

November 2018

# The Trumpet

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



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## Pastor's Pen

Every time I hear or sing that old hymn *When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder*. I think about my grandmother Gregory. I seem to remember her either singing or whistling that song when made our annual visits to Arkansas. When she sang the last verse, she did it with an indescribable passion in her voice. The last verse says, “Let us labor for the Master from the dawn ‘til setting sun, let us talk of all His wondrous love and care: then when all of life is over and our work on earth is done and the roll is called up yonder I’ll be there.” I am reminded in this verse that true faith in Christ is evidenced in the life we live and the works we accomplish in kingdom building.

I realize there are some who bristle at the mention of faith and works in the same sentence. The truth is themes of both repeatedly come to the surface in the New Testament book of James. For James it’s not merely faith *and* works, but faith *that* works. Jesus reminded us that by our fruits we will be known. He also told us that the central commandment was the demonstration of love toward God and others. We learn in these words of Jesus that works and faith are inextricably connected to the authentic Christian life.

I heard about a faithful single Christian lady who had come to the end of her life. As she lay dying, she shared with her pastor how little she had been able to do for Jesus. She had no formal education and provided for herself by working in a factory. She saved every penny she could to help support missionaries on the mission

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field. It certainly wasn't much but it was everything she had to give. After work she would visit the sick and elderly; often doing their laundry, ironing, and house cleaning.

As she faced her final days of life, she said to the pastor, “I’ve not been able to do much for the Lord. I’ve never had much money to give and all I could do was just common labor.”

The pastor looked at her gnarled, deformed hands. Knowing they were made that way by her faithful work over many years of ministry, the pastor simply and gently said, “Beloved, when you stand before the Lord, just show him your hands.” There is coming a day when our works on earth will be revealed. When that day comes, and God says let me see your hands; will they show years of faithful service to the King of Kings?

*“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.” (2 Corinthians 5:10)*

Happy in His Service,  
Pastor Jim

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## Personnel Committee

Exodus 18:21, 22

“Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties and rulers of tens: And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, that every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear the burden with thee.”

These are the wise words Moses’ father in law, Jethro, offered when he brought Moses’ wife and children into the wilderness after Moses had led about 3 or 4 million people out of Egypt. The administrative tasks set before Moses and Aaron was monumental. Fortunately, the work of staff and volunteers for our church is much easier. However, the principle of dividing the workload applies to FSBC as well. The Personnel Committee helps in ensuring that all employees and volunteers at our church know and understand our operational policies and procedures. The objective is to provide a safe work and worship environment with full accountability to the membership and sensitivity to anyone choosing to worship with us.

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### 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 November please pick up and finish filling boxes.



# Putting on the Full Armor of God

## Apologetics - From Bob Neubauer

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### Saving Faith

Justification is by faith alone. That is our righteous standing before God comes about when we place our trust in Jesus, both in who He is and in what He has done. There can be no merit in our faith because we are sinners, but we stand justified because Christ's work is all sufficient. This was one of the great truths recovered at the Reformation. While the Roman Catholic Church affirmed the necessity of faith it denied its sufficiency, claiming that good works must be added to faith. What Rome does is join justification with sanctification rejecting the Protestant claim that justification is by faith alone. The reformers said that sanctification follows justification as surely as night follows day, but it does not contribute even the tiniest bit to our acceptance before God. We are saved the reformers said by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone. Sanctification is the proof that justification has taken place. Now certainly in a new Christian it may be difficult to see the initial steps in sanctification, but they are nevertheless present in every true believer. When we come to faith the perfect righteousness that the Lord Jesus obtained with His sinless life is reckoned to our account. Though we are still sinners in our behavior we are righteous before God because we stand before Him in Christ's righteousness. As Martin Luther put it, we are simultaneously just and sinner. We are just in our standing before God because we stand in the righteousness of Christ, yet we still sin in thought, word and deed every day. If we stood before God in our own righteousness we would be condemned. But since we have the perfect life of Jesus credited to our account we stand blameless before the Lord.

There are those within the professing church who claim that all faith is saving faith, that if a person has once made a faith move toward God they are saved regardless of whether any sanctification has taken place. Despite the Biblical evidence to the contrary they say that every person who has ever claimed faith in Jesus Christ is a Christian and will spend eternity in heaven. They are saying that there is no such thing as false faith. But if you have been a Christian for very long you have probably known someone who once claimed to have been born again but now denies that he or she is a Christian. Some of the greatest enemies of the faith once professed to be Christians.

In I John the apostle is dealing with those who once professed the Christian faith but have now left the church. Influenced no doubt by Greek philosophy these men were proto-Gnostics. They denied that Jesus had a human body because for Greek philosophy the spiritual was good, but the physical was evil. John says they went

out from the believers because they were never really a part of the believing community or they would have remained. Since they had been a part of the church for some time they must have professed faith. But, the fact that they left demonstrated they were never truly Christian. Of course there are some who leave for a time and then return, but the ones John is addressing were not just people who left, they also denied essential Christian truth. We see another example in Acts chapter eight where we read of a man named Simon who responded to the preaching of Philip by believing, but then when Peter and John arrived tried to buy the ability to bestow the Holy Spirit by the laying on of hands and is condemned by Peter. In the original Greek the word is a one-time belief not the ongoing faith exhibited by true Christians.

There are three aspects to saving faith. The first is the information. No one is ever saved apart from learning the Gospel. They may hear it preached or read it in the scriptures or some other book. The Bible says that there is no other name under heaven by which men may be saved. If a man or woman lives their life and never hears that Jesus lived a sinless life and offered that life on the cross of Calvary for the sins of His people that person cannot be saved. The impetus for evangelism is the absolute necessity every person has to hear of Jesus if they are to come to faith. Those who deny the need to evangelize do great harm. While God could have saved people apart from our efforts in evangelism He has not chosen to do so. Though you and I can save no one, we can and we must proclaim the Gospel.

The second thing that must happen is that the individual believes that the information is true, that Jesus is the Christ, that He led a sinless life, that He died on the cross for the sins of His people, was buried and resurrected on the third day. This is the Gospel and no person who denies its truth can be a Christian. But there have been many throughout history who have heard the Gospel and believed that it is true but who never had saving faith.

The third aspect of saving faith is the embracing of the Gospel. This is the result of the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit. A Christian does not just believe that the Gospel is true, he or she places his or her trust in the work of the Lord Jesus, relying solely on Christ for his or her salvation. For a person to become a Christian he or she must hear the Gospel, believe it to be true and embrace it. None of us is the Holy Spirit and we cannot regenerate anyone. But we can present the Gospel and we can pray for those to whom we share the good news of Jesus Christ. It is the command of the Lord Jesus that we preach the Gospel. It is our responsibility, but it is also our great privilege. What a wondrous thing it is that God has given us a part in saving others.

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES AT FSBC

- 4 Daylight Savings Time Ends – Fall Back
- 6 Public Relations Committee Meeting (11:30 a.m.)
- 6 Ladies’ Ministry Meeting (5:30 p.m.)
- 11 Shoebox Dedication (11:00 a.m.)
- 11 Veterans Day
- 12 Deacons Meeting (7:00 p.m.)
- 17 Thanksgiving Banquet (6:00 p.m. Eat at 6:30 p.m.)
- 18 Lord’s Supper (11:00 p.m.)
- 21 No MDO – No Awana – No Prayer Meeting
- 22 Thanksgiving – Offices Closed – No MDO
- 25 2019 Proposed Budget Distributed
- 27 Sunday School Teachers’ Training (6:30 p.m.)
- 28 Men’s Ministry Meeting (7:30 p.m.)

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The committee works to review and refine job descriptions while also continuously updating the church’s policy and employee manuals. Although our church is considered small by national standards, we offer a Mother’s Day Out program (MDO) and staff the program with paid employees. The committee also understands the same Biblical principle voiced by the Apostles when they encouraged the early church to select trustworthy men from among them to provide for the needs of widows and orphans so that the Apostles and Elders could focus on preaching and teaching ministries.

As the church heads into a new planning year (2019), the Personnel Committee will be active in its work to ensure that our Pastor carries a lighter administrative load so that he can continue to bring us inspiring sermons and thoughtful Biblical teaching. The committee members are Garry Harper, Margaret Berry, Wayne Clark, Diane Noland and Eric Nagel. Contact one of them if you are interested in serving on the committee.

## Music Ministry

"For you were bought at a price: therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Cor 6:20"

By the end of 1876, Philip Bliss, song leader for the evangelistic campaigns of Major Daniel Whittle, needed a break. He had just written the music to "It is Well with My Soul" and finished a whirlwind tour of meetings. While he and his wife Lucy were spending Christmas with his family, a telegram arrived requesting they come to Chicago to sing at Moody's Tabernacle on the last Sunday of the year. On December 29, 1876, leaving their two small children with Philip's mother, they boarded the Pacific Express. The snow was blinding. About eight o'clock that night as the train creaked over a chasm near Ashtabula, Ohio, the trestle bridge collapsed. The cars plunged 75 feet into the ravine. Philip survived the crash and crawled out through a window. But within moments, fire broke out and Lucy was still inside. The other survivors urged Philip not to crawl back into the flaming wreckage. "If I cannot save her, I will perish with her," he shouted, plunging into the fiery car. Both Philip and Lucy died. He was thirty-eight. Sometime later, Philip's trunk finally arrived in Chicago safely. In it were found the words to the last hymns he had written, one of which was "I Will Sing of My Redeemer," (music by James McGranahan). \*(from Then Sings My Soul by Robert J. Morgan)

Growing up in a wonderful Mormon family, I sang this same beautiful song with different words. Eliza R. Snow, a Mormon poet, changed the lyrics and our ward (church) family sang the hymn, "Oh My Father," an eloquent, stirring, even inspirational hymn but with badly flawed theology.

I am so very thankful for fellow Christians who showed me the real Jesus, just as I'm thankful for our First Southern Baptist church family with whom I get to worship and grow each Sunday. 1 Corinthians 14:15 says "I will pray with my spirit and I will pray with my mind also; I will sing praise with my spirit and I will sing with my mind also."

Our FSBC Music ministry team, led by Garry Harper, continues to enjoy weekly fellowship at Friday rehearsals, as we sing and pray together. It is a privilege to join with you on Sunday mornings to praise and worship our Lord. We have a lot of fun and all are welcome to join us. We would love to include you at any time. Thanks for joining us in sharing the love of Jesus Christ. — Doreen Solum

## Joke of the Month



(Comedy) Corner

## November Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Ted Solum  
4 Gail Hancock  
8 Sue Southwick  
9 Natalie Sanchez  
9 Cookie Lyerla  
13 Christina Ryan



*Happy Birthday*

15 Pete Berry  
20 Joe Hodge  
22 Doreen Solum  
28 Jake Sisson  
30 Agnes Simler

9 Daniel & Mistee Kelley



## First Week December Birthdays

5 Raymond Danner  
6 Don Hancock

7 Elijah Grohs  
7 Samantha Simler

If you do not see your birthday or anniversary listed please contact Nicole Clark.