

The Trumpet

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



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Pastor's Pen

In the old days of underwater diving, the diver's only connection to the world above the waterline was an air hose hooked to an air pump. While the diver worked below the surface, an individual was assigned to watch the pump. His job was to make sure the pump stayed working and that a constant air supply was delivered to the diver. If the post was left unattended then the diver was at great risk. If the pump quit working or malfunctioned in some way, then the airflow to the diver was cut off. The man at the pump had a menial job but a critical task. The underwater diver had a glamorous position, but the one watching the pump had a more important role.

Many of us are called by God to watch the pump. It may not be as high profile or as glamorous as what others are called to do, but it is no less important. Satan desires to discourage you with a feeling of insignificance. He would love to frustrate you with the impression you are unimportant. He may even use others to do his dirty work. Let me encourage you; whether you've been called to be the diver or to work the pump, you are equally important in the family of God. We are reminded, *“The body is not one member, but many... whether one member suffers, all members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all members rejoice with it.”* (I Corinthians 12:14; 26)

There is another truth to be gleaned from this illustration; it concerns how God deals with us individually. Sometimes He asks us to go into the water. When He does, rest assured he has someone positioned at the pump to insure your life's connection is not lost. So, when you need encouragement there will be someone to

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encourage you. When you need your faith strengthened, there is someone out there that God has directed to come along side you to help meet that need. When like Moses you need someone to help hold your arms up, God will send an Aaron and a Hur along. The other side of this truth is that sometimes God asks us to be the pump man. When he does, we need to be diligent about manning our post. To abandon it or not show up in the first place would deprive a fellow believer significant and needed support at a critical time.

Remember; whether a diver or a pump operator, God has a place of service for you. *“But now God hath set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.”* (I Cor. 12:18)

Happy in His service,
Pastor Jim

Source for article: *Sermon Illustrations*

Trustees Report

The trustees for First Southern Baptist Church are Vincent Brooks chairman, John Crowe and Dave Ellis. The trustees serve the church as legal representatives in all transactions related to the church. They hold legal title to the church property and sign all documents related to the purchase, sale and mortgaging or rental of church property after approval by the church in regular or called business meetings. This means that they are only occasionally called upon to serve, but are prepared to do so as needed.

Vincent Brooks,
Chairman

Worship Services

At 9:30 a.m. First Southern begins its Sunday worship with a full Sunday school program. There are classes for all ages including adults. Morning worship is at 11:00 a.m. Discipleship training is at 5:30 p.m. on Sundays and prayer meeting is at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child is a ministry formed by Franklin Graham that takes Christmas gifts and the Gospel to underprivileged children all over the world. We are collecting items to fill shoeboxes in November. Each month we will highlight a different item to bring in. But, please remember we will take all types of donations at any time! For July please bring in school supplies.



Putting on the Full Armor of God

Apologetics - From Bob Neubauer

The Importance of Essentials

All doctrine is important but all doctrine is not equally important. Not believing in the deity of Christ means you are not a Christian. In John 8:27 Jesus said, “Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins, for unless you believe I am He, you will die in your sins.” Doctrines such as the trinity, the deity of Christ and justification by faith alone must be believed for one to be a Christian. There are doctrines which while important allow for disagreement among believers. The most common of these is baptism. The church has long been divided over the mode of baptism and which persons are to be baptized. As Baptists, we certainly believe that baptism is only for professing believers and that full immersion is the proper mode. Nevertheless, we would not condemn Presbyterians to hell because they sprinkle or because they baptize infants. It is interesting that the Westminster Confession and the London Baptist Confession say essentially the same thing on the subject.

Not only do we recognize Presbyterians, Lutherans and others as Christian, we fellowship with them. However, someone who holds to infant baptism may not be a member in a Baptist church nor should a Baptist join a paedobaptist church. So, your view of baptism is still very important though not determinative of your salvific state.

Here’s a question. Is it possible for a person to not hold inerrancy and still be a Christian? In my opinion yes, it is. But not holding to inerrancy will have a huge negative impact on their lives as Christians. It will be much easier for that individual to be led astray on various secondary doctrines, though if a person is truly Christian he or she cannot reject the most essential truths of the faith. For a denomination to reject inerrancy has historically been the start of its downfall. And certainly many of the individuals who reject inerrancy are not Christians.

One essential doctrine you often hear questioned is the Trinity. Unitarians, those who deny the tri-unity of God, are not Christians. God has eternally existed in three coequal, coeternal persons. The Holy Spirit is a person not a force. *While they were ministering to the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them”* (Acts 13:2). It is a serious error to refer to the Holy Spirit as “it.” One of the difficulties in understanding the trinity is the different roles each member takes in salvation. So, the role of the second person is less than that of the first in salvation. As Jesus said, *the Father is greater than I* (John 14:28). However, since each person of the trinity is God and there is only one God none of the three can inherently be greater or lesser than the other.

Not only must the deity of Jesus must be held by all true believers, His humanity must also be embraced. Jesus is one person with two natures. When the second person of the trinity took on a human nature He did not give up His deity. He did set aside some of His divine prerogatives during His humility, but not His divinity. It was necessary for Christ to be fully man so as the last Adam (I Corinthians 15:45) He could live the perfect life that the first Adam failed to do. It is critical to affirm that the second person of the Trinity has always been God. The Council of Nicaea (325 A.D.) was adamant in declaring that there was never a time when He was not! The phrase “there was a time when the Son was not” was used by Arius and his followers in their denial of the full deity of Christ.

Of course, there is no more essential doctrine than that of justification by faith alone. Some groups affirm justification by faith, but leave out the word alone. Roman Catholicism, for example, affirms the need for faith when it comes to justification, but denies the sufficiency of faith. There is, we must hasten to add, no merit in our faith. It is the means God uses to join us to the merit obtained by the Lord Jesus. Yes, truth faith will result in good works, will result in the changed life. But, the good works and the changed life contribute nothing to our right standing before God. As the song says, “He is all my righteousness, I stand alone in Him...” Not all rejection of this doctrine is blatant. As believers, trying to make up for sins with our good deeds is a more subtle and prevalent problem. The apostle John declares that we are to confess our sins, not to try to make up for our failings. Nothing can make us more righteousness than the work of our Lord and Savior. When we believe in Christ the Father declares us righteous by reckoning the merits of the Lord Jesus to our account. What we receive is both Christ’s passive obedience (His dying on the cross for our sins) and His active obedience (His sinless life). Jesus not only never sinned, He also achieved positive righteousness in all that He did. The first Adam was created without sin, but he never achieved positive righteousness. This means our justification, because it is all that Christ obtained, is not “just as if I never sinned.” Though we are declared righteous, we are nevertheless still sinners – *Simul Justus et peccator* (simultaneously just and sinner) is an expression made famous by Martin Luther. One reason we long to be home with the Lord is that then we will finally be free from sin – no longer in fact able to sin – a glorious day indeed. The words Paul wrote say everything we’ve written about this most crucial doctrine better, Titus 3:4-7 “*But when the kindness of our God and Savior and His love for mankind appeared, He saved us not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by His grace we would be made heirs according to the hope of eternal life.*”

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 3 Offices closed—No MDO
- 4 Independence Day – No MDO – Offices closed
- 5 Prayer Meeting (6:30 p.m.)
- 8 Men’s Ministry Barbecue (10:30 a.m.)
- 9 Potluck Picnic Fellowship (12:30 p.m.)
- 9 PWPL Bottles due back
- 12 Maintenance Committee Meeting (7:30 p.m.)
- 15 All Church Work Day (8:00 a.m.)
- 22 Ladies’ Bible Study Starts (9:30 a.m.)
- 24-27 Vacation Bible School (6:00 – 8:30 p.m.)
- 25 Sunday School Teacher Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 30 Special Guest Speaker (11:00 a.m.)

What is a Miracle?

Often when we listen to the news we hear an event referred to as a miracle. The tendency is to call almost anything with an unexpected and dramatic conclusion a miracle. We should, however, confine the use of the word miracle to its Biblical definition. Actually, the word rarely appears in scripture (Exodus 7:9, Mark 6:5,9:39, Acts 4:16, 4:22). A miracle, by definition, is physical and requires a suspension of the natural order. The first New Testament miracle took place when Jesus turned water into wine. That kind of thing never happens no matter how long we wait unless God acts supernaturally. Waking on water, raising the dead, instantly healing the blind – these acts are miracles. And it is not that God does not bring about other events; He is involved in one way or another in everything that happens. But those actions do not involve the suspension of the natural order and fall into the category of providence.

The Real vs the Counterfeits

As we go through the scriptures we encounter both the real and the counterfeit. We see the things of God contrasted with those of Satan.

The Real

The Virgin Bride

The Son of Man

The Righteousness branch

The Woman's Seed

Advocate

The Lion of Judah

The Lamb of God

The Prince of Life

The Light of the World

The Comforter

The Mystery of Godliness

The Truth

The Most High God

The Son of Righteousness

The Savior

The Counterfeits

The harlot woman

The man of sin

The abominable branch

The seed of the serpent

Adversary

A roaring lion

The beast out of the sea

The prince of this world

The ruler of darkness

The accuser

The mystery of iniquity

The lie

The god of this age

The power of darkness

The destroyer

Notice that the things of God are all positive; those of the devil are negative. Before we came to faith we gravitated to the negative. Now that our eyes have been opened we seek the positive, the things of God. Even in the difficult times in which we live, we can be optimistic because the One who is our king is the very definition of positive and will cast the evil one and all who are his into the lake of fire. Good ultimately triumphs over evil.

Though the days seem dark now, our hope lies in the promises of God, for we know that Jesus will return and we will be with Him throughout eternity — free from pain and sorrow, blessed forever, serving Him forever, praising His name forever, for He is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Joke of the Month (Comedy) Corner



1. Show me a piano falling down a mineshaft and I'll show you A-flat miner.
2. He had a photographic memory which was never developed.
3. Acupuncture: a jab well done.
4. Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.
5. I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it hit

July Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Jessie Malarkey
 2 Kinlee Keith
 6 Bob Pursell
 7 Nevaeh Tenhagen
 10 Sharon Siebenberg
 12 Tyrone Parsons
 12 Rose Hare
 17 Uriah Clark
 18 Larry Sears
 18 Wayne Clark



21 Jessica Stokes
 23 Shelby Lundberg
 23 Deanene Jewett
 24 Jerimyn Stokes
 26 Julie Harper
 27 Natalie Johnston
 28 Sarah Hare
 28 Donald McCall
 29 Jonni Clark

7 Nathan & Dayna Lewis
 7 Landon & Sabrina Puckett



30 Steve & Diane Noland