



New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

A Teeny, Tiny Remnant

by Elder Dolph Painter

Yet a small number that escape the sword shall return out of the land of Egypt into the land of Judah (Jeremiah 44:28). God saved a remnant, of a remnant, of a remnant, of a remnant. Consider:

1. Remnant #1, Judah and Benjamin: Israel began as a mighty nation of twelve tribes. Idolatry caused ten tribes to fall. Only Judah and Benjamin survived.

2. Remnant #2, a group of poor folks: Idolatry caused Judah and Benjamin to fall. Inhabitants were either killed or carried to Babylon in chains. But a few poor folks were allowed to work the land.

3. Remnant #3, a rescued group: the king of Ammon hired an assassin to kill the

Jews, their leaders, and their Chaldean guard. But a small group was rescued as they were being transported to Ammon.

4. Remnant #4, a group of escapees: the rescued group above disobeyed God and fled to Egypt. In Egypt they died of famine, pestilence and the sword. But God allowed a small group to return to Judah.

Why did God save such a teeny, tiny group? I believe keeping a promise to Jeremiah was the reason God preserved this remnant of a remnant. You see, God promised to keep an earthly hedge about Jeremiah at the inception of his ministry.

"For, behold, I have made thee this day a defenced city, and an iron pillar, and brazen walls against the whole land, against

the kings of Judah, against the princes thereof, against the priests thereof, and against the people of the land" – Jeremiah 1:18.

And God kept that promise, just as He kept a similar promise with Paul:

"Be not afraid, but speak, and hold not thy peace: for I am with thee, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city" – Acts 18:10.

God promised to preserve His church, His word, and I believe the preaching of His word as long as this earth shall be. And that gives this poor sinner great comfort.



Blessed to have local family Tasha, Noah, and Nathan Hale come and worship with us.

Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church
P.O. Box 771048
Winter Garden, FL 34777
407-656-7007
www.wintergardenpbc.com

Worship Service
Sunday 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study
Wednesday 7:30 p.m.

Elder Glenn Blanchard
771 Bending Oak Trail
Winter Garden, FL 34787
407-905-5627
primitivebaptist@embarqmail.com

Tapes (subscription or address information):
tapes@wintergardenpbc.com

Pastor's Letter - Elder Glenn Blanchard

We have just celebrated another Annual Meeting. Elder John Melvin preached a wonderful series of messages for our church, calling us to return our focus to Christ. Not to be too concerned with the trappings of religion. We had a very warm Communion Supper and a great time of fellowship. The proof of the blessings we enjoyed during our Annual Meeting is the many requests I have had to have another three-day-meeting in the fall. Special thanks to all that made this meeting such a success; our members, Elder John Melvin, and most of all, our Lord and Savior.

On Sunday morning we licensed Brother John Harvey to speak in other churches. We now have three ordained Elders and two licensed Brothers and five Deacons. God is good to us.

On another note, we hope and pray that you who receive our Newsletter will write to us and let us know that you are getting it, enjoy it, and support it.



Winter Garden Primitive Baptist church feels blessed with a newborn in the congregation. Bob and Rachel Blanchard pictured with their baby, Jonah.



Its always exciting during our annual meeting to see friends and family from out of town. Richard Blanchard (left) and Noah and Megan Still (right).



The Blessings of Continuing

Elder Neil M. Phelan, Jr.

"And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."
– Acts 2:42

To begin something is one thing, but to be faithful to continue in it is another matter. While Baptism and a confession of our faith in Jesus Christ is a great act of faith, we know that this is just the beginning. We would not discourage those whose hearts have been stirred to follow Christ. But those who have enlisted in His army know from experience that the most difficult challenges lie beyond the waters of baptism. As we read the gospels we will be quick to notice the crowds of people when Jesus performed His mighty miracles. But when the comfort level diminished, so did the crowds. In the beginning of the Acts we find only 120 souls who continued with Him "in His persecutions." But the choicest blessings He reserved for those who "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers."

Jesus always reserved His

best blessings for those who continued with Him. It was three days journey into the wilderness before He fed the multitude with seven loaves and a few little fishes, "then Jesus called his disciples unto Him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way." – Matthew 15:32. Surely Jesus did not lead this multitude out into the wilderness for no reason. And equally so, there was never a doubt in His mind as to how He would care for their needs. Those who turned back on the first day missed out on a great blessing. Those who turned back on the second day missed out on a great blessing. And those who turned back the third day, who had wandered that far, missed the blessing as well. But those who continued were fed, and some of these

were children. They followed Him the farthest because they were "disciples indeed" (John 8:31). They loved Him the most. For these the blessings were withheld for three days! Those who continue are fed.

We are also encouraged to continue in prayer. In His parable of the unjust judge (Luke 18:1-8), the widow's petition was granted because of her "continual coming", and this by an unjust man. Our conclusion is drawn by Jesus, "Shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bears long with them?" While many may say, "I have prayed once, that is enough. If God wants to grant this petition He will." But if the matter is continually upon our hearts should we not continue to carry it to the throne of grace? Does not our continual knocking require an answer? Perhaps He waits to see if we are serious enough about our
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The Blessings of Continuing

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petition to continue knocking. And even if our answer is not in the affirmative, we can know that we will be given grace sufficient to bear our problem out. We are to continue knocking.

Before we close, let us notice a few particulars. These faithful Christians continued in "doctrine." They did not change it to please a changing world. They continued in "fellowship." They loved one another and being with one another. They continued in the "breaking of bread." The unleavened bread was an emblem of our Lord's body, broken for their sins. This outward expression of their inward affections was a constant reminder of their Lord and redeemer. And they continued in "prayer." There were those special times that they met for that purpose alone. To pour out their hearts unto God, thus showing they were not sufficient in themselves. They stood in need of the Lord's mercy and grace to "continue."

What would Jesus have Christians do in 1999 [or 2017] when so many people have become lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; when His house is forsaken on the Sabbath Day; when an interest in His word has been substituted by an interest in the world; when there is no fear of God before the eyes of the people? What did the infant church do? They "continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers?" For that little band of believers, the richest blessings of the infant church were enjoyed because they "continued." To fathers we say, continue. To mothers we say, continue. To our children we say, continue. To pastors, deacons, and all lovers of God we encourage you to continue. He is coming back. Let us be found faithful when He returns. Lord, we need thy grace to continue. We pray for an extra measure!



We are always encouraged when Elders in the ministry come from around the country to worship with us. Elder Charles Dennis, Elder Glenn Blanchard, Elder Donnie Riddell, and Elder John Melvin (pictured left to right).

Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church

Annual Meeting

The 118th Annual Meeting of the First Primitive Baptist Association of Oklahoma is scheduled for July 6-9, 2017.

The details can be found on their website: www.pbokc.org. Or by calling 405-703-1728.

Harmony Highlands Singing School

We received this notice too late for the last newsletter but we hope and pray they had a spirit filled meeting.

It is a special occasion when local residents, Helen and Edward Neely are able to come worship with us.



Newlyweds
Alex and Amber
Robbins from
Tippecanoe PBC
in IN joined us
for worship on
the week of their
honeymoon.
Blessings to you
both in the years
to come.



Sister Pat
Blanchard with
her handsome
nephew Phillip
Lawrence.

Letter

Dear Brother Glenn,

Thanks for being so faithful to send us the New Hope Newsletter each time. We always enjoy the messages and the pictures of visitors.

Elder Paul Trautner
Lexington, Kentucky



Encouraging news from area church, Hebron Primitive Baptist Church. Joshua Spezzano being baptised on May 21, 2017. Its our prayer that God continues to draw him close to Him throughout his life.



Special thanks to those that help make this
newsletter possible:

Elder Paul and Patsy Trautner
Larry Jones
Jack and Ruby Laminack
Ann Mathis
Bob and JoAnn Coleman



New Hope Primitive Baptist Church
c/o WINTER GARDEN PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
P.O. Box 771048
Winter Garden, FL 34777

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you move. Thanks!*

Please come visit us!

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Cherished pictures from our
Annual Meeting - May 2017.

