trust him, for without faith it is impossible to please him.

An Essay for week #4 Jan 27, 2019

Msg in slide show at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/science

Msg #1905 Truth is Fallen

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the beginning God created... and on Friday, the sixth day, “God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them” (Gen1:1,27). For four generations our society has force fed our children the idea that they have no Creator, that we got here by random chance, and that we need to demand our rights. The resulting amoral society kills babies in the womb and has to wait for little boys to grow up before their psychoanalyst asks him if he is male or female. Christians need a new boldness asserting three things. 1) God said “*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness*” and human life is sacred with a soul present at conception. God's word is clear in this regard (Gen1:26, Psalm22:9-10, Isa49:5). 2) It is not good for man to be alone, God said, “*I will make him an help meet for him... therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife, and they shall be one flesh*” (Gen2:18,24). Sodomy is an abomination to God, not a basis for marriage. (Lev18:22, 1Cor6:9&1Tim1:10). And 3) the woman was made to be a “help meet” to man, i.e. a help “being precisely fitting and right” for man, NOT a leader of men. These three Bible truths mark out the fighting ground for all progressive liberals. Three reprobate planks in the Democratic Platform are abortion on demand, LGBTQ preference over Christian morals, and women in leadership. Truth has fallen in the street. Christians need to pick it up. Christendom has altogether buckled on the women-lib point. Women do not have the testosterone for confrontational leadership; they are manipulators who pull strings behind the scenes, i.e. Rebekah in Genesis 27, Pelosi in 2019.

An Essay for week #5 Feb 3, 2019

Msg #1906 Three Rs of Arranged Marriages

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

People in love love Valentine's Day. Situate in the cold of winter but anticipatory of those hormones found in the leading edge of spring, February 14th, comes with an expectation that one acts on impulses of having and holding a special Valentine. In that vein, God tells three love stories that I'll call *The Three "Rs" of Arranged Marriages: Rebekah, Rachel and Ruth*.

Genesis 24 is the longest chapter of God's In-The-Beginning series. Abraham was old and well stricken in age when he told his most faithful servant, "*I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell: But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.*" God tells us, "*And Isaac came from the way of the well Lahairoi;... and went out to meditate in the field at the eventide: and he lifted up his eyes, and saw, and, behold, the camels were coming.*" It is not about the camels, but they, mentioned eighteen times, carry the story.

Genesis 29 tells us at their first meeting, Jacob rolled the stone away, "*kissed Rachel, and lifted up his voice, and wept.*" Is this love at first sight? God's love stories are all multidimensional and loaded with revelation.

Ruth, gets a whole book of the Bible and has this unforgettable scene where she proposes to Boaz, and in the next chapter he becomes her kinsman redeemer. True love and God's great providence shows up in these three "Rs". God does not arrange all marriages but these are specially designed to fit right into his plans. Yours could too. Happy Valentine's Day.

An Essay for week #6 Feb 10, 2019

Help for your marriage is at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/gsbcmarriage.htm

Msg #1907 Three Knots in Child Rearing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Perhaps the Bible's three worst cases of child rearing are found in Jacob, Hophni, and Manassah. Playing favorites in life is dangerous but in our homes it is devastating. *“And Isaac loved Esau, because he did eat of his venison: but Rebekah loved Jacob”* (Genesis 25:28). The mama's boy here grew up to be a manipulator and trickster with a mama's leadership qualities and no masculine confrontational leadership skills. As it goes, Jacob played favorites in his home, i.e. Rachel vs Leah, Joseph vs the eleven, and it took a lifetime and twenty-one chapters of Bible to straighten Jacob out.

“And the two sons of Eli, Hophni and Phinehas, the priests of the LORD, were ... sons of Belial; they knew not the LORD” (1Samuel 1:3,2:12). Eli, who trained Samuel, raised sons that profaned all that was holy in the Tabernacle of the LORD God (2:16-17,22-25). They had no discipline, and their father had no authority in their lives. Children raised with no discipline have no self-discipline, anger issues, blame issues and authority issues. Only two chapters later Hophni, Phinehas, and Eli were all slain as God had said.

Satan had a special plan for Manasseh, son of righteous King Hezekiah. Born in the God-granted extended life of his father, Manasseh *“did that which was evil in the sight of the LORD, after the abominations of the heathen, ...”* (2Kings 21:2). A wicked king, but in the end, Manasseh was sent into his own personal Babylonian captivity and was completely transformed: *“Then Manasseh knew that the LORD he was God.”* (2Chron 33:11-13). Manasseh was used as illustration of what God would do for his people Israel. Child rearing is not for the timid, use your knees, keep God in the loop, only he can fix one's blunders.

An Essay for week #7 Feb 17, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g190217.mp3

Msg #1908 Prodigal Sons

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Luke 15 is a chapter about lost things recovered and the rejoicing that follows the recovery. The one lost sheep, the lost coin, and finally the lost son, all capture Christ's lesson about publicans for the Pharisees. The prodigal son parable has application to all believers, any one of us could end up prodigal. Application of this parable may fit a lost sinner coming to Christ but the prodigal son was at the beginning and end a son. It is more fitting to a believer who turns his back on his father and walks into the Vice of this world, tangles with the Vulture who has him feeding swine, does not consider the Victims of his departure, and ends up Vexing his righteous soul. We all know them, and most of us have repeated Peter's line, "I would never do anything like that!" Vice is a powerful thing, that is why we call it that. In the military they were labeled WWWDG for Wine, Women, Weed, Drugs, and Gambling. We can name a preacher who got locked in each vice. The purpose of this parable is to point out the Victory available to any fallen believer. When they "come to themselves" the Father is waiting and the rejoicing begins. I've known few to come back, but we should be first to rejoice with them when they do. Perhaps the larger application is a warning to the wise, "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares" (Luke 21:34), and "Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall" (1Corinthians 10:12). Maintain your right relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, lest you be prodigal, i.e. recklessly wasteful.

An Essay for week #8 Feb 24, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190224.mp3

Msg #1909 What is Pneumatology?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It's been said, "You should never preach doctrine, but you should never preach without doctrine," just the same, today there is a need to preach some pneumatology – the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Jesus said, *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:... Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come"* (John 16:7-8,13).

When Jesus summarizes a subject, there is no greater summary. This one from John 16 plants the seeds for understanding the person of the Holy Ghost, the purpose of the Holy Ghost, and the methods of the Holy Ghost. In a Christian's proper relationship with God, the Holy Spirit of God, ("Holy Ghost" when used as the direct object in the Kings English) is not the manifestation of God, but He points us to the manifestation of God, our Lord Jesus Christ. He does not speak to us out loud, but speaks through the words of God that you read or have memorized.

I jotted in the margin near John 16, "The ministry of the Holy Spirit today, 1) Convict, 2) Convince, 3) Convert, 4) Confirm, and 5) Control, and He is essential in our 1) Worship, 2) Walk, 3) Work, 4) Warfare, and 5) Witnessing." Be a student of what it is to be filled with the Holy Spirit of God.

An Essay for week #9 Mar 3, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190303.mp3

Msg #1910 AAAs of Repentance

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In the days prior to the pending chastisement of Israel and Judah, God implores them to, *“Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you”* (Hosea 10:12). Evangelist Charles Finney (1792-1875) wrote eloquently on breaking up fallow ground in his, *“Lectures on Revival”* (see ccel.org for your free ebook copy), and in the stay of America's chastisement, achieved via our 2016 presidential election and expectant 2020 one, believers need to be busy breaking up fallow ground and sowing seeds of righteousness. Five times we are commissioned to do just that (Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:15, Luke 24:46-48, John 20:21 and Acts 1:8) and Luke 24:47 declares *“that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.”* There is a movement afoot to poo-poo repentance but it is essential to God's Simple Plan of Salvation. In our AAA society filled with Atheism, Apostasy, and Apathy we need some AAAs of Repentance. True Biblical repentance must contain: 1) Awareness of Sin - in a Godless education with no Creator a harsh emphasis on one's SIN is now essential; 2) Admittance of Sin - “Do you think of yourself as a sinner?” is an important question to ask; 3) Abhorrence of Sin - A realization that sin causes an irreconcilable separation from God our Creator; 4) Abandonment of Sin - A sincere heart felt desire to get rid of that irreconcilable separation; and 5) Abstinence of Sin -. A sincere heart felt desire to “Go and sin no more.” The 1-2-3 pray after me methods are dangerous in the Bible ignorant society of today. Preach the Bible's old-fashioned repentance and remission of sins... while there is time.

An Essay for week #10 Mar 10, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190310.mp3

Msg #1911 Except ye be converted...

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation? (Heb. 2:3a)... We shall not! “Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted... ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven” (Matt. 18:3). Conversion is under-studied. The Bible ascribes true conversion to God, to the Word of God, to the sinner, and to the soul winner. Some try to eliminate a couple of these. Calvinists attribute it to a Sovereign God only, and highlight their proof verses, while ignoring the others. Two-hundred years ago Charles Finney rebukes these narrow minds in his, “Lectures on Revival.” He gives two great illustrations. A man points to a physician and says, “That man saved me.” The physician corrects, “It was the medicine that saved you.” But the man himself, who trusted the medicine, and took it faithfully, saved himself, and in actuality God overseeing the whole process is what saved him. All four can be ascribed to his salvation.

A man looking over the great precipice at Niagara sees another trudging blindly, as if in a stupor, towards the edge of the overview. Just as he lifts his foot towards the fatal plunge he yells with a loud shriek, “STOP!” At the last moment the man wakes from his stupor, violently swerves and saves himself from certain death. “That man saved me,” he could say. But the shrill warning, the frantic turn, and God's providence saved him. The Bible ascribes conversion to the soul-winner, the sinner's repentance, the Word of God, and the Holy Spirit. Sinner, God commands you to make a new heart, and if ever it is done, you must do it. If you do not, you will go to hell. Believer, give the warning, prescribe the cure, be a soul-winner. “He that winneth souls is wise” (Prov11:30b).

An Essay for week #11 Mar 17, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190317.mp3

Msg #1912 ET Come Home

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

ET is cute and fun to si-fi around with, but make no mistake, to believe in the existence of extraterrestrial intelligence is blatantly anti-Christian and disturbingly anti-God. Consider first that there is only one thing in the rational mind of man that would drive such a belief, evolution. If life spontaneously generated and evolved by random chance in billions of years of statistical improbability, then the notion that it only happened on one star in the billions of stars of our galaxy, and the trillions of stars of all galaxies, is statistically impossible and a ludicrous supposition. Consider secondly if one believes in the spontaneous generation of life and evolution by random chance, they do not believe God and hold an anti-Christian, anti-God world view. There is no middle ground here. In truth our Lord Jesus Christ, who is Truth, created those trillions of stars on Wednesday, the fourth day of creation and captured that creative act in a byline of Genesis 1:16. He placed them in his finite created firmament to shew the handiwork of an infinite God (Psalm 19), and you have his Word on it. If you will believe his Word you could be a believer and may become a “Christian” (the noun for believing is “*faith*”). Deny it and you might hold to evolution and even ETs. The fall of mankind brought a curse upon the whole of God's universe. It, stars and all, presently groans under the weight of man's sin. Our infinite Creator became a human, a little lower than his own angels, in order to die in man's place and redeem man's soul. Despite Roswell in 1947, flying-saucers of Area 51, crop rings, abductions, and an Inca Citadel at Machu Picchu, a Bible believer must remain a Christ Jesus believer; no ET allowed.

An Essay for week #12 Mar 24, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190324.mp3

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Msg #1913 I'll Punch Your Lights Out

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Our Lord Jesus Christ gives a somber warning to a church; He commands that they repent... or else!... *“Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place, except thou repent.”* What is the horrid act that they are guilty of? What dastardly deed did this church do for our Lord to threaten to take out their light... quickly? It is less than you'd think. Listed after all their noble faithfulness, it is simply this, *“Thou hast left thy first love.”* I don't know what *“Christians”* are fighting and fussing about in your church, but I know the cause.

When one is first converted, born-again, saved from sin, there are some notable “first loves.” *“If ye love me, keep my commandments.... If a man love me, he will keep my words... my sayings and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.... O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.... I hate vain thoughts: but thy law do I love”* (John 14:15,23,24, Psalm 119:97,113). In this day of modernist, ecumenical, unbelieving translators, you'll need a love of the careful exactness found in the King's English as well. “I” is the nominative, 1st person, singular, “me” the objective, as “thou” is the nominative, 2nd person, singular, “thee” the objective. “Me think you-all can learn this, it was easy for I.” Let's just grow up a little.

Jesus also said, *“We love the brethren... love one another... He that loveth his brother abideth in the light,... Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God”* (1John 2-4). Love the church. Love giving. Remember your first love,... or repent.

An Essay for week #13 Mar 31, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190331.mp3

To review this PP and more visit us at www.GSBaptistChurch.com

Msg #1914 A Walk Thru Ten Gates

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Nehemiah chapter three allows an informative stroll around the holy city that God loves, the city where Jehovah God chose to put his name. It begins, "Then Eliashib the high priest rose up with his brethren the priests, and they builded the Sheep Gate." If you will tour God's city you start as a sheep; "All we like sheep have gone astray; ... and the LORD hath laid on him (the Christ) the iniquity of us all... I (the Christ) am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine" (Isa 53:6, John 10:14). At the Fish Gate (vr.3) recall Christ's call to some fishermen, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." "The Old Gate repaired Jehoiada..." (vr.6) and God says, "Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls" (Jer 6:16).

Pass the Valley Gate and the Dung Gate (vr.13), hear David, "Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil." The garbage goes out the Dung Gate, and Christian, don't pretend there's no garbage needing removed from your life.

The Fountain Gate (vr.14) recites, "With thee is the fountain of life:... I (the Christ) am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely" (Ps 36:9, Rev21:6). At the Water Gate (vr.26) recall how Christ loved the church "and gave himself for it; That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word" (Eph 5:25-26).

The Horse Gate, East Gate, and Gate Miphkad all speak to us of our gathering at Christ's second coming. We've circled the city and that brings us back to the Sheep Gate (vr.32). Christ will soon divide between the sheep and the goats; in Isaiah 53:6 make sure you come in at the first "all" and come out at the second "all."

An Essay for week #14 Apr 7, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190407.mp3

Msg #1915 Alive After His Passion

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For a Christian there is no more precious and holy time of year than the week surrounding the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. God's calendar around the sacrifice of his Only Begotten Son is extremely important. Christ was offered as our Passover Lamb and died on the cross of Calvary on Jewish Passover, the 14th day of the Hebrew month Abib (Exod 12:6, Lev 23:5).

The Apostle John carefully points out in John 12 that six days before Passover, on the 8th of Abib, Jesus came to Bethany and was there anointed with a pound of very costly ointment of spikenard. Then on the 9th of Abib, the chief priests consulted that they might put Lazarus also to death (12:10), and on the next day, the 10th of Abib, the people coming to the Passover feast at Jerusalem, *“Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet (Jesus), and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord”* (12:13).

This triumphal acceptance of Jesus as the Christ, on the 10th day of the Hebrew month Abib is important in God's calendar. *“In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb.... And he shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month; and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening”* (Exod 12:3, 6). Jehovah God exactly kept Passover calendar wherein Christ was chosen on Sunday the 10th, was without blemish Monday – Wednesday, 11-13 Abib, and was then crucified and placed in a tomb on Thursday the 14th. The 15th was a Sabbath no matter the day of the week it fell on (Lev 23:6, John 19:31). So the women were kept from the tomb by two Sabbaths in a row and Christ was three days in the heart of the earth (Matt 12:40). This year read your Holy Bible and forsake Roman tradition; Lent, Ash Wednesday, and doing penance are not in the Bible either. God kept a careful calendar when he gave his only begotten Son as our Passover Lamb; he will bless if you accurately observe each day of this week according to his record in John 12-21. Your Wednesday midweek prayer service could take you to the garden prayer place after the Lord's supper. Watch his calendar closely and may God especially bless your Easter this year.

An Essay for week #15 Apr 14, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190414.mp3

Msg #1916 Notre Dame

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When an eight-hundred year old symbol called, “Our Lady of Paris” burns the very week that Christians acknowledge the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ, it begs audience for God's question, “Can you hear me now?” That burning steeple, designed to lift all eyes to the heavens which declare the glory of God, crashes into the smoldering rubbish of mans religious confusion about who created the heaven and earth. The stench of smoking ash rises over Christian's most holy week and a billion Euros is promised to restore the icon of Catholic Mariology. Can a world that rejects Jehovah God as their creator, rejects that God created man in his image and after his likeness, rejects the Only Begotten Son of God as the Messiah, the Christ, and now even rejects God's Word that “male and female created he them,” could such a world restore Notre Dame Cathedral? What God dashed to the ground in a smoldering rubble will not be restored. The king's of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD (Jehovah), and his anointed (Christ), saying, “Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.” ... He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision (Psalm 2). It will be interesting to watch a bunch of secular, socialist, modernists try to rebuild a French, Roman Catholic, Cathedral, but the icon is gone forever, and Christianity itself is gone from society. Gone, until the Judge of all the earth, Jesus Christ the Righteous, returns to establish his Kingdom. Jesus said it would be as it was in the days of Sodom,... it would be Laodicean, in a final state of apostasy... and here we are. Even so come, Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #16 Apr 21, 2019

Easter Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190421.mp3

Msg #1917 Check Your Starting Gate

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Who hath ears to hear, let him hear the first seven parables Jesus gave illustrating that the kingdom of heaven, in his new-covenant, would be despised and rejected of men. After almost two-thousand years believers can understand how it ends with his question, *“Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?”* In Matthew 13, where Jesus begins teaching with parable so that his disciples would understand, but the great multitudes that thronged him would not, the first seven parables are given. Leading off with ears of man likened to wayside soil, stony places, among thorns, and some good ground. Jesus acknowledges only one in four will understand his gospel, the word of the kingdom. The first throws the gospel message aside. The next, *“anon with joy receiveth it; yet hath no root in himself.”* The third, *“the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.”* Only the one beareth fruit: *“love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance.”* Jesus says, *“Every branch in me that beareth not fruit (my Father) taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit.”* The Apostle Peter clarifies that fruit comes when the believer gives diligence to *“add to your faith ...”* (2Peter 1:5-9). Is your loved one, friend, or neighbor saved and his disciple? The hard fact that Jesus gave previously is, *“the tree is known by his fruit.”* Jesus continues with parables of tares, mustard seeds, leaven, treasures, pearls, and nets, but the theme is the same, *“strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”* Be sure you, and they, came through the right starting gate.

An Essay for week #17 Apr 28, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190428.mp3

Msg #1918 Building and Growing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature,... And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge” (2Pet1:4-5). So many “Christians” add nothing to their faith that sometimes the growing believer wonders if they even got the faith. Others add all seven of Peter's building blocks so fast that a believer asks, “Why haven't I grown that fast?” Building the edifice capped with charity takes time and deserves our diligence. Like laying up a brick wall, three base bricks of faith can support two bricks of virtue, that supports one brick of knowledge. Sketch the picture. Eager to see growth, people often try to cram in lots of brick toward the top but more faith, topped with more virtue is necessary to support another brick of knowledge.

This is a good model for what Peter is explaining. Top heavy walls topple over because of insufficient foundation, and wall-building grinds to a halt when new blocks of faith and virtue are not added. Adding more than three layers at a time squishes mortar out of the unset lower layers. These first three layers, Faith, Virtue, and Knowledge, all come from the Word; *“So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.... Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? by taking heed thereto according to thy word.... The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.* (Rom10:17, Psalm119:9, Prov1:7).

A man, destined for great things, read the whole Bible in the three weeks after his salvation; one destined for mediocrity, had not read it through to this day. Add to your faith; add to your virtue;... build diligently.

An Essay for week #18 May 5, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190501.mp3

Msg #1919 Keep Building, Keep Growing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed” (John 8:31). Peter prescribed the building blocks the believer uses to continue in Christ's Word and be a disciple indeed (2Peter 1:5-7). “Faith” is the noun form of the verb “believe,” so in essence Peter says add to your “things believed” virtue; and to “strength and moral excellence” knowledge; and to your Bible knowledge temperance; and to your “habitual moderation and restraint in regard to indulgence of natural appetites and passions, i.e. calmness and sedateness” add patience; and to “suffering afflictions, pain, toil, and calamity with calm unruffled temper and endurance without murmuring or fretfulness” add godliness; and to “reverence for God's character and his law, testimonies, ways, precepts, statutes, commandments, righteous judgments, and Word” add ... Well, it would be wise to let the mortar set under those five layers before we start adding the last two. Recall in our staggered wall building model it takes six blocks of faith, i.e. things believed, to add these five layers of “things.” Faith cometh by hearing the Word, but notice that these last three layers of a disciple's growth come from life, and struggle, and trials of your faith. That mortar needs to set and some maturity needs to come before brotherly kindness and charity can rest securely on a stable disciple who is not carried about by every wind of doctrine. This week add another block of faith and give all diligence to *“add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; and to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness...”* We will mix more mortar and pick up the trowel again next week. Oh, Moms, Happy Mothers Day.

An Essay for week #19 May 12, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g190512.mp3

Msg #1920 On Eight Blocks of Faith

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A working model of what the Apostle Peter advised, “*Giving all diligence, add to your faith...*” (2Peter1:5-) is found in how a mason adds layers of bricks into a wall. Each new brick must be supported by two bricks and as the mason adds the first brick to the seventh layer there needs to be eight foundation bricks in place at the base. Now add one new brick in each layer until a second top brick is added. When a person adds to their faith they have a saving faith to begin with and they begin building a life for Christ. Continuing in the Word adds faith, virtue, and knowledge. Struggles of life and trials of faith adds temperance, patience, and godliness. Peter's prescribed brotherly kindness is added with maturity, towards the top of our construction.

Some people are so stuck on themselves they never see others. Some talk incessantly until they say, “Well that's enough about me, what do you think of me?” Spiritual leadership is not dictating to others it is ministering to others. Once a believer has, with maturity, added to their faith the first five things, they can add brotherly kindness, that temperament which delights in contributing to the happiness of others, which is exercised cheerfully in gratifying their wishes, supplying their wants or alleviating their distresses. Noah Webster says, “Kindness ever accompanies love”, and 2Peter 1:7 says the seventh layer added to our faith, resting on that kindness, is to be “Charity.”

These seven things need added to your faith, built one upon the other. “*For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ... for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall*” (vr.8,10).

An Essay for week #20 May 19, 2019

Msgs in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/

Msg #1921 False Teachers and Scoffers

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance:... Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers” (2Pet 3:1,3). In this little epistle the Apostle Peter establishes four things for the genuine believer: 1) Give all diligence to add to your faith; 2) We hold in our hands the Scriptures which is a more sure word of prophecy; 3) There shall be false teachers among you; and 4) There shall be scoffers among you. False teachers and scoffers are making inroads into our Baptist circles.

In six days God created the heaven and the earth and all that in them is, but “Gaptists” deny God's truth and wedge in a million “geologic ages.” They also twist Scripture to support fiction about a previous cataclysmic divine judgment.

Many Baptist are now even denying the pretribulational rapture of the Church. They abandon the solid Biblical dispensational position grasping at the Catholic-Protestant and Calvinist Covenant / Replacement theologies.

Even cultic sects of Nephilim find homes in Baptist Churches as they suppose that angels bred with humans and these half-breed nephilim-giants are why God is angry with this world. They think the flood was just for nephilims. They conjecture that those nephilims were in Canaan land, and are surely in Washington DC today. In God's Word redeemed men are called “Sons of God” and only humans procreate in sin. I'll not give space to falt-earthers, earth-centrics, lunar landing deniers, and other cunningly devised fables. Don't sit in the seat of these Bible twisting scorners.

False teachers and scoffers do indeed abound in these last day. Stay in the Book, add to your faith, avoid internet-truth, and preach repentance with your gospel message, just like Jesus did.

An Essay for week #21 May 26, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190526.mp3

Msg #1922 Being a Friend of God.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“ Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God.... Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend.... Art not thou our God, who... gavest (the land) to the seed of Abraham thy friend for ever? (James 2:23, Isa 41:8, 2Chron 20:7). Abraham was a friend of God, ... Israel, his grandson, not so much, and all Israel his chosen nation not at all.

How are you doing at being a friend of God? With the Lord Jesus Christ available as an Intercessor, and the Holy Spirit of God as an indwelling Comforter, it is easier today for you to be a friend of God than it was for Abraham himself. So, how are you doing?... Evangelist Bennett this week gave us five reasons WHY Abraham was a friend of God. Abraham believed God. So much so that Romans 4:20 says, *“He staggered not at the promise of God...”* Abraham obeyed God, it says so in Hebrews 11:8. Abraham worshiped God building an altar in Genesis 12:7,8 and 18. Worship is not a simple thing, it is an all-you-got thing. The Bible's very first mention of worship falls under Abraham's offering of his only begotten son. In that one trial Abraham believed, obeyed, worshiped, and feared. Genesis 22:12 captures that fourth ingredient for Abe's friendship with God, *“For now I know that thou fearest God.”*

Finally, if you have a friend, you will walk with him through life. *“I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect.... Arise, walk through the land... Abraham and Isaac did walk (before God)...”* (Genesis 17:1, 13:17, 48:15). *“Henceforth... I have called friends”* (John 15:15). Walk with your friend, fear him, worship him, obey him, believe him.

An Essay for week #22 Jun 2, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190602pm.mp3

Msg #1923 Christ's Love Will Stand, Will You?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christians should be as separated as the Israelite, the Levite, the Aaronic priest, the Temple, and even the OT prophet, but it is comforting that tribulation, distress, and persecution cannot separate us from the love of Christ. A believer will face this trio in their Christian walk. They are listed in Romans 8:35 because they have a mind toward separation. They can cause a believer to fall, even fall away, but they are pointed out here because any failings they cause are not on the part of Christ's love. Famine, nakedness, and peril are listed as well, and the sword, listed last, is likely wielded by a nation not by a neighbor. On a physical plane all seven of these might be encountered by a believer; the first three are promised.

A list of ten, more intense, more spiritual things is pending so pause before verse 38 and be sure your faith will not falter when these seven things assail our life. They cannot cause the love of Christ to falter, but according to Matthew 13 stony-soil and thorny-soil will succumb to such an onslaught.

God lists the seven physical things because they can impact the weak-kneed believer. Be assured of Christ's love when you encounter them and purpose a forehand that they will not cause you to fall, fail, or quit. Recall the Psalmist's herald, "*I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging bread*" (Psalm 37:25). The Apostle Peter said, add things to your faith ... "*for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall*" (2Peter 1:5-11). The Apostle Paul, "*Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand...*" (Eph 6). Above all, stand.

An Essay for week #23 Jun 9, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190609.mp3

Msg #1924 Biblical, Godly Fathers

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In God's economy good fathers are first to be good husbands with over a year's practice of selfless-love and Godly leadership in the home. There, with the wife of his youth, who has vowed submission and obedience to her husband, he is to practice and hone the three primary leadership skills: 1) Keep the main thing the main thing and plan each day and year towards goal fulfillment. 2) Include and motivate all individual participants; and 3) Meet all group needs for progress and success, and all individual needs of accomplishment and fulfillment; i.e. be a need-meeter. There are natural leaders, but most of us need to cognitively focus, labor, and train intensely on these three principles of leadership.

Add a child to this Godly endeavor and fathers can add three more challenges: 1) Hold onto the child's heart, "*My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways*" (Proverbs 23:26). The Proverb's preceding three verses tell how, the trailing six failure's tragic consequence. 2) "*Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it*" (Prov 22:6). Fathers who did not properly heed the spankings called for in Proverbs 13:24, 17:6, 25, 19:18, 22:15, 23:13, 14, 29:15 and 17 try to say that 22:6 is a principle not a promise, but it sure enough is God's Word. 3) "*And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord*" (Eph 6:4). A child without discipline has lifetime anger issues, authority issues, and acceptance issues, and we have raised such a triple-A generation by ignoring God's rules in home and child-rearing. God can fix your home. God can fix your child. In some cases, God alone. Happy Fathers Day.

An Essay for week #24 Jun 16, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190616.mp3

Msg #1925 Christ's Love Will Stand, Part II

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 8 closes with seventeen things that vie for your separation from God, and the last ten are on a spiritual plane. None will separate us from the love of Christ, but all are enemies that contend for your soul. The list leads with Death. It is swallowed up in victory and lost its sting! The sting of death is sin and our Lord Jesus Christ purchased that victory (1Cor15:54-57). Life itself also contends for all of our attention, and Jesus' counsel is, *“Take no thought for your life... seek ye the kingdom of God”* (Luke12:22,31). Angels, Principalities, and Powers make the list. It was an “angel” that gave “another-gospel,” the Koran, to Mohammad in a cave near Mecca, and an “angel” gave “another-gospel,” the book-of-Mormon, to Joseph Smith in Palmyra NY. They are accursed (Gal 1:8). Principalities and Powers are dealt with in Ephesians 6:12. We war in a time dimension, i.e. Things-Present, Things-to-Come. Fretting is an art crafted by those not trusting Christ. Lastly, it is sobering how many “Christians” enter the Height-of-ignorance, or the Depth-of-foolishness. Believing in a flat-earth, gaps in creation and Nethinims, or salvation by election cannot separate us from the love of Christ, but it sure makes one an ineffective and side-tracked servant. Any-other-creature, the tenth spiritual enemy listed, answers for the height-of-ignorance that supposes martians, space-alien, or extraterrestrials might exist in God's made-for-man universe. These ten spiritual entities strive to separate us from our Lord. None can separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord. They can, however, separate us from service and fellowship. *“Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ”* (1Pet 1:13).

An Essay for week #25 Jun 23, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190623.mp3

Msg #1926 Protestant Apostasy Roots

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The haughty Gentile “theologian” who believes God took promises from Israel and now applies them to a Holy Catholic Church, believes God elects souls for salvation and others for damnation, believes God only has one covenant and it is with the Catholic Church, and rejects Christ's Millennial Reign and pre-tribulation rapture, does not know God. They cannot know him until they discard such Presbyterian-Calvinist-Reformed dribble. A Bible believer reading Romans 9 sees Paul lay out his soul with a passionate love for Israel. Gentiles, shame on their haughtiness, are only grafted in to the Israelite, “*to whom pertaineth the adoption.*” Roman Catholic Church Father Augustine (354-430AD) supposed Israel was un-adopted! Verse 4 continues, *to Israel pertaineth the glory*, and that glory is the glory of God. *To Israel pertaineth the covenants* (plural); the Calvinist who supposes there is only one covenant is clearly apostate. *To Israel pertaineth the giving of the law*. Paul noted earlier, “... *unto them were committed the oracles of God*” (Rom3:2). Israelites wrote all sixty-six Books! *To Israel pertaineth the service of God*; Israel was elect for this service. Election is always for service, and never for salvation. *To Israel pertaineth the promise*. Roman Saint Origen (182-254AD), founder of the vile Roman Catholic Allegorical Method, used it to twist and malign God's promises to Israel, trying to fit them to a contorted, convoluted, catholic church. The Vatican still supposes that it, not Israel, will rule all nations, and that there is no Millennial Reign of Christ from the throne of David in the hill of Zion. All Protestants are entangled in their gross error and all Calvinists are in bed with Rome “*giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils*” (1Tim 4:1-2). The latter times are upon us; be careful for sound doctrine.

An Essay for week #26 Jun 30, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190630.mp3

Msg #1927 Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

There are certain men crept in unawares, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into *Calvinism*. Israel was never to be replaced by the church; Vatican be cursed, Calvinism be gone. Paul's heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved (Rom 10:1), and Romans 9 has nothing to do with John Calvin's ludicrous notion that God elect a few souls for heaven and the rest for hell. Not one ounce of Romans 9 can support such an outlandish hypothesis. Paul first lists eight golden qualities of the Israelite (9:4-5), and then seven considerations of why "*The Gentiles, which followed not after righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness which is of faith. But Israel, which followed after the law of righteousness, hath not attained to the law of righteousness*" (9:30-31).

Not all Israel are of Israel (vr.6-9), and for Esau, the elder served the younger as was prophesied in the womb (vr.10-13). Calvinists twist scripture to suppose God hated Esau in the womb, but God hated Esau for his being profane (Heb 12:16-17). Tis true God can harden hearts, he did Pharaoh (vr.15-18), but one dare not reply against God for that (vr.19-23). Many are called and few chosen (vr.24, cf Matt20:16, 22:14), and Gentiles were thus grafted in (vr.25-26, cf 11:19-25). Finally, a remnant of Israel are indeed saved (vr.27), and all of us, Jew or Gentile could have ended as did Sodoma, and been made like unto Gomorrha (vr.28-29).

What shall we say then? Paul loved Israel, Presbyterians hate Israel, and by their fruits ye shall know them. My heart's desire and prayer to God for Presbyterians, their Calvinism, Covenant, and Replacement Theology, is that they might be saved. Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Be careful for sound doctrine.

An Essay for week #27 Jul 7, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190707.mp3

Msg #1928 Paint Your Church Sign?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans chapter 10 begins, *“Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge.”* And it goes on to detail exactly how the Jew and the Gentile must submit themselves unto the righteousness of God by faith, *“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth”* (vr.4). This epistle was written to the Romans, and yet it was the church at Rome that became the stronghold of Satan and ended in the situation *that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge*. Ergo the Pope is NOT Christian, and Protestants did not protest enough. Jews persecuted the church, but not to the extent that Rome did, and both pale before the persecutions of the “Holy” Roman Catholic Church. In the 16th century Martin Luther was dutifully applying the Roman Catholic allegorical method to Romans 1:16-17 when he protested, but America was founded because of the persecutions of Luther, Zwingly, Knox and Calvin. These men left Rome but carried Rome's Replacement Theology, persecution complex, and hatred of God's chosen nation Israel. Contrast that with the first verses of Romans 10 (or 9 or 11) and the true believer can see the ugly irony. Baptists are not Protestants, do not baptize babies, replace Israel, persecute others, or salute John Calvin. Nor dare they hobnob with ecumenical counsels that print modernist bibles and tolerate such failed doctrine. Romans 10:9-13 is the hallmark for submitting yourself unto the righteousness of God by faith; there is no penance, there is no election, and there is a “whosoever.” Many church signs need “Baptist” painted over if they will not take hold of these truths.

An Essay for week #28 Jul 14, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190714.mp3

Msg #1929 The Genesis of Sin I

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In six days God created the universe that we know. Each evening, and twice on Tuesday, God observed that it was good. On the sixth day he created man in his image and likeness. Saturday was man's first day of existence and it was a day of rest. Sunday was the first day of the first week of the universe's existence and it found Adam and Eve at peace with their environment, at peace with each other, and at peace with their Creator. They called it *shalome*.

When God, during the six day creation period, created the heavens (plural), "*and all that in them is*", he created the heavenly hosts. One group of these heavenly hosts were called angels and the triune God who created man as a trichotomy, with body, soul, and spirit, organized his angels under three archangels, Michael, Gabriel, and Lucifer. The latter of these three rebelled against God and determined to pull God's favored in creation into his rebellion.

Satan, the opposer of God, as fallen Lucifer got labeled, entered into the most subtle creature to entice man from his blessed position. The woman, the weaker vessel, listened to his arguments. God was withholding good! She needed that knowledge of good and evil! Adam and Eve left their trust in their Creator, disobeyed him, and took fruit from the forbidden tree. The consequence of trusting Satan and disobeying God was immediate shame, fear, and broken peace. The peace they had with their environment was broken, the peace and trust they had with each other was broken, and the peace and fellowship they had with their creator was broken. Sin in the Garden of Eden, and in our world today, destroys our harmony with nature, with each other, and with God. It's universal....

An Essay for week #29 Jul 21, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190721.mp3

For more see "*Systematic Theology for the 21st Century*" on our site.

Msg #1930 The Genesis of Sin II

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The consequences of sin reach into every area and relationship of life. Sin is associated with an evil power that pursues humanity's harm. Sin is disobedience to God. Sin is destructive in its results. Sin calls for judgment from God and his justice requires its punishment.

The universal devastating consequence of sin is emphasized in all that the LORD pronounced in sin's inception. The serpent was cursed, crawled on his belly, ate dust, and terrified women. He would one day have his head kicked in by the “seed of woman.” The woman had multiplied sorrow and was to be ruled by the husband. The man saw the ground he was made from cursed, in sorrow he would eat its fruit, it would require the sweat of his brow, and in time consume the body God had put him in....

As God's saga of sin's destructive consequences unfolds... humanity's firstborn son, becomes the first first degree murderer. The tiller of the ground does not pay a life for a life, but God curses the ground to the firstborn of Adam, more so than it was previously. It needs to be recognized early on that this firstborn “seed” held promise for being the one who was to “bruise” the head of Satan, and Satan, the evil power that pursues humanity's harm, was indeed involved in the ruin of God's firstborn and second-born options for man's redemption.

The fourth chapter of Genesis closes with God starting up a whole new seed-line, a Godly line, that would bring in one to kick in Satan's head.... The introduction of this new seed-line is crystal clear in Scripture. *“For God, said she, hath appointed me another seed instead of Abel, whom Cain slew.... then began men to call upon the name of the LORD (Genesis 4:24-26).*

An Essay for week #30 Jul 28, 2019

Msg in print www.gsbaptistchurch.com/theology/21cent_vol07Hamartiology.pdf

Msg #1931 The Genesis of Sin III

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It does not surprise the genuine Bible student that the Godly line of man, those that call upon the name of the LORD, are to be called the “sons of God.” There is staged in this Genesis of sin some clear battle lines wherein that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world, strategically tries to destroy every seed-line of God. This pursuit to destroy the seed-line of God's promised Messiah is prophesied in the Serpent's ability to bruise his heel, and is a central theme threaded throughout the Old Testament. Satan is nipping at the heels of the Messiah all through this saga. Ultimately Satan fails in this endeavor and the Messiah, the Christ, is alive, victorious over sin and death, crushing Satan's head.

The fifth chapter of Genesis also recites “and he died” seven times and therein emphasizes that the wages of sin is death. It further gives the entire history of man in a careful, traceable, year-by-year documentation. For the Bible believer there is no prehistoric event. Finally after 1,556 years of God's recorded history of humanity in sin, “*It repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth*” (Genesis 6:6).

God's summary of man's fallen estate and his depravity in sin is, “*And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually*” (6:5). After the world flood, and its cataclismic affect on man's environment, God assigns man the task of keeping man's gross appetite for sin in check. God commands Noah, “*Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man*” (9:6).

An Essay for week #31 Aug 4, 2019

Msg in print see Harmartiology at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology

Msg #1932 The Kingdom of God is Nigh at Hand

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Roman Epistle is a dissertation on how the righteousness of God dovetails with the miraculous salvation of man. It is a very tight fit, and only works out “through the forbearance of God” (Rom 3:25b.) A second theme is found as God repeatedly emphasizes the place of his chosen people Israel. Chapter 11 begins, “I say then, Hath God cast away his people? God forbid!...” With the swamp waters of DC getting pretty low there are all kinds of ugly creatures exposed and wiggling around in the mud; none is uglier than the liberal left's hatred for Israel. Such hatred aligns well with Muslim goals and unfortunately fits with the antisemitism of Roman and Protestant denominations. Romans 11 assures that there is coming a national salvation of Israel. Individual salvation comes via Romans 10:9-10, “For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek” (Rom 10:12). Protestant denominations, including the Reformed, are ignorant of this mystery and wise in their own conceits, not realizing that there is coming an end for the time of the Gentiles, “And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob” (Romans 11:25,26).

One cannot rightly divide the Word of Truth until they see the difference between the judgment of individuals and the judgment of the nations. Ergo we should study to shew ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed. The USA will eventually turn against Israel, thankfully, under President Donald Trump, it will not be today, and prayerfully it will not be in 2020. The Bible believer will never turn against God's chosen people Israel. Study this out, and watch the Fig Tree (Luke 21:29-33).

An Essay for week #32 Aug 11, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190811.mp3

Msg #1933 Just Preach Jesus as Christ.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 12 begins with a plea that, if saved from condemnation, a Christian be a living burnt-sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God. A burnt-sacrifice is “all-in” with no part or portion held back. Holy signifies a perfectly pure and complete moral character. “*Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God*” (Lev 20:7), “*But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy*” (1Pet 1:15-16). Being acceptable requires a thorough knowledge of God, his law, testimonies, ways, precepts, statutes, commandments, judgments, i.e. his Word. Now that, says the Apostle Paul, is only a reasonable service, so he further charges that we “*be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind.*” It's been said, “When an idiot gets saved, what you have is a saved idiot.” But Paul's charge confers that one change; there is to be a transformation, yea there must be. Transformation cannot produce salvation, but salvation produces a transformation. The world hates when you won't conform. Sodomites adopting children MUST be accepted. Lizards evolving to eagles MUST be truth. Cars burning corn is good, cows burning corn is bad, conform to their stupidity or be hated, ostracized and destroyed. Jesus is Truth and thy hate him. Jesus said, “*If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you*” (John15:18). Deal with it; don't conform. They'll say guns produce the depravity of man and carbon dioxide you exhale is destroying the planet. One algae bloom in the Pacific can digest the whole carbon footprint of America, but facts will not sway a reprobate mind, the Lord Jesus Christ can. Just preach Jesus as Christ.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 18, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gsl90818.mp3

Msg #1934 Gifts Measured By Your Faith

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 12 lists the seven gifts given for the edification of the church. Charismatics and other mislead groups are told to “pursue your spiritual gifts” and are given the list of nine gifts boasted by the most carnal church in the whole New Testament. The Apostle Paul reprimands fifteen ailments of the carnal church in fifteen chapters of his letter to Corinth. The twelfth is the misuse of gifts and it is not wise to use Corinth's boasted gift list as a model. Romans 12 says, *“Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, let us prophesy according to the proportion of faith.”* Gifts are in each local church so that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts. They are given to edify, strengthen, and perfect the saints. They are given “in measure.” The Holy Ghost is not given in measure, praise the Lord, but faith, because it cometh by hearing, and doing, and adding, is given in measure. Thus these seven gifts are given in measure. That is why we prophecy, i.e. stand and say “Thus saith the Lord...”, “according to the proportion of faith.” That is why we “wait on our ministering... on our teaching... on our exhortation.” You enhance your gift by growing your faith, ... you must ultimately “add to your faith...” (2Peter 1). Gregory's “Seven Laws of Teaching” (or Hendricks' revision) won't hurt, but your gift grows as your faith grows. Giving, ruling, shewing mercy, these gifts are given according to the measure of your faith. If you desire spiritual gifts, use this list from Romans 12, grow your faith, and follow after charity. It is quite simple, really. For the good of your local church, do something to grow your faith this week.

An Essay for week #34 Aug 25, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190825.mp3

Msg #1934a Speak Up At State Fairs

While touring the “Center of Progress” building at the NYS Fair, I, a Baptist Preacher of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, was invited to speak at three of the booths. The gargantuan Green New Deal booth invited me to speak on who it was that created the Universe, controls the climate, and will soon judge mankind about what they did with His Only Begotten Son. They only gave me 3 minutes. A huge Rainbow booth invited me to speak for over a half hour on Sodom and Gomorrah, their sin of Sodomy, and their need of a Saviour who could save them from their sin. Their Bible ignorance was overwhelming; some Presbyterian Church had told them that sodomy was not a sin, that all people go to heaven and that there is no hell. They had never in their lives heard John 3:16-18 and 36 quoted out loud. I rehearsed it for them no less than five times before they became intolerant. Turns out they tolerate everybody except kind, soft-spoken, gentle, old, Bible quoting Baptist Preachers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, ... and they absolutely HATE, and openly preach hate for, the President of our United States. I invite every Independent Baptist Preacher in Upstate NY to visit their Rainbow booth and use to the full their invitation to talk openly about sodomy. Lastly I was invited to speak some words of encouragement at a tiny-tiny, 4x8' booth called The Amazing Grace Soul-Winner's booth. While two booths invited me to leave, Amazing Grace invited us to stay. I love the NYS Fair.

While at the Amazing Grace Soul-Winner's booth I shared a riddle that Dr. Gardner developed back in the nineteen-hundreds and used effectively to bring people into the booth from clear across the room. Here is the riddle:

“What is IT? If you eat IT you will die! IT is bigger than God!
IT is older than Earth! If you do IT you go to hell! ... What is IT?

If you cannot solve this riddle, write me and I'll send you the answer.

Msg #1935 Things to Behold

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Sunday my pastor of forty-years ago, Marvin Mungle preached some things we need to carefully *Behold*. Pilot started the thought in John 19 “Behold the man... Behold your king.” Isaiah 53 showed that the old rugged cross was necessary, vicarious, voluntary, and the supreme need of sinners. *Behold the sinner*. He is described in Ephesians as dead, yet walking according to this world, its prince, and the spirit that works disobedience... by nature the children of wrath. Consider too, all have sinned, all have come short. *Behold the Love of God*. “Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us that we should be called the sons of God” (1John 3:1a). Again Ephesians says, “But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us....” Further, God “so” loved the world.

Behold the Saviour. Luke 2 gives a personal message, “Behold I bring you good tidings...” a present message, “unto you is born this day,” and a precious message, “A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.” Precious because, “Neither is there salvation in any other” (Acts 4:12) and also, “Without controversy great is the mystery of godliness...” (1Tim 3:16). *Behold the sacrifice...* *Behold the Lamb of God*. “For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins” (Heb 1:4),... “Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things... But with the precious blood of Christ as of a lamb without blemish...” (1Pet 1:18-19). All must look to the Lamb of God.

Behold the invitation. “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.” That invitation is still open.

An Essay for week #35 Sep 1, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio see gs190901.mp3

Msg #1936 Twenty Christian Characteristics

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 12:9-16 gives twenty practical tips on how to present your bodies a living sacrifice. Bible lists are easy to preach and everyone can take the outline, highlight it, and review it annually on their trek through their Bible. It is tough to preach a list of twenty in forty minutes and impossible to essay them in three-hundred words, so I'll highlight a few. *Love without dissimulation* is tough on our old nature because all of its love is selfish and fake. Genuine love and brotherly kindness, #1&4 of 20, are capstones of Peter's "Add to Your Faith" lecture (2Peter 1:5-7). A brotherly-kindness temperament which delights in contributing to the happiness of others, exercised cheerfully in gratifying their wishes, supplying their wants and alleviating their distresses, ... cheerfully I say..., is a rare commodity. *Cleave to that which is good*, #3 of 20, should bring to mind Philippians 4:8, Paul's list of things to perpetually think on. *Not slothful in business* is reinforced in eight Proverbs, and *rejoicing in hope*, in a dozen Psalms like 38:15, "*For in thee, O LORD, do I hope: thou wilt hear, O Lord my God.*"

Condescend to men of low estate, #19 of 20, means descending from opinion of superior rank and behaving on the redeemed level, as a sinner saved by grace. When people are beneath you, soul winning efforts are stymied. Lastly, *be not wise in your own conceits*, 20 of 20, references an old nature present in us all, and it carries us all the way back to verse 3 of this chapter, "*For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think...*" These twenty characteristics should be regularly exhibited by every Christian.

An Essay for week #36 Sep 8, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190908.mp3

Msg #1937 Living Peaceably

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Romans 12 concludes with seven points a living sacrifice needs to live peaceably in a world that is not our home. With America only one vote away from Marxist socialism you can put it down that for the born-again living sacrifice, there are troublous times ahead. Living peaceably in troublous times was possible when Rome threw thousands of believers to the lions, challenging when the Roman Church threw millions to the flames, and is possible for believers in any age. The precedent for doing it is set in the first two points, *“Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men.”* (Rom 12:17). The possibility is given legroom in the third point, *“If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men”* (vr.18). Obviously, living peaceably with all men will not always be possible, and various levels of what “lieth in you” will affect how many non-peaceable entities you are living with. A living sacrifice must choose its battles carefully. God's fourth point is sacrosanct, *“Avenge not yourselves.”* Knowing this is a tough one, God gives a fifth point to help us with it, *“Give place unto wrath.”* One can be angry and sin not, but when your fist connects with your neighbor's nose, wrath is out of its place, you are in sin. Heaping coals of fire on an enemy's head is not a form of vengeance, it is engaging his brain and bringing God's conviction. Lastly, one can be overcome of evil, and one can overcome evil with good, choose you this day which direction you will go. There are steps to take if a living sacrifice would live peaceably in a distraught world. They are given in Romans 12 on purpose. Mark them. Live them.

An Essay for week #37 Sep 15, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190915.mp3

Msg #1938 Living Peaceably With Government

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“I don't think that word means what you think it means,” is a good thought for Romans 13:1, *“Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God.”* God established the powers of government, but God did not hand pick Governor Cuomo, the reprobate that called for all Christians not supporting abortion on demand, to get out of NY State. The office was “ordained” by God, but Cuomo was hand picked by voters, not by God. President Trump was not “ordained” by God to be our president. President Trump was most certainly put into that “ordained” office in answer to Christian's prayers, but be careful with what is “ordained” and what that word means. If you know John Calvin and look up each use of that English word in your Bible you will be as confused as him. Get and use a Strong's Exhaustive Concordance to do your word studies. God chose Gentiles to receive salvation, not choosing the “whosoever” that attain salvation, that is corporate election, and God ordained offices of government, not choosing the individuals, good or evil, that sit in those offices. There is not an ounce of fatalism in this Bible so don't allow an ounce of it into your Christian doctrine. Romans 13 teaches Christians to submit to governing authorities and to pay taxes, *“Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour”* (vr.7). Then verse 8 tells us to pay our debts and recognize the debt of love that we owe to all mankind. Government promotes good, punishes evil, and protects the innocent, live peaceably with it, while being a minister of reconciliation.

An Essay for week #38 Sep 22, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs190922.mp3

Take a teaching seminar at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/teaching

Msg #1939 The Last October?

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

September 30, 2019 is Rosh Hashanah, Hebrew for “head of the year.” Depending on the phase of the moon the Biblical seventh month falls in our late September and according to Leviticus 23:24 marks “*a memorial of blowing trumpets.*” This “Feast of Trumpets,” where Israel is called together for holy convocations, and sabbath days, is significant to Christians because we are also listening for a trumpet that will call us together (1 Cor 15:52, 1Thes 4:16-17, Rev 1:10, 4:1). The tenth of the month is Yom Kippur, the 'Day of Atonement' (Lev 23:27-28), and is significant to Christians because Christ is our Atonement and our redemption also *draweth nigh* (Luke 21:8, 28). The fifteenth day starts *the seven day feast of tabernacles* (Lev 23:34), denoting our temporary tabernacle here. This is significant to Christians because this world is not our home (John 17:11-13, Hebrews 11:9-10).

These blasts of the trumpets are the wake-up call to repent before it is too late. For the nation of Israel their redemption draweth nigh, for the born-again Christian the rapture of Christ's church draweth nigh. In Scripture Christ first returns “for” his saints, and then returns “with” his saints. In between, the wrath of God will be poured out on this world in seven years of great tribulation (Matt24:21,29, Mark 13:24, Rev 16). According to three 5:9s in 1Thes, Romans and Hebrews, his Church will not taste that wrath. The seven year tribulation ends with a Battle of Armageddon and the redemption of Israel. No man knows the day nor the hour, but there is coming a last October in this dispensation, this age of grace, the Church age. Be ye ready, and watch ye therefore, ... We at GSBC are in the 21st annual “Hunt for the Last October Bible Prophecy Conference.”

An Essay for week #39 Sep 29, 2019

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1940 Then Shall be Great Tribulation

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The next tick on God's prophetic time clock is the rapture of Christ's church out of this world wherein we meet him in the air and "so shall we ever be with the Lord" (1Thes 4:13-18). For the church, the second coming of Christ is divided into two distinctions, when he comes "for" his church at the rapture, and when he comes "with" all his saints at the battle of Armageddon. In between these two comings of Christ there "*shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be*" (Matt 24:21). In the first of the Apostle Paul's epistles he is clear that Christ will be coming "for" his saints (1Thes 4:13-18) and then "with" all his saints (1Thes 3:12-13). The last Bible writings to the churches describes this coming "with" all his saints using the line, "*And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean*" (Rev 19:14). Revelation 19 then describes the ensuing battle of Armageddon, "*And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army*" (Rev 19:19). The battle is named in Revelation 16:16 and comes about after the seven seals are opened, the seven trumpets have sounded, and the seven golden vials full of the wrath of God are poured out upon the earth, sea, rivers, sun, seat of the beast, the great river Euphrates, and air (Rev 16). That catastrophic "climate change" and "global warming" has nothing to do with carbon-dioxide that we exhale and everything to do with the rebellion against Jehovah God that we exhale. The born-again miss this tribulation period, PTL.

An Essay for week #40 Oct 6, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g191006.mp3

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1941 Rapture then the Marriage Supper

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When the rapture of the church occurs the removal of the saints, each being indwelt by the Holy Ghost, will constitute a significant removal of the Holy Spirit of God from world affairs. This is spoken of in 2Thes 2. Saints are gathered together unto him (vr.1), the day of Christ is at hand (vr.2), but first there is a falling away and the “man of sin” is revealed (vr.3). It is the presence of the Holy Ghost that prevents that wicked from being revealed (vr.6-8), and that presence is predominately (perhaps completely) via the presence of his born-again indwelt believers. The sequence of events for the end times is laid out very clearly here. The saints are raptured out, the day of Christ is at hand, the abomination of desolation is revealed, then we find in the Revelation of Jesus Christ that the wrath of God is poured out, and the Lord Jesus Christ rides in to the Battle of Armageddon (Revelation 16, 19). In any event, it is the rapture of the church that starts the ball rolling.

After the rapture Christian's works are judged before they go to the marriage supper of the Lamb. *“Every man’s work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, ... for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready... Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb.”* (1Cor 3:13, Rev 19:7, 9). After the marriage supper of the Lamb, *“I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean”* (Rev 19:11, 14). It all fits.

An Essay for week #41 Oct 13, 2019

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1942 Seven Years, Jacob's Trouble

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The LORD spake these words to Jeremiah the prophet, *“Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it”* (Jer 30:7). And Jesus said of that day, *“For then shall be great tribulation such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be”* (Matt 24:21). This trouble and tribulation for Israel is centered in a seven year period often called the 70th week of Daniel. God prophetically laid out his plans for Israel with the revelation, *“Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people, and upon thy holy city”* (Dan 9:24). Each week was a seven year period, and sixty-nine weeks were fulfilled exactly as God said. The last seven year period, the 70th week of Daniel 9, was not fulfilled, but will be, exactly as prophesied.

In the first 1,260 days, forty-two months (Rev11:3,2, 13:5 Dan12:11), time-times-and-a-half-time (Dan12:7, Rev12:14), or 3½ years of the seven, seven seals are removed from the book of judgment, and then seven trumpets announce and demonstrate how bad it is going to get when the book is actually opened (Rev 6, 8-9). The exact middle of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, verse 202-of-404, marks the very middle of this seven year period. The indestructible witnesses are destroyed and caught up to heaven (Rev11), Satan is booted out (Rev12:8, or verse 202-of-404), and the abomination of desolation is revealed as Jerusalem is abandoned by enlightened Jews (Matt24:15-26). In the next 1,260 days, forty-two months, or 3½ years, complete chaos ensues and the seven vials of the wrath of God are poured upon the earth (Rev 16). The Battle of Armageddon immediately ensues (Rev19). Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #42 Oct 20, 2019

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1943 The Battle of Armageddon

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*“Come, my people, enter thou into thy chambers, and shut thy doors about thee: hide thyself as it were for a little moment, until the indignation be overpast. For, behold, the LORD cometh out of his place to punish the inhabitants of the earth for their iniquity... for my determination is to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, even all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy... Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling ... in that day, I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem ... Behold, the day of the LORD cometh, ... For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle;.. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations,.. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which .. shall cleave in the midst thereof... and there shall be a very great valley. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon” (Isa26:20-21, Zeph3:8, Zech12:2,9, 14:1-4, Rev16:16). The world mocks the Battle of Armageddon, and Christians fail to comprehend its reality. The Genesis of sin crescendos for heathen nations until the judgment of Sodom and Gomorrah in Genesis 18-19, and for God's chosen nation with the judgment of Sodomites in Judges 19-20. This year NYS congressmen passed a law that they could use the ladies room and that counseling sodomy as sin is considered hate speech.⁸ Democrats report that over 50% of Americans favor socialism, abortion-on-demand, and their sodomite agenda. Perhaps the USA is the great eagle of Rev12:14, but the noise of DC makes one doubt. *Howl ye; for the day of the LORD is at hand.**

An Essay for week #43 Oct 27, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs191027.mp3

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

⁸ On January 15, 2019, the New York State Senate voted 42-19 to pass the Gender Expression Non-Discrimination Act (GENDA) (Bill S.1047-Hoylman/A.747-Gottfried), also known as the Bathroom Bill. On the same day, the New York State Assembly passed the Bathroom Bill by a vote of 105 to 43. ... Jan 26, 2019 - Calling it an "emotional day," Gov. Andrew Cuomo signed bills that provide protections to transgender New Yorkers and bans the use of conversion therapy on children. Feb 25, 2019 - The GENDA law also bans gay conversion therapy, and makes offenses eligible for a hate crime.

Msg #1944 Die Once or Die Twice, Choose Wisely

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In our Bible the word “dispensation” and the word “stewardship” come from the same root word and are thus very closely related. It is just like our longsuffering LORD God to give mankind seven distinct dispensations which consume seven thousand years of the earth's existence. Each dispensation ends in man's failure to be a good steward; our present one, wherein it has never been easier for man to be redeemed, and actually and literally be the temple of God, tasting the kingdom of God, ends as it was in the days of Noe with the question “*Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find faith on the earth?*” (Luke 18:8).

We cannot now speak particularly about all the operations of the upcoming dispensation, the last in the series of seven, the Millennial Kingdom, but its ending is Bible certain. In it the curse is lifted, the Christ is present (and ruling the world from the throne of David in the holy city of Zion), and Satan, the opposer of God, is bound in a bottomless pit (Rev 20). The end of that thousand years concludes with three short verses in Revelation 20 and that chapter concludes with a “Great White Throne,” the second resurrection (that is the resurrection of the dead, that is the resurrection of all those who did not attain eternal life), and the horrid eternal destiny that is called “the second death.” It behooves us all to be very familiar with Revelation 20. If you're saved it will make you a better soul-winner; if you are lost it will give you a sobering look into eternity. It has been succinctly said, “ If you are born once you will die twice; if you are born twice you will die only once.” You must be born-again!

An Essay for week #44 Nov 3, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g191103.mp3

Hunt for the Last October ppt slides at www.gsbaptistchurch.com/last_oct

Msg #1945 Leaving Your First Love

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

How does one go about leaving their first love? Christ said that Ephesus, *“hast borne, and hast patience, and for my name’s sake hast laboured, and hast not fainted. Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.”* (Rev 2:3-4) Getting distracted by other things is a major player in wandering away from one's first love. When I find myself drawn away, even with a godly to-do list, I like to check four things. To love the Word that was made flesh, I need to delight in the law of the LORD, and meditate therein day and night (Psalm 1, Joshua 1:8). *“If ye love me, keep my commandments.... If a man love me, he will keep my words”* (Joh 14:15, 23). Today, how much did I love his word? *“Great peace have they which love thy law: and nothing shall offend them”* (Ps 119:165).

The Apostle John's first epistle puts great emphasis on loving brethren, *“And this is his commandment, That we should believe on the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and love one another, as he gave us commandment. ... He that loveth not his brother abideth in death ... He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, ... Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God”* (1John3:23,14,2:10,4:7). My closeness to Christ is measured by my love of brethren,... and my love for Christ's church. The late Evangelist Harold Boyd often said, “If you didn't get enough salvation to get you into church, you probably didn't get enough to get you into heaven.” Love Christ, love what he loves. Fourth, how is my giving. “You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving” (Evang Boyd).

An Essay for week #45 Nov 10, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs191110.mp3

View msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/messages/1st_love.pdf

Msg #1946 Amazing Praising

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

I preach a message that has been a great blessing to me, “It is Amazing What Praising Will Do!” God says that mankind is without excuse because when they *“knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful.”* Those are the first two steps away from God and I have been careful to glorify him with thanksgiving ever since I learned all six declining steps of Romans 1:21-23. Psalm 113 says, *“Praise ye the LORD. Praise, O ye servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD.”*... 150:6 *“Let every thing that hath breath praise the LORD. Praise ye the LORD.”* Psalm 103 instructs us to, *“Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name, ... and forget not all his benefits.”* Praise him, bless him and include thanksgiving, *“Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.... Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, ... abounding therein with thanksgiving”* (Phil 4:6, Col 2:7).

Praising, blessing, and thanksgiving to God change brain chemistry and can cure several mental “diseases” in humans. Counseling treatments for depression, grief, anxiety, discouragement, discord, heart-ache, stress, even pain and addictions, will include consideration of outside and inside stimulus to the brain. The very thoughts that you run through your mind will generate enzymes, hormones and chemicals in response to your thinking. God says we need to renew our mind because out of our heart flow the issues of life. Wow, does the Bible address each of these physical issues of brain chemistry for our life? Yes it does. Pay attention when he says, *“In everything give thanks.”* Count your blessings name them one by one. Happy Thanksgiving.

An Essay for week #46 Nov 17, 2019

View msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs/amazing_praising.pdf

Msg #1947 Thanks for Waiting

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

People are not typically thankful when they wait for an hour in a doctor's waiting room but a Christian's best conforming is done in "God's Waiting Room." Dr. Guy Goodell's book by that title uses Lamentations 3:22-26 to portray the thankful believer in a waiting room flooded with mercies (plural), compassion, faithfulness, hope, anticipation, meditation, quiet listening, seeking, and quiet waiting. "*The LORD is good unto them that wait for him, to the soul that seeketh him. It is good that a man should both hope and quietly wait for the salvation of the LORD*" (vr.25-26). Psalm 37 gives five rules for God's waiting room: 1) No fretting, 2) Trust God (Patience is trusting God's timing), 3) Delight thyself, 4) Commit and stay committed, and 5) Rest while you wait, but don't sit on your hands.

A fresh new look at Romans 8:26-29 shows the greater purpose of God's waiting room. Like the doctor's waiting room there are "infirmities" that land us there, but unlike it, the greatest healing and strengthening is done by the Holy Ghost in that waiting room (vr.26-27). In God's waiting room "*all things work together for (our) good*" (vr.28). As a young teen I often heard the sorely injured Mr. Sylvia trying to find that "good" through hospital nurses he witnessed to. Don't miss that God's waiting room is for our own good, and it brings to bear on our infirmities "all things" i.e. Bible readings, prayers made, preaching heard, relationships, persecutions, tribulations, flat tires, angry bosses, broken bones et.al. "all things!" We know so; God says so. God has unlimited access to "all things" so cooperate in the waiting room and "*be conformed to the image of his Son*" (vr.29). That's the goal, thanks for waiting, and in waiting rooms give thanks.

An Essay for week #47 Nov 24, 2019

Msgs in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio

Message outline at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Msg #1948 Study First-Advent Scriptures

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Prophetic insights to the two advents of the Christ are replete throughout Old Testament Scriptures. They are not clear until studied, because believing is seeing. “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God*” (2Tim2:15), is not an idle suggestion. The “seed” of woman in “*it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel*” was clearly understood by Satan in the Garden. “*In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed*” traced “it” through Abraham the Father of Faith, and “*I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him*” passed the promise to Isaac and Rebekah. “*Be thou the mother of thousands of millions, and let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them*” involved the whole nation of Israel in bringing this “seed of woman.” “*The sceptre shall not depart from Judah*” is subtle, but not an idle comment when it comes to “seed tracing.” After King David was told, “*thy throne shall be established for ever*” he penned in psalm that rulers would rise “*against the LORD, and against his anointed* (which being interpreted is *Messiah*-Hbrw and *Christ*-Greek),... *Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion.... Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee.*” This Messiah, Only Begotten Son of God, King of kings, would be called “*Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace,*” but would first cry “*My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?... “I gave my back to the smiters, and my cheeks to them that plucked off the hair.*” We now know “*He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities.*” Celebrate his first-advent, be a student of the scriptures.

(Gen3:15,12:3,17:19, 24:60,49:10, 2Sam7:16,Psalm2:2,6,7, Isa9:6,Ps22:1, Isa50:6,53:5)

An Essay for week #48 Dec 1, 2019

To view the ppt slides www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Msg #1949 Shepherds as Heralds

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It is no coincidence that God sent angels to notify mere shepherds about his Only Begotten Son, wrapped in swaddling clothes. He could have sent them to the High-Priest of the Hebrews, the only religion holding his Word and the Truth. He could have sent them to the religious Pharisees, Sadducees, Scribes or Lawyers who made themselves spokesmen for his Truth. He did not. Sheep and shepherds hold a high regard in the God's economy. He was sending the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the World (John 1:29,36,Rev 5:12), and that Lamb would be the Good, Great, and Chief Shepherd (John 10:11,Psalm22, Heb13:20,Psalm23, 1Pet5:4,Psalm24). Shepherds, herdsman, keepers of sheep who led sheep into "pasture" came to be called "pastors" and in God's economy every Christian needs a good pastor. God said to Israel, *"Let the LORD... set a man over the congregation,... that the congregation of the LORD be not as sheep which have no shepherd"* (Num27:16-17). There are far to many sheep without a good shepherd over them today. Shepherds of Luke 2 were keeping watch over their flock by night (as is done in the spring lambing season) when they said, *"Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us."* They had time, curiosity, and initiative to investigate Godly things, and they were "networked-in" to become effective heralds of Christ's arrival. Your pastor needs those same qualities, and more. Ezekiel 34:2-6 gives seven things expected of good pastors starting with, "should not the shepherds feed the flocks?" Sheep with a good pastor are well fed, fear no evil, are not dismayed, and can say "I shall not want." Pray for your pastor and/or get yourself under a good pastor.

An Essay for week #49 Dec 8, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs191208.mp3This msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Msg #1950 House of Bread, Ashes to Fruitfulness

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A tiny town five miles south of Jerusalem peeks interest this time of the year. It came to be called Bethlehem-Euphratah after Rachel, Jacob's favored wife, died there in childbirth. Bethlehem in the Hebrew tongue means "house of bread" while Euphratah means both "ash-heap" and "place of fruitfulness." Dying Rachel called her son Benoni (son of my sorrow), but Jacob changed his name to Benjamin (son of the right hand). Four-hundred years later, in sorrow, Naomi brought her daughter-in-law Ruth, the Moabite, to Bethlehem-Euphratah, but Boaz, her kinsman redeemer, turned her sorrow into fruitfulness (Ruth 1-4). Three-hundred years after that Saul stepped across Rachel's sepulchre on his way to the throne, but it took David, the shepherd boy born there, to secure the eternal title, King of Israel. From ashes to fruitfulness was God's theme for the little town of Bethlehem. And who could forget the three mighty men who defied a garrison of Philistines to bring David a drink of cold water from the well of Bethlehem. In the house-of-bread the Bread of Life was born; near the well of cool water living water was wrapped in burial cloth and laid in a manger bed. *"But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.... And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)"* (Micah 5:2, Luke 2:4). And so it was that Jesus was born in Bethlehem-Euphratah, the Christ child, a man of sorrows, would bring us fruitfulness. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #50 Dec 15, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs191215.mp3

This msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Msg #1951 Wise Men Know Scripture

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

A common Christmas fallacy is in thinking the wise men came to worship the newborn king of the Jews simply because they saw his star in the east. Wise men are wiser than that, and know things about the promised Messiah because God reveals himself in written words, infallible, inerrant, inspired, and preserved to every generation, written words; Praise the Lord! They were Bible wise men for two reasons, they feared the LORD God (Prov 1:7), and they studied and rightly divided the word of truth (2Tim2:15,3:16-17). Would that every Christian were so wise. These men had the Scriptures that Daniel had in the seventy year Babylonian captivity. Daniel knew from David's second psalm, already copied over and over for four-hundred years, that Messiah would be the only begotten Son of God; he told King Neb, who saw the fourth man in the fire. (Modernist ecumenical translators suppose he could not have known, and consequently miss-translate Daniel 3:25!) In Daniel's day the books of the Holy Bible were being collected and accurately copied as the Law (Torah), the Prophets (Nevi'im), and the Writings (Kethuvim). He had the book written by Micah, in fact he was only missing the eight post-exile books. There is every reason to believe that Hebrew copies of the thirty-one other books were left in the hands of "wise men" of the Medio-Persian Empire. Wise men, then, would have expected Messiah's arrival 483 years after Xerxes' decree to rebuild Jerusalem (Dan 9:25). The star they saw was only a confirmation for them to go and worship the Messiah. Ecumenical scholars suppose this is a man-made, man-collected, man-preserved book. It says otherwise repeatedly. Who are you going to believe? Indeed, John 3:16-18 begs the same question. An out-loud and personal response is required in Romans 10:9-10. Merry Christmas.

An Essay for week #51 Dec 22, 2019

Msg in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs191222.mp3

This msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Msg #1952 America's Religiosity and Abandonment

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The story of Jonah is written with such fine grain that things are often overlooked. The phrase “*The word of the LORD came unto*” is found over a hundred times in the Bible. Is that an audible voice, intuition, dream, vision or is it written down? Yes! A quick search of the phrase comes up with all of the above, but for the two times it is found for Jonah, the message was clear enough. The words, “...unto Jonah the son of Amittai” are striking because he knows my name, first, last, and middle! Ezra writing Chronicles seemed infatuated with names, but God breathed on that ready scribe and gave him those thousand names to write. Our solar system is a spec in God's created universe, our planet a spec in that, and our soul a spec there, but he knows your name. “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry against it;...”, Nineveh, capital city of Assyria, already had a background. Noah's son Ham bear a son Cush (Hbrw-black) and Cush begat Himrod (Hbrw-rebellion & valiant) and the beginning of his kingdom was Babel (Hbrw-confusion), and out of that land went forth Asshur (Assyria, Hbrw-a step) and builded Nineveh (Gen 10). Thus while Babylon symbolizes Gentile national confusion, Nineveh symbolizes Gentile national religiosity. In Jonah Nineveh finds Godly repentance and salvation, in Nahum, a hundred-and-fifty years hence, Nineveh has, “*Woe to the bloody city! it is all full of lies and robbery;... and I will cast abominable filth upon thee and make thee vile, and will set thee as a gazing stock*” (Nahum 3:1,6). A great people, who once held the truth in righteousness, and in time turn from truth, will find themselves in such a straight. God has blessed America, and look at her now.

An Essay for week #52 Dec 29, 2019

Msgs in audio at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio

This msg in ppt slides at www.GSBaptistChurch.com/msgs

Personal Testimony of Pastor Edward Rice. I was saved in 1960 at the age of eight. My father and mother were saved and founding members of Fellowship Baptist Church in Gang Mills New York. In 1958 my dad, Levi O. Rice, an agnostic, was invited by Cecil Palm to be a founding member of that church; both of my parents were born-again-saved two weeks later. My mother, Doris was converted form Roman Catholicism, and became a Christian. She stopped her Roman penance and practiced Bible repentance, stopped praying to Mary and called upon the Lord Jesus Christ to save her. She was thus converted from Roman Catholicism to the Lord Jesus Christ. Everyone needs converted from something. Mom and Dad were now born again, and two years later I was saved in revival services with Evangelist Dale and Opel Linbaugh. Opel cut the flannel graph burden of sin off little Christian's back in her Pilgrim's Progress presentation, and I was born-again-saved before it hit the basement floor. In 1995 I retired from the USAF as a systems engineer and became an ordained Baptist Preacher of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. "Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt 18:3).

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The Non-Christian Religions 83 pages in paperback: \$9.70 Non-Christian religions are 'cunningly devised fables' and many of them are not even that cunning. They have their roots in a knowledge of the truth which was taken from Noah's kin after the world flood. Man then scattered across our globe after the tower of Babel recorded in Genesis 11. They took with them certain grains of truth. Starting with a premise that the Bible is true and not man-made makes the study of these false religions insightful and intriguing. This is an introductory coverage of Indian Hinduism and its 3 reformations, Jainism, Buddhism, and Sikhism; then Oriental Confucianism, Taoism, Shintoism; Zoroastrianism, non-Biblical Judaism, and finally Islam. All that a Christian needs to know about each of these false religions is presented herein in digest form. A compassionate and eyeopening digest.

Reformed Theology's Reformations Are Not Producing a Biblical Systematic Theology 164 pages in Hardcover: \$24.05 Reformed Augustinian Theology is, as its name so aptly captures, a reformation of bad Augustinian Theology that previously framed up the belief system of Roman Catholic Theology. The reformers began the reformation of the Roman Catholic theology and reformations have progressed until a common question is asked "Exactly what is reformed theology?" This work will analyze rate of change for reformation theology.... Is it

now circling towards the epicenter of truth, or does it continue in the venue of its mother Church spiraling ever further from the truth? This effort focus and clarifies the position and course of Reformed Augustinian Theology with a clarity never before addressed. [More >](#)

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The Biblical Doctrine of Election and Predestination 141 pages in paperback: \$18.95 The Author is a USAF retired systems engineer turned Baptist Preacher who brings a fresh Biblical look at our systematic theology. His Master of Science

degree in Engineering enlivens an analytical view of the doctrine of election and predestination. You will be amazed at how much Christian doctrine departs from the Bible and leans on Augustinian Theology and Calvin's Reformed Theology. We need to get back to sound Bible teachings with this doctrine. This treatise will move one in that direction. [More >](#)

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Pastor Rice is a USAF retired systems engineer turned Baptist Preacher who brings a fresh practical and Biblical look at what the Bible says. Seven years of weekly messages preached at Good Samaritan Baptist Church are condensed into devotional essays and sent out as weekly Penny Pulpit Columns for local publications.

Msg #1933 Just Preach Jesus as Christ.

Romans 12 begins with a plea that, if saved from condemnation, a Christian be a living burnt-sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God. A burnt-sacrifice is "all-in" with no part or portion held back. Holy signifies a perfectly pure and complete moral character. "Sanctify yourselves therefore, and be ye holy: for I am the LORD your God" (Lev 20:7), "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy" (1Pet 1:15-16). Being acceptable requires a thorough knowledge of God, his law, testimonies, ways, precepts, statutes, commandments, judgments, i.e. his Word. Now that, says the Apostle Paul, is only a reasonable service, so he further charges that we "be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind." It's been said, "When an idiot gets saved, what you have is a saved idiot." But Paul's charge confers that one change; there is to be a transformation, yea there must be. Transformation cannot produce salvation, but salvation produces a transformation. The world hates when you won't conform. Sodomites adopting children MUST be accepted. Lizards evolving to eagles MUST be truth. Cars burning corn is good, cows burning corn is bad, conform to their stupidity or be hated, ostracized and destroyed. Jesus is Truth and thy hate him. Jesus said, "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you" (John 15:18). Deal with it; don't conform. They'll say guns produce the depravity of man and carbon dioxide you exhale is destroying the planet. One algae bloom in the Pacific can digest the whole carbon footprint of America, but facts will not sway a reprobate mind, the Lord Jesus Christ can. Just preach Jesus as Christ.

An Essay for week #33 Aug 18, 2019



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