



New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Obey, When God says Obey

by Elder Dolph Painter

And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord: and the Lord delivered them into the hand of Midian seven years. And Gideon reasoned, If the Lord be with us, why then is all this befallen us? – a common, but not so modern interpretation of events (Judges 6:1, 13).

- When America did evil in the sight of the Lord" Al-Quida toppled its twin towers. And the media said, "If there be a God, why then is all this befallen us?"
- When America removed the Bible and prayer from its schools: promiscuity and teenage pregnancy rates soared. And the social workers said, If there be a God why then is this befallen us?
- When America banned God's name and the posting of the 10 Commandments: crime rates rose and prisons filled to capacity. And the legislators said, If there be a God, why then is this befallen us?
- When America discounted contentment and the virtue of self discipline: violence and addictions increased. And the parents said, If there be a God, why then is this befallen us?
- When America ceased chastening its children authority was mocked: And the teachers said, If there be a God, why then is this befallen us?
- When America legalized all manner of lewd and crude communications: foul mouthed and rancid behavior became the norm. And the judges

said, If there be a God, why then is this befallen us?

- It ought not take a nuclear Physicist to figure out these cause and effect relationships.

For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, but a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries – Hebrews 10:26-27.

When God says obey, we best obey.



Enjoying great fellowship at Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, in Vero Beach. Elder Joe Nettles, from Mississippi, was the invited speaker.

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Sunday 10:30 a.m.
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Pastor's Letter - Elder Glen Blanchard

We just finished our Annual Meeting. What a blessing it was for all those who attended. God used Elder Buddy Abernathy to deliver four messages that were custom made for our congregation. Elder Abernathy and Elder Chris Taylor, pastor of Antioch PBC in Vero Beach, Florida, conducted the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing part of our meeting and everyone was blessed by their teaching and by the Lord's Spirit.

One of the special blessings for me was seeing eight of our members, under 10 years old, talking the Lord's Supper and washing each others feet. We also had three members that had joined Winter Garden Church in the 1970's present. There were members who came from at least four different countries. All coming together over Christ and His saving grace. We thank God for His blessings on us.



Kristin delighted in having her grandparents, John and Janice Bowlin, visit from North Carolina.



Praise God! We had another wonderful annual meeting with invited preacher, Elder Buddy Abernathy. Pictured with his family Tina, Sara Nowell, Rachel and Isaac Taylor, Lydia, Austin McCool, Hannah, Chloe, and Abel.

"The Pearl of Great Price" - By Elder Neil Phelan, Jr.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like unto a merchant man, seeking goodly pearls: Who, when he had found

one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it." Matthew 13:45-46

While there are many blessings to be enjoyed in the Lord's kingdom, there is one treasure that sets it apart from all others, and that is the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the "pearl of great price".

double strand of pearls valued at \$1.2 million that Jacques Cartier dangled before her eyes. That house remains to this day, the American flagship of Cartier Jewelers.

pearl diver he could expect to retrieve only four or five perfectly matched pearls. Many of those royal strands contained over 200 matched pearls! When our Lord spoke these words, pearls were more valuable than diamonds or gold. Thus we observe the value of our Lord Jesus to His own value.

In 1905, a man by the name of Kokichi Mikimoto changed the pearl industry forever. He developed the art of cultured pearls. Before that time only royalty could afford pearls. Wars were fought over them and kingdoms established by them. Montezuma's hoard of pearls attracted the eye of Cortez as much as his gold did. Rumors of pearl treasures in Britain prompted Britain's invasion by Julius Caesar. According to one story, one Maisie Platt swapped her Fifth Avenue mansion for a

Some say that royals of old kept score among themselves, not by their gold, but by the splendor of their pearls. And in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, the necklaces of matched sea pearls worn by the Romanov royal women were the envy of their cousins in European courts.

The number of matched pearls constituting one necklace could be appreciated by the number of trips it would take to the ocean floor to obtain them. Before the invention of scuba and diving gear, in an entire career of a

In our parable, we have a noble person. He is a "seeker". In the previous parable, we have one of a different character. He was not looking for anything. He just stumbled over the treasure in the field (Christ) and bought the whole field to gain it. Indeed, there are many experiences. But there is but one Treasure.

Our "seeker" is looking for "pearls", in the plural. His expectations are moderate. He

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At our annual meeting, the youth of all ages, had fun catching up with old friends and making some new ones.

“The Pearl of Great Price” (continued from page 3)

makes his living this way and he searches everywhere for those lesser jewels. While attending a college graduation a few days ago, I listened to one of the speakers as he spoke of integrity, honesty and loyalty in the work place. I thought to myself, “Yes, what he is saying is true, these are all ‘pearls of wisdom’. But do they not all come from the one ‘pearl of great price’? He should be mentioned.” In our parable, our seeker has found some lesser pearls and he has been thankful for them. But one day our Lord’s promise unfolds, “he that seeketh findeth”; our seeker found the pearl of “great price”.

He must have said in his heart, “I never expected this! I never knew such a pearl existed!!” His

expectation were moderate, but his find was immaculate.

The next thing he did was sell out. We have heard of people selling out on others. But here, one must sell out to self; they must empty self; they must die to self. He said, “I want that pearl and I will sell all I have to obtain it.” He had to sell out his old prejudices; his vices; his sin; doctrines that he could not prove by the Bible; some places and friends ; some worldly pleasures and pursuits; and his pride as well. But most of all, he had to sell his own righteousness. This was not difficult, for when he saw the “pearl of great price” they became as filthy rags before his eyes.

Finally, he bought the pearl. His purchase was immediate. He didn’t think on it for several years. He knew that another would come along and purchase it first. And his purchase was final. He bought it and never regretted it. It was one treasure of a lifetime.

We close with a small lesson about the keeping of our pearl. It is well known by jewelers that pearls should be kept far from perfume’s and face powder’s damaging chemicals. And they glow from brushing against skin and fresh air. If placed in a stagnant box, pearls may disintegrate into worthless powder. Is the pearl of great price on display in your life? Lord, lead others to thy Kingdom!



We enjoyed getting to meet Sister Eddra’s friend, Nicole.



Elizabeth Lee, pictured with her mother, Jennifer Lee. May God richly bless Elizabeth as she gets married and relocates to Tennessee. Winter Garden PBC counts it a tremendous blessing having been able to worship with her while she persued her degree.



New member, Sister Barbara, pictured with Sister Stephanie enjoyed spending time together inbetween services.



We were blessed with the ongoing fellowship of local Winter Garden visitors, Luis and Nancy Bello.

Humility

From, “Words Fitly Spoken” edited by Sister Marlene Melvin

Years ago a ten-year old boy entered a soda shop and climbed up on a stool. “How much is an ice cream sundae?” he asked the waitress.

“Fifty cents,” she answered.

The boy reached deep into his pocket, pulled out an assortment of coins, and began counting them carefully. The waitress grew impatient; she had “bigger” customers to wait on.

“How much would just a plain ice cream be?” the boy asked.

“Thirty-five cents,” the waitress

replied with noticeable irritation in her voice.

Again, the young boy counted his money. “Then may I please have some plain ice cream in a dish?” he asked as he handed the waitress the correct change. She brought him the ice cream.

The young boy ate the ice cream and quietly left the shop. Shortly afterwards, the waitress went to the counter to clear the dish. As she did so, she felt a lump rise in her throat; for there on the counter the boy had left two nickels and five pennies. The waitress realized that the young

boy had had enough money to buy the sundae all along, but sacrificed it so that he could leave her a tip.

Moral: Before passing judgment, first treat others with courtesy, dignity, and respect.

Letters

Elder Glenn Blanchard,

We are so enjoying the DVDs you are sharing with us at Luling PBC in Texas. Thank you, and God bless you for your efforts.

Carl & Connie Weyel

Dear Brother Glenn,

Enclosing a check for the newsletter. We always enjoy and appreciate this paper. Thank you!

Love to everyone at your sweet church.

Jere & Janie Jones

Upcoming Meetings

Little Union Annual July Meeting

- Thursday, July 7th: 7:00 PM (no supper)
- Friday, July 8th: 7:00 PM (fish fry at 5:45 PM)
- Saturday, July 9th: 10:30 AM (lunch to follow)
2:00–5:30 PM Fellowship
5:45 PM Supper
7:00 PM Communion Service
- Sunday, July 10th: 10:30 AM (lunch to follow)

Elders Jonathon Cook, Tim McCool and Ben Winslett are the invited speakers. "Each of these men are planning to bring their families, and we hope this can be a time for our youth to be renewed spiritually (as well as our older members), and also a time for our youth to strengthen and create friendships with other young disciples." For more information call Elder Chris Crouse at 813-765-2818.

Annual Meeting of the First Primitive Baptist Association of Oklahoma and Ordination to Office of Deacon of Brother Tom Billingsley

Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, OK

Second weekend in July, 2016. Services will be held Thursday night, all day Friday and Saturday morning. Meals will be served beginning on Thursday night around 5:30 PM. Ordination of Brother Tom Billingsley to the office of Deacon.

We felt the Holy Spirit work through Elder Buddy Abernathy during the three days of our annual meeting.





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New Hope Newsletter



Spending time in weekly fellowship is something that many look forward to.

