

What The Bible Says

in 52 Penny Pulpit Essays From 2015

By Pastor Edward G. Rice

A Rural Pastor With A Royal Message

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What The Bible Says

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By Pastor Ed Rice A Rural Pastor With A Royal Message

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

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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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

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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/g150405.mp3Tablet or phone at <http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/ppulpit/biblesays15.pdf>In blog <http://www.theology.gsbaptistchurch.com>In paperback at www.lulu.com/spotlight/GSBaptistChurch

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 Testament¹. 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.

1 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/gsl50419.mp3

Msg #1517b The Eastern Religions Cont.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

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 BC², and then the remnant of Judah being carried into the Babylonian captivity in 597 BC³, 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

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

3 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

In blog <http://www.theology.gsbaptistchurch.com>

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" (James 1:27). 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.mp3In blog <http://www.theology.gsbaptistchurch.com>In paperback at www.lulu.com/spotlight/GSBaptistChurch

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/gsl50607.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” (Matt 18:3). 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

See and print a Letter to the LGBT www.gsbaptistchurch.com/lgbt/

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. This is no longer a Christian nation.

An Essay for week #30 Jul 26, 2015

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Msg #1531
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #31 Aug 2, 2015

Msg #1532
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #32 Aug 9, 2015

Msg #1533
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #33 Aug 16, 2015

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Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #34 Aug 23, 2015

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An Essay for week #35 Aug 30, 2015

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An Essay for week #36 Sep 6, 2015

Msg #1537
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An Essay for week #38 Sep 20, 2015

Msg #1539
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An Essay for week #39 Sep 27, 2015

Msg #1540
What The Bible Says
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An Essay for week #40 Oct 4, 2015

Msg #1541
What The Bible Says
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An Essay for week #41 Oct 11, 2015

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An Essay for week #42 Oct 18, 2015

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An Essay for week #43 Oct 25, 2015

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What The Bible Says
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An Essay for week #44 Nov 1, 2015

Msg #1545
What The Bible Says
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An Essay for week #45 Nov 8, 2015

Msg #1546
What The Bible Says
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An Essay for week #46 Nov 15, 2015

Msg #1547
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #47 Nov 22, 2015

Msg #1548
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #48 Nov 29, 2015

Msg #1549
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #49 Dec 6, 2015

Msg #1550
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #50 Dec 13, 2015

Msg #1551
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #51 Dec 20, 2015

Msg #1552
What The Bible Says
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #52 Dec 27, 2015

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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. My mother was converted form Roman Catholicism, and became a Christian, she stopped praying to Mary and called upon the Lord Jesus Christ to save her. She was thus converted from Catholicism and to the Lord Jesus Christ; Mom and Dad were born again, and I was saved in revival services with Dale and Opel Linbaugh two years later. 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 who said "Except ye be converted ye cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

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