

What The Bible Says in 52 Penny Pulpit Essays From 2023

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By Pastor Edward G. Rice

A Rural Pastor With A Royal Message

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# What The Bible Says

## in 52 Penny Pulpit Essays From 2023

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.  
Convincing me these essays must needs be written.*

# 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 during the 21<sup>st</sup> century. They contain the wisdom of God in 52 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com)

Published in Loving Memory of Dresden's Grandest  
Bible Student, Betty Smalley, gone home Jul 2005.  
Convincing me these essays must needs be written.

*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 #2301 Start 2023 Out Right

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Apostle Paul's heart is on display in the first verse of Philippians 4. It makes his charge to the precious saints of Philippi weigh more as we take our first steps into a brand new year. “*Stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved*” (Phil.4:1b). We do not know what will hit us in a year, but God does and he knows, if we will stand fast in him, he will take care of whatever hits us. “*Be of the same mind in the Lord*” (vr.2). Stand together. In perilous times, when our ranks shrink and persecutions arise, when our own government officials promote immorality and defy godliness, Christians, genuine Bible believing ones, dare not be divided, there is a cause. “*I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, ...*” (vr.3). Stand behind those preaching the genuine, glorious gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, and “*If any man preach any other gospel unto you than ye have received, let him be accursed*” (Gal.1:8,9). True yokefellow know what secured their soul's salvation; it was not penance, baptisms, good works or religion, it is the blood of Christ. Stand fast, stand together, and stand behind the preaching of that gospel.

We aptly begin this year on the first day of the week, Sunday, when God tells us he made this whole time-space-matter continuum and said, “*Let there be light*” (Gen.1:1-5). On Monday He divided the space into heaven and a ball of water (vr.6-8); on Tuesday he made dry land appear and filled it with plants (vr.9-13); on Wednesday He made sun, moon and stars (vr.14-19); on Thursday He made fish and fowl (vr.20-23); and on Friday God made the living creatures and said, “*Let us make man in our image, after our likeness*” ... “*male and female created he them*” (vr.26-27, cf 24-31). On Saturday, the seventh day of this universe's existence, God rested from all his work which he had made, and man's first day in God's universe was a day of rest. We have been on that seven day cycle for almost 6,000 years now, don't let an evolutionist get you off track ... stand fast, God's Word is true and accurate.

An Essay for week #1 - Jan 1, 2023

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Learn of the Holy Land [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

**Msg #2302 Power for Christian Living**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Apostle Paul writes a powerful and organized letter to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi. The adversity lining up against Christianity for 2023 requires that his remnant be well grounded in their Lord's instruction. Dr. McGee alliterates Paul's outline by chapter as Philosophy, Pattern, Prize, and Power of Christian living. The all important power, he says, comes from a Source (4:1-4), a Secret (vr.5-7), a Sanctuary (vr.8-9), and a Satisfaction (vr.10-23). The source of power is the joy that comes from standing fast, standing together, and standing behind the laborers. The secret of power is prayer and supplications with thanksgiving. The sanctuary holding that power for Christian living is his temple. In the OT God built a temple for his people, in the NT he builds a People for his temple. *“What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you?”* (1Cor.6:19).

A Christian must keep the temple holy and sanctified. We live in a vile and filthy society. Satan is using every avenue he can to control and destroy mankind and that can put some “stinking-thinking” in even a Christian's mind. His drive for a socialist/communist “utopia” invades the unregenerate mind like a plague. People all around us are surrendered to it as never before. Focus the renewing of your mind to make it God's sanctuary. *“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God?”*(1Cor.6:9). So Paul charges us, *“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things”* (Phil.4:8). “Lord, in 2023, keep my mind stayed on thee.”

An Essay for week #2 - Jan 8, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g230108.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g230108.mp3)See the Genesis of Sin, Hamartiology [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology)



## Msg #2303 True, Honest, and Just

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Christians are admonished to keep our minds stayed on things that are true, things that are honest, and things that are just (Phil.4:8). We presently live in a world that is diametrically opposed to all three of these virtues. A radical faction is in majority control of our government, and its corruption is anchored and built on lies, dishonesty, and injustice. I pray they will be over-turned, but find no reason to put trust in a voting booth. God described Judah when she was in a similar straight, "*Judgment is turned away backward, and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter*" (Isa.59:14). Equity is "impartial distribution of justice; treating a person according to justice and reason." (Noah Webster 1828). To the Marxist socialist that is now in control, "equity" has nothing to do with justice, and *now* means "everyone is provided what they need to reach an equal outcome."

The prophet continues, "*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 judgment*" (Isa.59:15). The prophet goes on, "*According to their deeds, accordingly he will repay, fury to his adversaries, recompense to his enemies*" (59:18). But between God's displeasure and God's fury stands an intercessor who puts on righteousness as a breastplate, and an helmet of salvation upon his head (59:16–17, cf Eph.6:10–18).

What is a Christian to do under Marxist oppression? It is not a new thing in this world. "*Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might... take unto you the whole armour of God, ... And whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just... think on these things*" (Eph.6:10, 13, Phil.4:8). May God bless.

An Essay for week #3 - Jan 15, 2023

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A Holy Land Journey Journal [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

## Msg #2304 Pure Thoughts

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Whatsoever things are pure,” (i.e not mixed or adulterated with any other substance or material) brings to mind a myriad of Bible references. The pure gold that covered all the shittim wood of the ark of the covenant is its first mention. The wood represents the frail, flawed, flesh of humanity, ugly in character and in name. Modernists, change God's word to try and make that shittim wood some beautiful, aromatic, acacia wood, but the original Bible wording is correct. The pure gold, a precious metal that does not tarnish, represents the pure righteousness of a holy God. Pure gold righteousness of God covered all shittim wood of the tabernacle. Purity in the Old-Testament further applies to seed and sacrifice, incense and frankincense, water and the Word. Purity in the New-Testament begins with “*Blessed are the **pure** in heart: for they shall see God*”, and goes on to robes of pure white linen, of being pure through the Word, of charity out of a pure heart, and of having a pure conscious. “*Unto the pure (righteous) all things are pure (righteous)*” (Tit.1:15) The pure book closes with streets of pure gold, clear as crystal, and saints in pure white linen.

A Christian with no joy thinks on lies and liars, dishonesty, and injustices; on the impure, the ugly, and bad thing. Get rid of all stinking thinking this week, and think on whatsoever things are true, honest, and just, pure, lovely, and of good report. (Philip.4:8).

When David heard that King Saul was dead, he could have said a lot about Saul's last ten years. He did not. He eulogized him, thinking only on whatsoever things are good. “*Saul and Jonathan were lovely and pleasant in their lives*” (2Sam.1:23, cf 17–27). Keep your focus right, and rejoice.

An Essay for week #4 - Jan 22, 2023

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## Msg #2305 How to Abide in Him

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*“And now, little children, abide in him”* (1Jn.2:28). Pastor Thomas says John writes an organized chapter to explain how to abide in him. John explains, *“He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk, even as he walked”* (2:6). Jesus walked with love, *“and he loved them unto the end”* (Jn.13:1); he walked with forgiveness, *“father, forgive them”* (Lk.23:34); and he walked in ministry, *“the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister”* (Mk.10:45). Jesus said, *“Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me”* (Matt.11:29). Then walk that way.

John goes on, *“He that loveth his brother abideth in the light”*(1Jn.2:10). When we abide in him, we abide in light. He is light (Jn.1:9). One could ask the Good Samaritan, “Who is my brother?” (Lk.10); he is more than the one we sit beside in church.

John says, *“He that doeth the will of God abideth forever”* (1Jn.2:17b). Do his will, to abide in him. Romans 12:1-2 tells how to *“prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”* Ephesians 5:15 says do it circumspectly, 1Thes.4:3 without fornication, and 5:18 with thanks. Jn.7:17 says do it, to know it! And Jesus said, *“If you know these things, happy are ye if you do them”* (Jn.13:17).

John further says, *“Let that therefore abide in you which ye have heard from the beginning”* (1Jn.2:24a). Keep the word, let it never depart from your mouth (Josh.1:8). Read it (Rev.1:3); all of it (2Tim.3:15–17). Abide in him by keeping his Word.

Lastly, John says to abide in him, hear the voice of his Holy Spirit. *“The anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you”* (1Jn.2:27). He will teach you all things. *“And now, little children, abide in him”* (2:28).

An Essay for week #5 - Jan 29, 2023

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## Msg #2306 Contentment With His Glory

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The letter to the Philippians shows the power source for living a joyful Christian life. *“I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therein to be content”* (Phil.4:11). This is not a natural reaction, it is a learned behavior. Paul already spoke of the philosophy, the pattern, and the price of Christian living and shows its power to be in our, stand (4:1-4), prayer life (4:5-7), sanctified mind (4:8-9), and now, our contentment in where we are at, and what we are facing (4:11-13). *“I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need”* (4:12).

Being content, even in the most trying of circumstances, acknowledges that God knows what he is doing, and that I trust him. The Bible has many examples where God allows, or leads, his followers into impossible circumstances. It's for his glory, honor and/or recognition. Twice the disciples were led into a boat (Matt.8:22-23,14:22); both times they ended up in a great storm (8:24,14:24), and both times Jesus was gloriously magnified (8:26-27,14:25).

The Israelites were led into what Pastor Young called a “culdesac.” There was no place to turn. *“And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, ... The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace. ... And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD”* (Exod.14:13-14, 18).

Learn to be content. Don't pray, “Lord get me out of this circumstance!” but pray, “Lord be magnified in this circumstance.” Whether you are “jammed up“ because of your own blunder, or in his leading, seek his glory. The tougher the circumstance, the greater his glory.

An Essay for week #6 - Feb 5, 2023

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## Msg #2307 Love and Marriage

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Valentine's Day is for celebration of love and marriage. Humans marry properly for three reasons, to give and receive Love, Significance, and Security. God ordained the role of the husband and wife to provide joy and contentment in life. The intimate relationships in marriage are mirrored and paralleled in our relationship to God through our Lord Jesus Christ. We should be ever learning about each relationship.

God loves us. *“Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee”* (Jer.31:3). *“For God so loved the world, that he gave ... ”* (John 3:16). *“Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son ... We love him, because he first loved us”* (1Jo.4:10,19). We are to love him. *“And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment”* (Mr.12:30).

We are significant to God. *“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, ... ”* (Jer. 29:11). *“Many, O LORD my God, are ... thy thoughts which are to us-ward: they cannot be reckoned up ... they are more than can be numbered”* (Ps.40:5). *“For the ways of man are before the eyes of the LORD, and he pondereth all his goings. ... the LORD pondereth the hearts.”* (Pr.5:21, 21:2). So we should be significant to our “significant-other”. *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. ... Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church”* (Eph 5:22,25).

We are secure in God. *“... He hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee”* (Heb.13:5, cf Jn.14:3,Ps.37:25,Lu.12:24). Review and renew those promises this Valentine's Day.

An Essay for week #7 - Feb 12, 2023

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## Msg #2308 Don't Fret, God's Got This.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*“God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore will not we fear, ...”* The 46<sup>th</sup> Psalm is a three “Selah” Psalm that describes a Christian's *Refuge*, vr.1-3,7; God's upcoming *River*, vr.4-5; the heathen's *Rage*, vr.6a; the LORD's *Response*, vr.6b-9; and a commanded *Reaction* from believers, vr.10-11. “The State of the Union Address” displayed a disunion wherein half of our congressmen rallied behind the queer Marxist socialist takeover promoted by the progressives allied with big tech, education, and Satan himself. Banning fossil-fuels will NOT make America great OR save the world. There is no telling how bad this will get, ... unless you have a King-James-Bible. *“Though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea ...”*, even then, we have a refuge and are not to fear. The River that *“shall make glad the city of God”* is more completely described in Ezekiel 47, and it provides life to the earth after Armageddon. The heathen's *Rage* is described in Psalm 2, wherein God's reaction is given in Ps.2:4. The LORD of hosts' *Response* carefully outlined in Psalm 46 verses 6-9, corresponds exactly with Revelation 6, wherein the seven seals are removed from the Title-Deed-Book of the earth, Revelation 8-9 wherein seven trumpets announce how this will go down, and Revelation 16 wherein the seven vials of the wrath of God are poured out on this world before Armageddon.

One has to love the *Reaction* a believer is commanded to have, *“Be still, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth”* (Ps.46:10). In a still small voice (1Kng.19:12), *“Stand still and see the salvation of the LORD”*(Exo.14:13), should come to mind. God's got this.

An Essay for week #8 - Feb 19, 2023

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## Msg #2309 Five First Basic Steps

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

For a new convert I like to mention five things that should be a new priority in their new lives. I have found their mention helpful to us old crusty converts as well. If you were never a new convert to Christ, I'll have to say you are not a convert at all, and Jesus said, "*Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, ... Ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven*" (Matt.18:3). Once in the kingdom of heaven one should regularly read their Bible. It was the quick and powerful, inspired Word that brought you to conversion, keep reading (2Tim.2:15, 3:15-17, Heb.4:12). Second, one should pray, supplicate, and give thanks daily (Phil.4:6-7). Your call to God in prayer secured your conversion (Rom.10:9-10), keep talking to him. Third, you should tell someone what happened on this day that you were converted to Christ. Converts are to be his witnesses (Jn.20:21, Acts1:8, Isa.43:10,12,44:8). Fourth, a true convert needs to gather with other true converts. We edify one another, and need to be in a Bible believing, Bible preaching, Biblically functioning church (Heb.10:23-25). Fifth a true convert is to follow the Lord in public believers baptism, and then regularly be present at the Lord's table to publicly observe communion. These are two ordinances of the local church. They are not sacraments, there is no magical or mystical aspect to these ordinances, they are a convert's initial public admission, before God and everybody, that they are born-again, blood-bought, redeemed to God through Christ, converts. And the Lord's table observance is a public testimony declaring, I am still in perfect communion with my Lord and Savior, and in sweet communion with these believers, in this local church. Both baptism and communion are ordinances administered by the local Bible believing church. These are basics.

An Essay for week #9 - Feb 26, 2023

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## **Msg #2310 Don't Give Until it Hurts**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

With all the prosperity gospel shysters out there, an honest preacher of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ might tip toe around the church offering plate, but the Apostle Paul nails it for the church of God at Corinth. He begins 2Cor.8 with the grace of God that produced abounding liberality in the churches of Macedonia. Recall Paul's Macedonian call (Acts.16:9), his reception at Philippi (vr.12), his first European convert, Lydia (vr.14-15), his encounter with a Philippian Jailer (vr.31), and the rapid birth of a church at Thessalonica (17:1-3). These fledgling, on fire churches of Macedonia are held up, to one of the most crusty, carnal churches of the NT, as a superb example of givers. We should learn the lesson.

Evangelist Harold Boyd taught, "God does not ask us to take up offerings to raise money, he does it to raise children." "You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving." "If God does not get ahold of your wallet, he will not get ahold of your will." "Don't give until it hurts, give until it feels good." "Grace giving will never bring you to the law, but it will bring you to the cross." "Real prosperity, with real faith, is the ability to tap into God's resources to get what you need to meet the needs of others, ... God has already promised to meet your needs." "Tithing is a debt you owe, faith promise giving is a seed you sow."

All these well thought out pithy verses are in the margin of my Bible around 2Cor.8 and 9. At our annual Faith Promise Missions Giving Conferences, Brother Boyd would say, "Pastor Rice, get a pencil, I am going to give you something worth writing down." There are more. These chapters to Corinth are a beacon of abounding liberality.

An Essay for week #10 - Mar 5, 2023

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## **Msg #2311 Visiting Israel HS#01 Journal Excerpt**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

While Pastor Rice and Bev are touring Israel with Pastor Lee Pickett from March 16<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, here is an entry from their journal of last years trip: (view the whole journal by visiting our website and clicking “Journaling a Preacher's Pilgrimage to Israel”)

From Half Shekle Journal Entry #01: While Pastor Rice tours Israel here is an entry from last years trip: Our bus ride toward the Temple Mount did not interrupt our worship. “Lord, let the awe of being in your Jerusalem, this holy city of Zion, never lessen in me.” Eiad's miracle maneuvering of a 40 foot Irizar i6S bus through the narrow streets of Jerusalem was repeatedly interrupted with our guide Joe's reports that on the right you can see the Kidron Valley<sup>1</sup> and the walled up Eastern Gate, ... don't forget them as we will talk more of them shortly; on the left you see the tombs that line the Mount of Olives, remember them we will visit Gethsemane Today. ...

Joe again tries to catch up on the sites rapidly passing our bus windows. Much needs to be said here about the inferno of the old Valley of Hinnom<sup>2</sup> that we passed, and the City of David, that we will visit. I couldn't capture all that swept by our bus windows, but alas we careened to a halt somewhere near the Dung Gate. Joe said he probably did not need to expound how this gate got its name. Here we would enter and make our way toward the Temple Mount.

The hatred that Muslims have for the Holy Bible, for God's chosen nation Israel, and the people of the book, i.e. Bible believing Christians, would be on full display as we entered the Muslim controlled Temple Mount. We were instructed to leave all Bibles and Christian literature on the bus, and to conceal all “religious” jewelry and talk, none would be allowed in the Temple Mount area. I even left my walking stick (that the VA calls my cane) behind because it was inscribed with, “In the beginning God” in both

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1 See the Journal for extensive note on: The Kidron Valley.

2 See the Journal for extensive note on: Valley of Hinnom.

English and Hebrew (בראשית ברא אלהים the first three words of the Hebrew Bible). This was to be an awesome incursion into the Temple Mount area of the Mount Moriah of Bible times. It is curious that Israel hating, Jehovah hating Muslims are in control of the whole Temple Mount area. In a brief explanation Joe implied that in order to ward off WWII, the area was gingerly handed back<sup>3</sup> to them after the whole city of Jerusalem was conquered during the Six Day War<sup>4</sup>. ...

Lots of drama unfolded at the checkpoint as they searched us to ensure we were not carrying any contraband literature, and god forbid any Holy Bibles. It was quite like Satan himself was in full control of who and what got into this temple mount area.

Fifty born-again believers, nine of them Pastors and Preachers of the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ got in just the same, and looked in amazement at the unholy Muslim mosque that stood before us. *“O God, the heathen are come into thine inheritance; thy holy temple have they defiled; they have laid Jerusalem on heaps”* (Ps.79:1).

An Essay for week #11 - Mar 12, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230312.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230312.mp3)

A Holy Land Tour Journalled at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

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3 See the Journal for extensive note on: the Six-Day War.

4 See the Journal for extensive note on: Summary of the 1967 war.

## **Msg #2312 Visiting Israel HS#02 Journal Excerpt**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

While Pastor Rice and Bev are touring Israel with Pastor Lee Pickett from March 16<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, here is an entry from their journal of last years trip: (view the whole journal by visiting our website and clicking “Journaling a Preacher's Pilgrimage to Israel”)

From Half Shekle Journal Entry #02: Being careful about who was listening in, (on the very restrictive, Muslim controlled Temple Mount) Pastor Charlie continues. Another page of HisStory was written beneath this Temple Mount we are standing on. Solomon built the first temple on this very spot. Pastor continued to carefully expound God's documentation about Mount Moriah. King David accumulated the resources and designs for his son's miraculous construction of the temple. No chisel or hammer sounded on this site during the whole seven year construction (1Kng.6:7,38). But the Psalmists sure sounded out a lot about Solomon's Temple that stood here. Read here from Psalm.<sup>5</sup>

It is hard to envision Solomon's temple as we stand here on a huge platform built by King Herod. The foot print of Solomon's temple is dwarfed by the platform that Herod built. Solomon's temple was glorious just the same. The Bible gives the dimensions for artist to imagine the pictures shown. There are also the models seen at the Israeli Museum.

Solomon's temple was gutted when Nebuchadnezzar ransacked the city in 606 BC (2Chr.36:6, 2Kng.24:14) and then completely destroyed when he came back in 595 BC (2Chr.36:13-21, 2Kng.25:1-17). Israel was thrust into the Babylonian captivity for 70 years as God said (2Chr,36:21, Jer.25,27,29), and, consequently, the Jews returned exactly 70 years after 606, in 536 BC (Ezra 1:1-4), and the rebuilt temple was finished twenty years later in 515 BC (Ezra 6:15)<sup>6</sup>. God runs a pretty exacting calendar.

5 Online Bible Verse List: Ps 5:7, 11:4, 18:6, 27:4, 29:9,48:9,65:4, 68:29, 138:2

6 Dates given are according to Ussher's very Biblical dating calculations which often differ from modernist "scholar" dates. James Ussher (1581-1656), Archbishop of Armagh, but genius believer.

Standing on Mount Moriah and reviewing events the Bible records 2,600 years ago added a depth to our worship here. Noah Webster defines a "pilgrimage" as "a long journey, particularly a journey to someplace deemed sacred and venerable (worthy of reverence), in order to pay devotion to relics of some deceased saint." We were not here for deceased saints, but for a living Savior. This was a pilgrimage just the same, and God said that this place where we stood was indeed sacred. The slides shown here are from a Temple History presentation assembled by the author in 2015.

Pastor Charlie pulled us from 600 BC back to the present, Look at this great platform that Herod built, that dome and the mosque are each laden with demonic symbols and represent Satan's presence here, but look back to visualize the temple that stood on this ground. Herod's temple, the temple where Jesus overthrew the tables of the money changers, stood right here. Pastor laid before us the very presence of Jesus in this place; and the authority he always displayed with his presence in this temple. Always? Yes always! It was as if he owned the place.

An Essay for week #12 - Mar 19, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230319.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230319.mp3)

A Holy Land Tour Journalled at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

## Msg #2313 Visiting Israel HS#03 Journal Excerpt

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

While Pastor Rice and Bev are touring Israel with Pastor Lee Pickett from March 16<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>, here is an entry from their journal of last years trip: (view the whole journal by visiting our website and clicking “Journaling a Preacher's Pilgrimage to Israel”)

From Half Shekle Journal Entry #03: As we gathered at the north end of the Temple Mount our guide Joe, and then our guide, Pastor Charlie, addressed what was once standing in the empty lot before us. To address Jerusalem's vulnerability from the north a citadel was placed on a rocky plateau just outside the north west corner of the Temple Area. “The fortress served as a headquarters for the Roman army in Jerusalem... The close proximity of its high towers to the temple complex enabled Roman guards to keep watch on any disturbances that developed. Herod had built underground passage ways that allowed Roman detachments to enter the compound if deemed necessary.”<sup>7</sup>

This fortress was used for the Roman's judgment hall and Mark 15:16 says of Christ on trial, “*And the soldiers lead him away into the hall, called Praetorium; and they called together the whole band.*” An old Arabic proverb says, “He that speaks well turns ears into eyes.” As Pastor Charlie spoke we could see the Roman Praetorium<sup>8</sup> standing in the open lot before us. We could see Jesus in the hands of the mocking soldiers; we could hear Pontius Pilot say to the crowd, “*What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ (Messiah)? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified*” (Mat.27:22).

It only took a moment really; mere minutes of our time standing at the north end of the Temple Mount. The Muslims had made sure that we had no Bibles to open. Our guide Joe, with just a few worded brushstrokes had painted the towers of a Roman citadel, filled with soldiers, and housing a judgment hall called Praetorium.

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<sup>7</sup> see [www.christianevidences.org](http://www.christianevidences.org) accessed 11/22/2022

<sup>8</sup> Pictures of the Roman Praetorium by the author at the Israel Museum.

Our guide Pastor Charlie had made that hall echo with God's word, Pontius Pilot's words, and soldiers with a purple robe and crown of thorns. Our guide, the Holy Spirit of God now flooded my mind with holy words: *"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"* (2Cor.5:20). (Ref also Isa.53:6, Jhn.3:17-18, 36,5:24). It is a horrible thing that man did in that judgment hall, that Praetorium that once stood only a few feet from where we now listened to Pastor Charlie.

The law was given in 1492 BC and for 1,500 years man was tried and tested for his ability to keep that law. He was supposed, by keeping the law, to come through the dark veil and stand in the presence of a holy God. He failed, man was, and is incapable of keeping God's law, incapable of standing in God's presence through law. In this judgment hall, the verdict for man is forever in; here man condemned the only begotten Son of God to death on a cruel cross. That guilty verdict for man cries out, *"the heart of man is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked..."* (Jer.17:9). ... *"As it is written there is none righteous, no, not one: there is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. ... For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God"* (Rom.3:10-11, 23). ...

The trial whereby man must keep the law of God is past. That dispensation, or test of stewardship, is ended, that case cannot be reopened by any religion. A new dispensation is now opened and springs on the world as a new dawn. *"For by grace are ye saved through faith"* (Eph.2:8-9, 7)... We somberly walked by the Praetorium which stood in our minds eye, and began our departure from the Temple Mount. It is a marvelous thing to be saved by grace.

*Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul. Thank you, Lord, for making me whole.*

*Thank you, Lord, for giving to me, Thy Great Salvation, So Rich and Free.*

An Essay for week #13 - Mar 26, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230326.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230326.mp3)

A Holy Land Tour Journalled at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

## Msg #2314 Palm Sunday Gethsemane Wednesday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Gospel of Matthew constitutes an introduction to the New Testament and the new covenant (Jer.31:31, Heb.8:8,13, 12:24). Consequently, it more vividly portrays the offering of the Kingdom of Heaven to the Jews, and their consequential rejection of their Messiah. The fourth gospel clarifies, “*He came unto his own, and his own received him not*” (Jn.1:11). The Palm Sunday reception of Jesus into Jerusalem, and his subsequent three days of teaching in the temple before his crucifixion, are thus the focus of Matthew 21 thru 25. John 12 reveals that six days before the 14<sup>th</sup> of Abib Passover (Ex.13:4), Jesus was in Betheny with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus; it was the 8<sup>th</sup>. On Sabbath the 9<sup>th</sup> the chief priests consulted (Jn.12.10), and on Sunday, the 10<sup>th</sup> of Abib, Jesus was triumphantly escorted into Jerusalem, on the day that the Passover lamb was selected and separated from the flock according to Exodus 12:3. In Matt.21:10 “*all the city was moved, saying, Who is this?*” and in verse 11, where they should have announced “He is the Messiah, the Son of the Living God!”(Mt.16:16) they denied him saying, “*This is Jesus the prophet of Nazareth of Galilee.*” Even today, if you cannot make that distinction, you cannot be saved from condemnation, you cannot enter the kingdom of God. (Jn,3:17-18). So Jesus first goes into the temple overthrowing money changers, then leaves for Bethany (Mt.21:17). The next day, Monday, while coming to the city early in order to teach all day (Lu.19:47,22:53), he curses a fig tree (21:18-19), and clears out the money changers again (Mrk.11:14-16). On Tuesday early, on his way to teach at the temple (Lu.21:37-38), they find the fig tree withered; Jesus teaches about faith (Mt.21:21-22). This Wednesday, in a prayer meeting, we will visit Gethsemane.

An Essay for week #14 - Apr 2, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230402.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230402.mp3)  
Visit Gethsemane via a Journal [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

## Msg #2315 This Easter We Know More

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

On Easter Sunday 2020, only three years ago, the gates of hell, which is Satan's doorway into this world, did a full press exercise attempting to shut down every church in the Americas, ... on Easter Sunday! His exercise exposed the many tools in Satan's arsenal, particularly those he had in place in our own governments. The progressive liberal left of the Democratic party was just given new and full power to pursue its globalist, socialist, Marxist agenda in America, and Satan used its greedy power mongering members to call the church a nonessential entertainment industry. They ignored Constitutional law and used executive privilege to board up church doors. Despite the flurry of lawsuits, those same tools, now well greased and exercised remain in place today. So too, remains the mind control and brainwashing tools that can cause a government to say that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the ineffectual mask, or the ineffectual shot, ... or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

For the genuine Bible believer Easter 2023 brings a sharper focus on our Lord Jesus Christ, his victory over sin on the cross, his victory over death with that stone rolled away, and on his explanation, *“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”* (John.3:17-18).

We now know what perilous times are, what the days of Sodom were, and the days of Noah. But we also know the gates of hell shall not prevail. Even so, come, Lord Jesus.

An Essay for week #15 - Apr 9, 2023

Some of us were headed to Israel and missed this years Capital Connection BUT... It should be required, for every born-again Christian who has access to an internet connection, that they go to <https://awakeamerica.org/capitol-connection/cc23/#sermons> and listen to the Wednesday, March 8, 2023 Capital Connection message "Pray, The Answer is On Its Way" by Pastor Chad Watson, Gloryland Baptist Church, Hartsville SC. This nation is well past the crossroad, and Christians, who are prayer warriors, dare not be ignorant of how we fit into Biblical Prophecy. Pastor Ed Rice.



## Msg #2316 Defeating Satan's Strongholds

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The “hill of Megiddo”, Armageddon in the Hebrew tongue, (Rev.16:16) is a stronghold city overlooking the crossroad that connects empires, in the center of a country, Israel, that connects three continents. Biblical prophecy tells us that God has his eye on that stronghold, and will make it the place of the final showdown when all nations gather to wipe Israel off the face of God's earth. The Revelation of Jesus Christ details how that works out for the dragon, that old serpent, which is the Devil, and Satan, ... and his cronies (Rev.16,19-20). King Solomon rebuilt Megiddo into an impressive stronghold city for Israel (1Kings.9:15), and we can today view his signature three gate design, horse stalls and chariot parking lot in its *tel* (mound of destructions). Although Solomon conquered and rebuilt physical stronghold cities he neglected to take down Satan's spiritual strongholds in his life.

The Apostle Paul details how that can be done in 2Cor.10. *“Casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ; 6 And having in a readiness to revenge all disobedience, when your obedience is fulfilled”* (2Cor.10:5-6). Two major ingredients here, first captivating every thought and bringing it into obedience. This is called “renewing of your mind” in Romans 12, and “think on these things” in Phil.4:8. Second, “revenge all disobedience.” Disobedience comes in two flavors, sins of commission, like smoking, drinking, and cussing, and sins of omission, like not praying, not Bible studying, and not witnessing. Take revenge on these sins. Every cuss word, gets an hour of Bible study and prayer. When I miss an hour of Thursday soul-winning, I'll go two hours on Friday n Saturday. That's what revenging disobedience looks like. Satan hates that.

An Essay for week #16 - Apr 16, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230416.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230416.mp3)

Journaling Israel Tours at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22)

## Msg #2317 To Every Creature

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Dear resident, Yesterday I stood on the Welcome mat of your door, and left an informative card from our church that recommended TheGospelFilm.com. As I was leaving, you came to the door and ask what I wanted. I said I was a Baptist preacher of the Gospel and I left some information about our church.

In harsh tones, and no uncertain terms, you told me to get off your property and never come back there again. And then you asked, “What gives you people the right to come around here and preach your religion anyway?”

I am writing to briefly answer your question, with the expectation that it might have been sincere. In short, the right answer is given in the First Amendment of our Constitution, and for me, the responsibility comes from the commandment of our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, “*Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature*” (The Holy Bible, Gospel of Mark 16:15).

I did not come to your doorstep to “preach religion”, indeed, I did not preach at all. I only came to give you and your household an opportunity to hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I will honor your request to not come to your door, ever again (unless I get an invitation, which I would welcome). As a Veteran I have spent 23 years of my life defending rights and freedoms, as a born-again preacher of the gospel of my Lord Jesus Christ, I have spent 43 years going door to door with his gospel message. I know where you live. You impacted my day. I would gladly come and share with you the life-changing Gospel of Christ, but now I will need an invitation. You can contact me with the information I left on your door, or on the “God's Simple Plan of Salvation” Gospel Tract enclosed.

Pastor Ed Rice

An Essay for week #17 - Apr 23, 2023

Evang Garraway's [www.TheGospelFilm.com](http://www.TheGospelFilm.com)  
GSBC Videos [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/video](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/video)

## Msg #2318 A Commencement Celebration

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

We love spring time because new life begins to “commence” all around us. We will likely attend some “Commencement” ceremonies this spring. “Commence” is a verb meaning to begin to be, or to have first existence. “Commencement” is a noun meaning a rise, origin, or first existence. It is generally a day in which degrees are publicly conferred on students who have finished collegiate education. On one day this week we had two commencements; our grandson graduated from Bible College, Praise the Lord; and a precious old saint of our church went home to be with her Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Both were commencements, where objectives were achieved, the course was finished, and a new phase of life began. We are all pretty familiar with the commencement ceremonies for a graduate, they are a great blessing. We may be uneasy or unfamiliar calling a death and a funeral service a commencement.

Man does not “have” a soul, man “is” a soul; and for a short time here on earth we have a body to live in. For the born-again believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, when the soul leaves the body, the Holy Bible promises, “*Behold, I shew you a mystery; ... this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality*” and again “*But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. 14 For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him.* (1Cor.15:51-53, 1Thes.4:13-14). This spring make sure you and your loved ones are as “saved” as John 3:16-18 can get you, and that you are ready for that final commencement.

An Essay for week #18 - Apr 30, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230430.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230430.mp3)

A GSBC Baptist Last Rites Video at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/video](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/video)

## Msg #2319 Change Lives, Not Nations

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*“And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.”* (1Kngs.17:1) Israel's 7<sup>th</sup> king, Ahab, was the worst of the worse, Omri, his father held the title before him (1Kngs.16:25, 30, 21:25) and Ahab would be the third dynasty of Israel utterly wiped from the face of God's earth (1Kngs.21:21-22). Of the nineteen kings of Israel seventeen *“departed not from all the sins of Jeroboam who made Israel to sin,”* this was a leadership lineage that did evil continually. God now calls up a prophet who walks onto the page of our Bible and announces that Jehovah God is the one in charge of weather, rain, and climate, and Ahab, you will taste great drought until the day you know that *“The LORD, he is God; the LORD, he is God”* (18:39).

Thirty years ago a conservative hero, Rush Limbaugh, announced “America Held Hostage by Clintons!” Now we have a pro-socialist leadership using Marxist ideology to destroy America, and conservative heroes dance with Bruce Jenner! There is no hope in conservative stalwarts; people need the Lord. This week you will rub shoulders with someone taught K-12 that there is no God in heaven, we have no Creator, and we gotta do something to save the planet. You might be the only Bible they every read. Elijah, God's prophet did not change the course of the nation, it spiraled down through ten more kings into God's judgment, but he changed a few lives. In Yates county NY, I'll not be a nation changer, but, by God's grace, and through God's Son I can change a few lives. So can you.

An Essay for week #19 - May 7, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230507.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230507.mp3)

R.G. Lee's “Payday Someday” <https://vimeo.com/104726024>

## Msg #2320 Happy 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday Israel.

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Happy 75th Birthday Israel! May 14th 1948 A Day when Israel's "His-Story" was being made!

“In a small room in a far away British Mandate Palestine, Jewish statesman David Ben-Gurion rose to his feet before an assembly of Jewish dignitaries and declared that Israel, after 2,000 dreary years of displacement, was again a sovereign nation in its own land. A mere 11 minutes later, American President Harry S. Truman affirmed U.S. support for the fledgling State of Israel. ...

“The great stain, never to be removed from the grim period of tyranny's bloody march from the 1930s through the mid-1940s, was the Holocaust. Adolf Hitler's manic ambition was to fashion a Third Reich - an empire free of Jews that would endure for 1,000 years. ... The grand design was a failure. And a remnant of Jewish people, survivors of the Nazis' shattered obsession to destroy them, began to go home - to a land awaiting them since the days of Moses and Joshua” [Israel My Glory May/June 2023 pg 33 by Elwood McQuaid].

*Ge 13:15 For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. ... Isa 60:21 Thy people also shall be all righteous: they shall inherit the land for ever, the branch of my planting, the work of my hands, that I may be glorified. ... Jer 7:7 Then will I cause you to dwell in this place, in the land that I gave to your fathers, for ever and ever.*

*“There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob: For this is my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins” (Rom.11).*

*Ps 122:6 Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: they shall prosper that love thee.*

An Essay for week #20 - May 14, 2023

A Journaled Israel Tour [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22) /[israel23](http://israel23)

## Msg #2321 God's Prophet n God's Timing

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.* (1Kngs.17:1).

Elijah (Hbrw – *Jehovah is God*) walks onto the page of our Bible with no introduction. He announces to King Ahab, who *did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him*, his call for judgment by his very own plan for “climate change.” Now, when a man wearing the title “*The LORD he is God*” opens his mouth to announce a judgment against a vile world that teaches in its K-12 schools that “Baal he is god”, that man puts a target on his back and needs a backup plan. Did Elijah have a backup plan? An escape strategy? An end game? Yes, he did. It was not written in his day planner. It was not all prearranged with ravines and widows. It was written down by a wise king one-hundred years earlier and it said this, “*Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.*” (Prov.3:5-6) I especially like verse two of our text. It seems Elijah is stepping out of Ahab's palace and looking for the next path to take, and voila he steps into 1Kngs.17:2.

Christian, you are wearing the title “Christ is in me” and you're charged to preach the gospel message “Only Jesus Saves” to a vile world that teaches in its K-12 schools that there is no God, and only government can save, ... save you from “climate change.” Christian, open your mouth and preach. Backup plan: “Trust in the Lord.”

An Essay for week #21 - May 21, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230521.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230521.mp3)

Have a Systematic Theology visit [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology)

## **Msg #2322 Satanic WOKEism.**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Elijah was on the lam (a phrase of unknown origin from the 1800s). When a vile decadent religion of Satanic origin gets the upper hand in a society, it tolerates no moral righteousness in its presence. It must root it out and destroy it. Baal was the hedonistic pagan male God who was supposed to control rain and fertility. His female accomplice named Astroth (called Ishtar by Assyrians, Astarte by Greeks, and Venus by Rome) united with Baal to form a morally rotten, violent, sensual, and cruel religion, which made immoral sex acts a religious exercise of fertility and climate change. In their K – 12 schools they taught, “Jehovah is dead!”, and people chanted “Baal, he is god, Baal he is god.” The man named after that chant, Ethbaal, used Baal WOKEism to control all the land of Tyre and Sidon, and his daughter, Jezebel, imported it wholesale into Israel!

God contended with Jezebel by sending his prophet, named “Jehovah is God” - Elijah, who said, “As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain... but according to my word!” (1Kngs.17:1). You can’t make this stuff up! Three-thousand years ago God wrote it down for our learning! We live in the same WOKE wicked world today! Now, when the brook Cherith dried up, God sends Elijah 100 miles right through the heart of Israel to the town of Zarepath, right next to Ethbaal’s home town of Sidon! There, by the word of God, and providence of God, despite her poverty, despite her circumstances, and because of her selflessness, a widow woman took the steps of obedience necessary to become a “give us this day, our daily bread” living legend. What could you become in a similar plight? Be obedient, God can use you.

An Essay for week #23 - May 28, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g230528.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/g230528.mp3)

A Journaled Israel Tour [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/israel22) /[israel23](http://israel23)

## Msg #2323 Watch Your Walk

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The apostle Paul writes to the Saints which are at Ephesus with three powerful explanations of: Our Position in Christ 1:3-3:21, Our Walk and Service 4:1-5:17, and Our Walk and Warfare 5:18-6:24. If you are not in position, God can save anybody: get in! (Eph2:1-10). For those IN Christ, concerning our walk and service, Paul beseeches us to walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called. In Christ, you have a new “vocation”, an occupation, an employment, a trade, a profession; you are a convert, a believer, a disciple, a Christian. Walk worthy of your vocation!

In the Bible election and callings have to do with service not salvation. There's a corporate calling for all to be saved, but once you are “IN” the Elect-One, you are elect and called to service, it's a vocation! The esteemed, John Calvin never got this right, and Calvinists are forever bungling around in error. So, how does a “Christian” (one IN-Christ, who acts like, looks like, smells like, talks like, thinks like, and reacts like Christ) how does he walk? *“With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love”* (Eph.4:2). But wait, there's more: *“Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace”*(vr.3). An endeavor is an effort, an attempt, a labor towards a goal. Unity will be an endeavoring! The modernist who said, “Don't let doctrine divide us, let the 'spirit' unite us,” mucked up a lot of Christian walk. Paul, here, gives seven unities to be kept in the bond of peace. You are remiss to throw them all out for some dangerous, charismatic little “s” “spirit.” All four attitudes of vr.2 need analyzed in my life, and all seven unities of vr.4-6 need bolstered with good doctrine. Let's get cracken.

An Essay for week #23 - Jun 4, 2023

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## Msg #2324 Refining Trials

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

*“And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman ... fell sick; and ... there was no breath left in him”*( 1Kings.17:17). Much is recorded about trials in life, nothing will help so much as the Bible. This woman knew trials, she had buried her husband, now her only son was dead. She was dead-center in the perfect will of God, harboring a fugitive, Elijah. Daily she witnessed a miracle of God to “give us this day our daily bread.” Now it came to pass after these things ... trial. Your age, young or old; you're standing in life, rich or poor; your spiritual maturity, great or small; none of these will exempt you from trials. Trials may be consequences for life, chastisements in life, or ... just God doing some refining. God never wastes an obscure detail, Zarephath was named after the refinery that was in town. The widow woman first lashed out at Elijah (vr.18). Elijah took the child to his room and privately lashed out at God (vr.20). Be sensitive to your conduct when a great fiery trial lands in your life. We can get better or we can, all too quickly, get bitter. The Bible is written so you'll know better than getting bitter. In this great trial Elijah prayed privately, sincerely, boldly, and specifically, and God answered. These busiest servants of God came through the refining trial and it produced life more abundant; it produced joy unspeakable and full of glory; it produced faith; it produced proof of a prophet's credentials; and it produced proof of the Word of God. Refining trials are precious and produce spiritual maturity in the spiritually mature. *“It is good for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes”* (Ps.119:71).

An Essay for week #24 - Jun 11, 2023

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## **Msg #2325 Walking United**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The apostle Paul writes to the Saints which are at Ephesus and uses three chapter divisions to explain the position we have in Christ, 1 1/2 to explain our walk and service, then 1 1/2 to explain our walk and warfare. We have looked at the vocation and walk, 4:1; the attitude of walk, 4:2; and the endeavoring to walk in unity, 4:3. As we endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit we are given seven notable areas where unity must be focused. The number 7, even from creation, is a number of completeness, and perfection. Our unity with other believers should be complete, and perfect. First there is 1) unity in one body, that body is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth (1Tim.3:15). Christ loves the church (Eph.5:25-26) and a Bible believer should love the church. It is the gathering together with other believers to rally and marinate in the truth. The body of Christ, the church, is organized and commissioned 5 times with its job; not to beg money, nor better society, nor drill wells, nor march on Washington; No,... It is to preach the gospel. America is laden with apostate churches that do not follow His Word and we are not to fellowship or unite with apostate churches. 2) There is to be a unity in Spirit. Do not let a little "s" spirit unite anything at the cost of doctrine, but let the capital "S" Spirit unite us in Bible doctrine. 3) We are to be united in Lordship salvation, 4) in one faith,... by grace, without works, 5) in one baptism, no water here, just complete immersion in Christ! Lastly 7) united in one God and Father of all, ... and IN you all. Let's get, ... united in Christ.

An Essay for week #25 - Jun 18, 2023

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## **Msg #2326 Not Another Obediah**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Obediah that did not write a prophecy book in the Bible was a governor of King Ahab's House; Ahab being the most vile, insolent, Baal worshiping king ever to sit on the throne of Israel. Obediah causes muddy consternation; as do many Christians in our day. In a parentheses the word of God says Obediah “feared the Lord greatly” (1Kings.18:3), but in his job description, and in his intercourse with God's Prophet Elijah, Obediah was a completely compromised disciple.

He had a high ranking position in a vile, God-hating government; he was searching for resources that would keep his vile king in military power; and he was a “has-been” who had once known truth and done right. Obediah knew Elijah, and when he called him “my lord”, Elijah corrects him, “Ahab is your lord.” When called to do a task, he responds, "What have I sinned?, And you want to slay me?" Obediah certainly did not know God, in his next breath he accuses God and Elijah of setting him up, trying to play a dirty, cruel trick on him. God is no trickster. Then Obediah pulls out his “what I used-to-do” argument. Obediah finally obeys the prophet of God, and then he disappears from the pages of our Bible never to be heard of again.

In our post-covid, perilous times, pre-tribulation world, there are a lot of Obediahs running to and fro. By the grace of God may I never be one. Ahab insisted that everyone worship his vile god, just as our present leadership insists we worship their vile gender denying inclusiveness, and their false god of climatechangology. Christians need to stand for truth and preach the gospel. He has given us a task to do, let's be about the Fathers business in these perilous times.

An Essay for week #26 - Jun 25, 2023

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## Msg #2327 Grace According to Measure

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In addressing a Believer's new walk, in our new “*vocation wherewith ye are called*”, Paul says, “*But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ*” (Eph 4:7). There is no mere measuring cup in this expression. It is not like he gives me a cup full of grace, gives you two cups full, and gives Joe Shmo five cups full. When God gives us grace, it is “*according to the measure of the gift of Christ.*” That measure of grace is immeasurable, it is all sufficient, it is unmerited even by definition. Paul stated it earlier, “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ*” (Eph.1:3). The Psalmist states it similarly, “*Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation. Selah*” (Ps.68:19).

There is a similar expression in John 3:34, “*For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.*” In this context the Holy Ghost was not given to Christ a little bit at a time, ... he had full and complete access. So it is for the Believer today, we have full access, that is why Jesus could say, “*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father*” (John.14:12). I can be as filled with God's Spirit as Christ was, IF I'd open my life and let him in. So to for God's grace, IF I'd ASK (Ask, Seek, Knock), dip in and take all I need.

An Essay for week #27 - Jul 2, 2023

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## Msg #2327a Ascending and Descending

What The Bible Says, Another of

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpits by Pastor Ed Rice

When describing the gifts given to men by God's grace, Paul adds an insightful parenthesis, *"(Now that he ascended, what is it but that he also descended first into the lower parts of the earth? 10 He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill all things)"* (Eph.4:9-10). In verse 8, Paul is roughly quoting Psalm 68:18 (When you are an Apostle writing under inspiration you can roughly quote anything you want, others, not so), but in the parenthesis he is addressing what a mediator must be able to do, ascending up to God, and descending down to man. Job puts it, *"For he is not a man, as I am, that I should answer him, and we should come together in judgment. 33 Neither is there any daysman betwixt us, that might lay his hand upon us both"* (Job.9:32-33). This ascending and descending of the Son of man is intriguing. It shows up in our salvation in Romans 10, *"... Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead)"* (Rom.10:6-7). And again in John 3, *"And no man hath ascended up to heaven, but he that came down from heaven, even the Son of man which is in heaven"* (John.3:13). And again in Agur's profound riddle, *"Who hath ascended up into heaven, or descended? who hath gathered the wind in his fists? who hath bound the waters in a garment? who hath established all the ends of the earth? what is his name, and what is his son's name, if thou canst tell?"* (Prov.30:4). God did. That's profoundly intriguing.

Another Essay for week #27 - Jul 2, 2023

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## Msg #2328 The Old Testament New Covenant

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

“Sixty-six books in the whole Bible, and I learned them all by heart” is a song we sang in junior church. If I listed the books here it would just be a cut and paste. My point is that Isaiah has sixty-six chapters, 39 in the old covenant, and 27 in the new covenant. That makes Isaiah chapter 40 the first chapter of the new covenant and marvelously it begins, “*Comfort ye, comfort ye, my people, saith your God*” (Isa.40:1). In the new covenant, there was to be a comforter! And there is! He is with us forever! (John.14:16). In the new covenant there was to be, “*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the LORD*” (Isa.40:3); John the Baptist did that! (Matt.3:3, Mark.1:3, Luke.3:4, John.1:6).

The voice cried “*all flesh is grass... The spirit of the LORD bloweth upon it, ... The grass withereth...*” (Isa.40:6–8), and “*the word was made flesh... And while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us*” (John.1:14, Rom.5:8). Zion and Jerusalem, where to lift up their voice with strength, and bring good tidings (Isa.40:9); and the church is commissioned to preach that gospel to every creature (Matt.28:14–28, Mark.16:15, Luke.24:46–48, John.20:21, Acts.1:8).

In the new covenant “*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young*” (Isa.40:11). And for that “*he gave some pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ*” (Eph.4:11–12).

If you are in the new covenant by grace through faith,... make sure you have a pastor. And guys, if you are a pastor, make sure you are a shepherd.

An Essay for week #28 - Jul 9, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230709.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230709.mp3)

## Msg #2329 America to see Fire from Heaven!

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

In 1Kings.18 Elijah, speaking to Israel, said, *“How long halt ye between two opinions? If the LORD (Jehovah) be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word”* (1Kings.18:21). Being familiar with the chapter we know there is a contest and in a 63 word prayer Elijah calls down fire from heaven. America is in a similar plight; she worships gods of evolution, climatechangeology, and sexual-perversion. No question, America needs to see fire called down from heaven. If she will see it, ... it will be seen the same way you and I see it, on the pages of God's Holy Word! Elijah shows it in 1Kings.18, but wait there's more. Sodomites can see it in Gen.19:24 (brimstone still extends 6 mi deep under the Dead Sea, the lowest point on earth!); Scoffers in 2Kings.1:10,12; Worshipers in 1Chron.21:27 and 2Chron.7:1. Misguided disciples can see it NOT in Luke.9:54-56.

Americans need to see God as their Creator. He made things reproduce after their kind, (Gen.1:11,12, 21,24,25,6:20,&7:14); dogs CANNOT reproduce Clydesdale horses, nor lizards bald eagles! A sunflower tracks the sun, because God created it that way!

The Climatechangeologist needs to see Isa.45:18,22, and Jer.10:12,13. In Luke 16 the rich man in hell said. *“I pray thee therefore, father, that thou would send (Lazarus) to my father's house... lest they also come into this place of torment, ... If one went unto them from the dead, they will repent”*(Luk.16:27-30). The Word of God said, *“If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead”* (Luk.16:31, cf 29). If America is to see fire, ... and truth, it will be seen in God's Holy Word; it is quick and powerful and sharper than any two edged sword.

An Essay for week #29 - Jul 16, 2023

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## **Msg #2330 False gods are False**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When Elijah set up the contest exposing false Baal worship, he put the 450 prophets of Baal in a quandary. In their House of Baal they had the means of “magically” bursting offerings into flames. Out here on the side of a mountain, with all eyes upon them, they could not use their veils and deceit, nor smoke and mirrors. “You-all go first ... But put no fire under your sacrifice!” said Elijah. (1Kngs.18:25). False gods are false.

Apocryphal books are hidden, rejected by Christ, and not inspired Scripture, but in “Bel and the Dragon” there is an interesting story about how Daniel exposed the lying deceiving prophets of the Chaldean false god, Bel.

Again false gods are false. They come from the father of liars. They cannot survive scrutiny; they cannot exist under truthful testing. They must forbid honest examination; they brazenly silence and censor all descent, else they be exposed as liars.

Presently, progressive liberals are using a Marxist playbook to destroy American society, all so they can build it back socialist and communist. Open the borders, generate civil and moral unrest, destroy the oil industry, and pretend it is all for justice and to save the planet from climate change. Cidiots are enthusiastic believers, supposing we can run our world on batteries, solar cells, and windmills; none of which have a life expectancy to even pay for themselves. It's all built on lies, deceit, and censorship. The Lord shall have them in derision, (Ps.2) ... In the meantime, Christians need to be about their Father's business, and preach the gospel to every creature. We are in the last of the last days, the pretribulation rapture will be in post-perilous times. Be a preacher of righteousness, as things fall into place for the Revelation of Jesus Christ.

An Essay for week #30 - Jul 23, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230723.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230723.mp3)



## Msg #2331 Keep Your Vision in Ministry

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When a Pastor fails in leadership, he becomes simply a church caretaker. When he wearies of that, he becomes a church undertaker. That is all too common in these post-COVID perilous times we live in. To stay off that trek Pastor Clark, at a 2023 NE Vision Summit, gave seven things a minister must keep alive and viable. First, never lose your **vision**, your dream, your goals in the ministry. Keep them active, updated, alive, and current. Up front the apostle Paul writes to Timothy, *“I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry”* (1Tim.1:12). Word the reason you are in the ministry, a ministry of reconciliation, and give thanks you are in it.

Elijah called down fire from heaven, never lose the **fire** of ministry. *“His word was in my heart as a burning fire ... Is not my word like a fire?”* (Jer.20:9, 23:29). Never lose the **“awe”** of ministry, nor the **zeal** of ministry. *“The joy of the Lord is your strength... I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth”*; never lose the **joy** of ministry (Neh.8:10, 3John.1:4).

Don't lose the **love** of the ministry or your love in the ministry: love people, love souls, love being a minister of reconciliation (2Cor.5:18). Don't lose your **burden** of ministry. The Old Testament closes with, *“The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi”*; the New Testament opens with *“My yoke is easy, and my burden is light”* (Matt.11:30); preach the gospel, be a soul winner. You might get weary “in” the ministry, but these seven things can help that you never get weary “of” the ministry; *“in due season we shall reap, if we faint not”* (Gal.6:9).

An Essay for week #31 - Jul 30, 2023

The NE Vision Summit explored at <https://northeastvision.org/>

View the Summit at Northeast Vision youtube Channel

## Msg #2332 Logistics, Locations, and Lights

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The hand of God left Gideon camped beside the well of Harod with three hundred men and a host of logistic problems (Judg.7:1-6). While sending *all the rest of Israel every man unto his tent, and retaining those three hundred men* (vr.8), I would have used Amazon to order up three-hundred empty pitchers and cute little oil lamps; “Lets try for overnight delivery.” Truth is, the three hundred came with their own food and trumpets and Gideon scrounged up empty pitchers and lamps. Joe Shmo said, “Why did I get this grubby ugly water hauling pitcher, and Dr. Capable over there has that ornate, gold trimmed, up for show pitcher?” Gideon responds, “Never mind the type of empty pitcher you have, it is just an empty pitcher, and it is to be broken anyway!” Joe goes on with his lament, “Well, why do I have to stand up on the edge of this obscure steep hillside while I. M. Somebody gets to guard that roadway towards the main mountain pass?” Gideon responds, “Those grasshoppers need to be completely surrounded by light, never mind the empty pitcher type, never mind the obscure location you are at, just break your pitcher, hold up the Light, and sound off with your trumpet!”

Break your vessel where God puts you, hold up the Light where you are at, sound out on that trumpet that you have, blast it as long and as hard as you can, and let God do his perfect work. Obedience is the very best way, to show that you believe. I have often left a conference, come to our two story, 100 max occupancy brick school house, and felt a twinge of discouragement. Pastor Shirley's parting NE Vision Summit message on Gideon, completely alleviated that tendency on 27 July.

An Essay for week #32 - Aug 6, 2023

The NE Vision Summit explored at <https://northeastvision.org/>

View the Summit at Northeast Vision youtube Channel

## Msg #2333 In the Beginning God, Day 1 - Sunday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Believing in the Bible's verbal inspiration, inerrancy, and infallibility requires believing God's account of his six-day creation and the seventh day of rest. Accepting any minute shred of man's evolutionary hypothesis requires that God's Holy Word is somehow deceptive. On Sunday, the first day of this universe's existence, God created, out of nothing, a finite time, space, and matter continuum. He carefully words that in the first sentence of the Holy Bible. All three continua have three dimensions, are inner dependent, and must coexist. The “earth” or “dirt” was not a planet, it was without form. He also reveals that this “matter” was void of all visible construct, massive, and dark, in his second sentence. The formless, void, dark, mass of matter, takes on form, i.e. hydrogen atoms clinging to oxygen atoms with covalent bonds of energy, when “*the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.*”

In the third verse of the Holy Bible the dark lifeless mass of created matter bursts with newly created energy spanning a visible spectrum in colors of Red, orange, yellow; Green; Blue, indigo, and violet, in wavelengths of 400 to 700 nanometers, but also extending deep into infrared, microwave, and radio waves, and far into ultraviolet, X-ray, and Gamma ray electromagnetic radiation. It seems that all seven of these categories of electromagnetic radiation were created when God said, “Let there be light.”

There is no room for artificial gaps in God's accounting here, nor for fictional millions of years. God clearly clarifies in verse 4 and 5 that there was soon to be, coming up on Tuesday in fact, an evening and a morning, and that this here was only the first day of his creation. We can hardly wait to see his Monday's verbally inspired accounting in our next week's lesson.

An Essay for week #33 - Aug 13, 2023

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See [www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day\\_creation\\_dissertation.pdf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf)

## Msg #2333 Appendix Heaven NOT Heavens

*In the beginning God created the heaven (<08064>singular?) and the earth.*

בְּרָאִשׁוּיַת בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

The first seven words of the Holy Bible declare that, in a finite time continuum, God created a finite space continuum, and a finite matter continuum. The three finite continua are interdependent and interconnected, and, consequently, were created together, and they only exist together. The three continua are per se three dimensional with time's past, present and future, space's up, north and east, and matter's solid, liquid and gas.

In error modernist ecumenical “scholars” suppose that God created the heavens, plural, because their small finite minds have discerned three of them; where birds fly, where stars fly, and where God sits. In their modernist ecumenical copyright bibles they put in what they suppose God meant to say, with heaven plural instead of singular. They even try to justify their twisting of this verse by saying, “In the Hebrew, the word for 'heaven' is plural.”

In error they also suppose that “*the earth*” in this verse is a planet; yet God does not make planet Earth until the third day (Gen.1:9).

Do not be deceived by these modernist ecumenical “scholars”. In this verse both heaven, and God, are in the singular, even though they are masculine plural Hebrew nouns. One needs to learn a little Hebrew to unravel their lie and see how they twist Scripture.

In Hebrew, and often in English, whether a noun is plural or singular is determined by vowel sounds; i.e. men vs man. But the Hebrew alphabet has no visible vowels, standardized vowel markings were added to the manuscripts in the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. The preacher that says heaven is plural in the Hebrew text does not know what he is saying. Heaven and God are plural nouns because they end in “ym”. In Hebrew masculine singular nouns have no special endings,

but plural (2 or more) nouns end with םַ (i ym) and the dual (2 only, no more) nouns end with םַׁ (ai ym). Notice here that even the plural and dual nouns are only differentiated by vowel markings (the ending proceeded by an “i” sound vs an “ai” sound).

In God's first sentence, one would have no more cause to make heaven plural, than to make God plural, i.e. “In the beginning gods created the heavens.” Just because *Elohim* (God) is a plural noun, that does not mean it is used in the plural every time it is used by God (*Elohim*). And just because *Shamayim* (Heaven) is a plural-dual noun, that does not mean it is used in the plural every time it is used by God (*Elohim*). Indeed, every time *Shamayin* (Heaven) is used in Genesis 1 it is used in the singular; the first occurrence of *Shamayin* (Heaven) in the plural occurs in Genesis 2:1, “*Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them.*” In the Hebrew Bible it is then used in the plural in 107 other verses. They are so translated in the Authorized King James Bible. It is anybody's guess what you'll get in any modernist ecumenical copyright bible.

So, when God said,

*In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.*

בְּרָאִישׁוּת בְּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ:

He said what he meant and meant what he said. Therein the Holy Bible declares that in a finite time continuum, God created a finite space continuum, and a finite matter continuum. “*Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth*” (2Tim.2:15).

## Msg #2334 In the Beginning God, Day 2 - Monday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

God's Monday of creation does not invoke a lot of excitement in many people. In his Sunday account God used seven Hebrew words to tell how he made three-dimensional time, space, and matter out of nothing. Now on Monday all he does is insert a firmament between two layers of water! Monday is the only day of creation with no "It was good" exclamation. This so depressed Scofield and Larkin that they force-fit a gargantuan gap of geological fiction to account for their imagined age of rocks! In the Holy Bible God means what he says, and says what he means. On Monday there are no rocks, ... only water. And now there is a "*firmament*" between the water above and the water below. "*Firmament*" is an interesting matter, and "*Matter*" is an interesting thing. Daniel Webster's 1828 describes firmament well, and high school chemistry describes matter well. A dome or region of expanse, is used 17 times in the Hebrew and King-James Bible; five times on God's Monday! It behooves a Bible student to research them all.

The building block for all Matter is the hydrogen atom. Picture a volleyball smashed tight into a soccer ball with a single #8 shotgun BB swirling around them like an angry honey bee. That's a hydrogen atom; a Neutron, a Proton, and an angry Electron. With a massive energy surge smash eight of these atoms into one atom, that's Oxygen. It would have eight angry BBs buzzing around it, but they are happiest in a group of 10, so it bonds with two hydrogen atoms and, voila, we have an H<sub>2</sub>O water molecule. For those of us who loved high school chemistry, God's Monday is a very big deal containing nothing but water and firmament, and light left over from Sunday.

An Essay for week #34 - Aug 20, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230820.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230820.mp3)  
See [www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day\\_creation\\_dissertation.pdf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf)

## Msg #2335 In the Beginning God, Day 3 - Tuesday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

When one understands that God means what he says, and says what he means, the first Tuesday of his universe dawns with no planet, no land, rock, or dirt. On this Tuesday morning, he “*gathers together unto one place*” the waters that were under the firmament positioned the day before. This fits the first appearance of gravity, and consequently, Tuesday is the first appearance of what we would call a planet, i.e. Planet Earth. Only now does God cause “*dry land to appear*” and form the seas. “*And it was so ... And God saw that it was good*” (Gen.1:9-10).

Recall on Sunday, the first day of the universe's existence, the Spirit of God moved upon matter, and there was water, i.e. H<sub>2</sub>O - two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. On Monday he arranged the water strategically, and now, on Tuesday, he accounts for “dry land” i.e. dirt, rock, and the other minerals. To make dry land appear, we have discovered that God would use the hydrogen atom, described earlier as a neutron stuck to a proton orbited by an electron (modeled as a soccerball stuck to a volleyball and circled by a very angry BB). Man can now change matter into energy, but only God can change energy into matter. Hydrogen atoms are compacted together in larger and larger numbers to form more and more elements. The periodic table you threw away after High School shows how elements change characteristics as an increasing number of hydrogen atoms get crammed together. These elements now combine into molecules, dirt, with even more exotic characteristics. One could Google the Empirical Formula of clay and be impressed, and one should trust God's Word about his first Tuesday, ... and be a believer. “*And God saw that it was good.*”

An Essay for week #35 - Aug 27, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230827.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230827.mp3)  
On FB <https://www.facebook.com/anchorbaptistmassillon/videos/801802101741693>

## Msg #2336 In the Beginning God, Tuesday Afternoon

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

It seems to me like God had a lite Monday, on the second day of creation, so he double down on his first Tuesday. He formed gravity and the first planet (Earth) with land and sea, he saw that it was good, and then, in verse 11, he pressed on to fill the land with plant life. This is God's first creation of living cells. There are seven elements essential in constructing these (C,H,N,O,P,S,& Ca) and there are seven categories that naturally define all living things (Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species from Ken Plays Chess On Friday Getting Suspended). In God's creation of plant life, he declared three times in two verses that plants only reproduce "*after their kind*". No plants, or other created living things, ever reproduce outside of their Kingdom Phylum Class Order Family Genus. They reproduce "*after their kind*" as is emphatically called out 28 times in the Holy Bible. Ninety percent of my community-college freshman algebra students believed if you bred beagles long enough, you'd get a Clydesdale horse! Honest! They were taught that in K-12 and they just believed their public school teachers! Those lies, taught by teachers and professors, account for much of the moral decline in America. "*Let God be true and every man a liar*" (Rom.3:4), living things reproduce "*after their kind!*" God says so and evolution is a bold face lie. Throw it in with global warming, climate change, and transgenderism. When God says, he created our world, this whole universe, in six days and rested on the seventh, trust him on it. Science supports everything he said. On Tuesday he made this planet and put plants on it, and two times on Tuesday he says, "*And God saw that it was good.*" Trust him.

An Essay for week #36 - Sep 3, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230903.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs230903.mp3)  
See [www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day\\_creation\\_dissertation.pdf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf)



## Msg #2337 In the Beginning God, Day 4 - Wednesday

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As the fourth day of this universe dawned there was no sun, moon, or stars to divide the day from the night. There was a singular, solitary “planet”, the focus of all of God's creative energies, which hung upon nothing and orbited nothing. Holy, inspired, inerrant Scripture, preserved for 3,500 years now, reports, “*He stretches out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing*” (Job 26:7).

On this first Wednesday, “*God said, let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years: ... And God set them in the firmament of the heaven to give light upon the earth*” (Gen.1:14,17). The “lesser light to rule the night” could capture our attention. God created seven planets set in orbit around the sun, and our moon set in orbit around our Earth. The Earth took its place in the third orbit, and lesser minds that care, remember planet names in the sentence, “*Mary's Velvet Eyes Make John Stay Up Nights ... Proposing.* (Proposing was determined to be a dwarf cluster of rocks and lost its standing, i e truly there were seven “other” planets in God's Wednesday creation.)

The orbiting planets are in a plane, still hung upon nothing, and North still stretches out over the empty place. Uranus takes 84 years to orbit the Sun and spins backward because God has a global sense of humor. Neptune has a “year” that is 165 Earth years long, and was proven to exist mathematically before it was seen in a very large telescope. Five planets are visible with the naked eye. Before the invention of TV mankind watched them at night. Venus is called a Morning-Star.

An Essay for week #37 - Sep 10, 2023

Revival Service in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio)

See [www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day\\_creation\\_dissertation.pdf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf)

## Msg #2338 The Firmament Sheweth His Handiwork

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Our universe is finite. Our God, who is infinite, states it clearly when on day four of creation he places our solar system, and all the created stars of heaven, inside of the firmament that he created on day two. Thus the firmament that holds God's line, "*He made the stars also*" (Gen.1:16 b), contains all of the known and bounded universe. We now know that there are millions of galaxies, and each galaxy has millions of stars. Each galaxy also has a "black-hole" left over from its creation out of nothing. It is no wonder that God said through his Psalmist, "*The firmament sheweth his handiwork*" (Ps.19:1).

Albert Einstein showed us that matter is made of nothing, just as God said. Albert's theory of relativity, both special relativity and general relativity, show that in a finite universe the time, space, and matter continua are so interconnected and interdependent that the speed of light, and the passage of time, are not constant throughout God's firmament. In God's time scale a day is as a thousand years (Ps.90:4,2Pet.3:8), that's a 365,000-to-1 time-warp! In God's firmament it could well be that the supernova seen and recorded in the Large Magellanic Cloud on 23 February 1987 occurred only 168 days before it was seen and recorded here on Earth. I would sooner trust God than "*science falsely so called*" which supposes it was 162,000 years before God created the stars! Their "*science*" also supposes that cross breeding beagles can produce a Clydesdale Horse! Lizards, a bald eagle!

When you trust God for your soul's salvation, you can trust him with ancillary revelation about how he created our finite universe. John Stockton sang, ♪*Only trust him, only trust him now. He will save you, he will save you now.*♪

An Essay for week #38 - Sep 17, 2023

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More Time-Warp detail on web page click "My Doctoral Dissertation" see pg 49  
[www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day\\_creation\\_dissertation.pdf](http://www.gsbaptistchurch.com/seminary/dissertation/6day_creation_dissertation.pdf)

## Msg #2339 Thursday Day 5 The Father's Business

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

As morning dawned on the first Thursday of all creation, Earth saw its first sunrise. That first ever in the universe sunrise was accompanied by whales blowing and birds singing. God says what he means and means what he says. And on the fifth day he wrote that he said,

*“Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the open firmament of heaven. <sup>21</sup> And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good”* (Gen.1:20-21).

For the Bible believer NASA spending billions on OSIRIS-REx to probe an asteroid, and researches spending millions researching retrieved dirt in an effort to discover how life originated, is MUTE. God spoke. That is why we call it a Uni-Verse, his Word spoke it into existence. Only believe.

Yesteryear Nye, deGrasse, and Maher collaborated to put Bible believing parents in jail for child abuse! In this evil day Bible believers need to collaborate to be about their Father's business. That evil trio were not condemned for collaborating such trite, mankind is condemned already!

*“For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. <sup>18</sup> 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. ... <sup>36</sup> 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”* (Jhn.3:17-18, 36)

Preach that Gospel to every creature.

An Essay for week #39 - Sep 24, 2023

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## Msg #2340 Come Up Hither

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Believers will hear a voice, as it were of a trumpet talking, saying "Come up hither," and in the twinkling of an eye, we will be caught up together in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air (Rev.4:1, 1Cor.15:52,1Thes.4:17). He will transport us to a throne set in heaven where the one sitting is to look upon as jasper. There's a rainbow round about the throne, in sight like an emerald (Rev.4:2-3).

With our eyes we have read the Apostle John's four Bible books where he writes "*the things which thou hast seen.*" With an ear to hear we have read two chapters containing seven messages to seven churches, "*the things which are.*" If you have a mind to read of "*the things which must be hereafter*" the events begin to unfold from that throne room, and are recorded for believers in The Revelation of Jesus Christ, chapters 4 thru 22. But first revel long before that throne, clothed in white raiment, with a crown of gold. Observe the lightnings, thunderings, voices, seven lamps of fire, and the sea of glass. Hear the speech of four beautiful-beasts before the Lord God Almighty, which was, and is, and is to come. Fall down and worship him that liveth forever and ever; cast off the crown and say, "*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). Spend some hours in that throne room. Observe all. In the right hand of him sitting on the throne is a book sealed with seven seals. Don't start picking at seals till you have wept much, and understood a little. Only one is worthy to open the title-deed-book and take ownership of this world.

An Essay for week #40 - Oct 1, 2023

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## Msg #2341 The Earth's Tital Deed

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

Much has been speculated about the seven sealed book of Revelation Chapter 5, but nothing more visibly clarifies the whole Revelation of Jesus Christ than understanding that this seven sealed book is the title deed to the Earth. No one is worthy to open the book except the Lion that was first a Lamb. The seven seals on the book are things necessary to set the stage for its opening, the seven trumpets are things that announce and warn of the upcoming calamities, then the seven vials of the wrath of God are poured out on this rebellious world when her King comes to take possession. Chapter 16 lists all the vials and man's rebellious response, *“and men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God, and they gnawed their tongues for pain, and blaspheme the God of heaven, and repented not of their deeds”* (Rev.16:9-11). As the seals open, when the great tribulation begins, there is a *“great multitude, which no man could number”* who become believers, and are *“clothed with white robes”* (Rev.7:9). These are all *“slain for the word of God, and the testimony which they held”*(6:9-10). One can be saved now, and live for Christ, or be saved then, and die for Christ.

We live in “perilous times” (2Tim.3:1-4); and Jesus says that there is coming a time for this rebellious world, *“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). If you are saved in accordance with John 3:17 and 18, you should be about your Father's business (Acts.1:8). If you are are not saved, it is better now than later, when the One World government has taken over, ... and way better now than never! (Mark.9:42-48).

An Essay for week #41 - Oct 8, 2023

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Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231008.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231008.mp3)

## Msg #2341b Daniel's Dream and The Little Horn

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The visions of Daniel explained in his seventh chapter capture all seven of the upcoming world kingdoms: Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Revived Roman, The Abomination of Desolation, and Messianic Kingdom. All are written in a revelation where Daniel was given *“the truth of all this ... and the interpretation of the things”* (Dan.7:16). Consequently, in Bible imagery “beasts” are empowered men, who rule world empires. The careful student of Bible prophecy knows some things about the Revived Roman Empire and it's “ten horns” (Dan.7:7,20,24, Rev.12:3, 13:1, 17:3,7,12,16). These ten horns are the ten toes destroyed by the *“Stone cut out without hands”* (Dan.2:34-35,42-44). Nebuchadnezzar's dream about the toes, recorded in Daniel 2, *“is certain and the interpretation thereof sure”* (2:45).

Make no mistake here, the sixth kingdom, ruled by the Abomination of Desolation, is not ruled by ten kings, they are upstaged by *“The Little Horn”* of Dan.7:8; called *“The King of Fierce Countenance”* of Dan.8:23; called *“The Prince that shall come”* of Dan.9:26; called *“The King that exalts himself”* of Dan.11:36; called *“The Abomination that maketh desolate”* of Daniel 12:11; also called *“The Man of sin”* of 2Thes.2:4-8; and *“The Beast from the sea with ten horns and seven heads”* of Rev.13:1.

Many have misnomered this “beast”, the empowered man who will rule the one world government in a new world order and strive to stamp out Israel, calling him “Anti-Christ,” but there are many anti-christs, there is only one *“Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel the prophet,”* and Jesus says, *“who so readeth, let him understand.”* There will be a one world system, with one dreadful world leader, just as Bible prophecy clarifies. But believers are not looking for him, we are looking for *“the Lord himself descending from heaven with a shout”* (1Thes.4:16-18).

Another Essay for week #41 - Oct 8, 2023

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## Msg #2342 The Whore, The Beast, and the Ten Kings

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Revelation of Jesus Christ is not allegorical, it is sometimes metaphorical, but God says what he means and means what he says. The accounts of the seven seals, the seven trumpets, and the seven vials are intermittently interrupted with what have been called seven parentheticals. The last one describes a great whore riding on a scarlet colored beast (17:1-4). Britannica says ancient Rome was the city built on seven hills, and that accords with *“the seven mountains on which the woman sitteth”* (17:9). The Holy Roman Catholic Church herself (which is not holy nor catholic), trying to claim Peter's first epistle addressed Rome, and Peter as their first pope, they, ignorant of the Revelation of Jesus Christ, ironically assigned themselves the title “Mystery Babylon.” However the shoe-fits, the woman is a one world religion, and the beast, a one world government. The beast is the abomination of desolation (Mat.24:15, Rev.13:1-2). The ten kings which *“have one mind and shall give their power and strength unto the beast”*(17:13), *“these shall hate the whore and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire. For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled* (17:16-17).

Students of this parenthetical keep supposing who the ten kings might be, but all of us can safely suppose three things that the apostle John knew; 1) the words of God shall be fulfilled (17:17) and 2) *“the woman is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth”* (17:18), and 3) *these shall make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb, the Lord of lords and King of kings, shall overcome them”* (17:14). Praise his Holy Name.

An Essay for week #42 - Oct 15, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231015.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231015.mp3)

## Msg #2342b The Seventieth Week for Israel

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The greatly beloved Daniel understood by books that the seventy-year Babylonian captivity was closing, he prayed, and Gabriel came to him to give him “*skill and understanding*” (Dan.9:22). Gabriel said, “*Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people (Israel) and upon thy holy city (Jerusalem)*” (9:21-24). A Bible student discerns that these are weeks-of-years, that sixty-nine of them are accounted for in verses 25-26, and that the “one week” spoken of in verse 27 is a seven year period wherein there “*shall be great tribulation, such as was not seen from the beginning of the world*” (Matt.24:21). Further in verse 27 it is clear that the “he” that “*shall make it desolate*” is the abomination of desolation of Matt.24:15, the beast to rise up out of the sea of Rev.13:1, AND the scarlet colored beast, full of names of blasphemy of Rev.17:3. “He” shall make war with the Lamb, and we know how that will end (Rev.19).

What Gabriel said would be done for Israel and Jerusalem after seventy-weeks is critical: *1) to finish the transgression. 2) to make an end of sin, 3) to make reconciliation for iniquity, 4) to bring in everlasting righteousness, 5) to seal up the vision and prophecy, and 6) to anoint the most Holy.*

When the apostle John writes in the Revelation of Jesus Christ “*the things which shall be here after*” (1:19, cf. Chap.4-19) it is all about Israel and their 70th week. Miss that and you are missing the heart of Biblical prophecy, and the heart of God. When a church misses that, they are apostate. Israel is presently in a war of Biblical proportion, those siding with Hamas or Palestinians are pitted directly against the LORD God of Israel. And we know how that will end.

Another Essay for week #42 - Oct 15, 2023

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## **Msg #2343 Best Way to Enter the Millennial Kingdom**

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The very best way to enter into the Millennial Kingdom is to be in an incorruptible body (1Cor.15:52, 1Thes.4:16-17), and riding in with Christ (Rev.19:14), to reign with him a thousand years (Rev.20:6). But if you are unsaved (Jhn.3:17-18), and miss the rapture of the church, you could still get in as a plebeian living in your corruptible body. To do that you will need to survive the Great Tribulation where 1/3 of the world's population is destroyed three times; leaving about 2 billion of the 8. Then you will need to make it through the Battle of Armageddon, where, if you are a conscript in any nation's army, you die, if you receive the mark of the beast, you die, and if you worship his image, you die (Rev.19:19-21). If you become a follower of the Lamb through all this, and an innumerable number do (Rev.7:9-10), you will be a martyr, killed by the whore that sits on the beast (Rev.17:1-6, 6:9-10). Followers of the Lamb, you see, are beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and they enter the kingdom with incorruptible bodies, as part of the first resurrection (Rev.20:4).

So as a plebeian, in a physical body, the odds of you stepping into the Millennial Kingdom of Christ are very slim. If you do get there you will see Isaiah 4 fulfilled for Israel, the lion lay down with a lamb (Isa.11:6), and the river flowing out of the temple of God in Jerusalem (Ezk.47), which brings life, and a great multitude of fish, to the Dead Sea! (47:8-9).

With the war in Israel we are on the cusp of WWII! Be saved (Jhn3:16-18) before Christ comes FOR his saints (1Thes.4:16), enter the Kingdom when he comes riding WITH his saints (Rev.19:14).

An Essay for week #43 - Oct 22, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231022.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231022.mp3)

See Eschatology Volume at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/theology)

Msg #2344  
What The Bible Says  
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #44 - Oct 29, 2023  
Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231029.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231029.mp3)

Msg #2345  
What The Bible Says  
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #45 - Nov 5, 2023  
Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231105.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231105.mp3)

Msg #2346  
What The Bible Says  
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #46 - Nov 12, 2023  
Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231112.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231112.mp3)

Msg #2347  
What The Bible Says  
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #47 - Nov 19, 2023  
Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231119.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231119.mp3)

Msg #2348  
What The Bible Says  
Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #48 - Nov 26, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231126.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231126.mp3)

Msg #2349

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible

An Essay for week #49 - Dec 3, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231203.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231203.mp3)

Msg #2350

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible

An Essay for week #50 - Dec 10, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231210.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231210.mp3)

Msg #2351

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible

An Essay for week #51 - Dec 17, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231217.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231217.mp3)

Msg #2352

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

The Bible

An Essay for week #52 - Dec 24, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231224.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231224.mp3)

Msg #2301

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #1 - Dec 31, 2023

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231231.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs231231.mp3)

Msg #2302

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #2 - Jan 7, 2024

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240107.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240107.mp3)

Msg #2303

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #3 - Jan 14, 2024

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240114.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240114.mp3)

Msg #2304

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #4 - Jan 21, 2024

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240121.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240121.mp3)

Msg #2305

What The Bible Says

Good Samaritan's Penny Pulpit by Pastor Ed Rice

## The Bible

An Essay for week #5 - Jan 28, 2024

Msg in audio at [www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240128.mp3](http://www.GSBaptistChurch.com/audio/gs240128.mp3)



**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 from 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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