



New Hope Newsletter

A Publication of Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church

Generate & Regenerate

-by Elder Dolph Painter

The parallel between generate and regenerate is worthy of consideration. Both operations begin with the same raw material, dirt. In both, the raw material is passive and the operation is by God alone. In other words, God acts first, last, and by Himself.

Generate – to produce offspring, to bring into existence. God scooped a handful of dirt, breathed life into the dirt, and dirt became a living soul (Genesis 2:7). The dirt was incapable of asking, responding, or obeying. God did everything by Himself.

Regenerate – to form anew, restore to a better state. God chose a handful of dirt (Isaiah 64:6), placed His spirit into the dirt (Romans 8:16), and dirt became a spiritual being (I Corinthians 1:23-24). The dirt was incapable of asking, responding, or obeying. God did it all by Himself.

Consider thee regeneration passages and see if the dirt-God-new creature doesn't hold:

1. Titus 3:3-7: 1) unregenerate man is described as dirt, 2) but God intervened, and 3) an ugly creature was transformed into a beautiful creature. God and only God transformed dirt into something spiritually beautiful.
2. Ephesians 2:1-10: 1) once again unregenerate man is described as dirt, 2) but God intervened, and 3) a lifeless being was transformed into a spiritual being. God and only God transformed dirt into something spiritually alive.
3. John 3:3-8: 1) unregenerate man is described without capabilities, 2) God through the Holy Ghost intervened, and 3) an incapable being was transformed into a being able to see and enter. God and only God transformed dirt into something with ability.

To get the full impact of this lesson, sing *Amazing Grace* substituting dirt for wretch. "Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved **some dirt** like me.



It is such a blessing to worship with like-minded believers.

Brother Doug Jones,
E.W. McDonald, and Jim
McDonald (his son). (left to
right)

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Pastor's Letter - Elder Glenn Blanchard

Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church will celebrate its 100th anniversary in March of 2018. There have been many changes in the last 100 years. Our church was established in the middle of WWI, the outcome of the war was still undecided. Most Americans lived on the farm, went everywhere in horse and buggy and air conditioning hadn't been invented. It was before the Roaring 20s, the depression, prohibition and WWII. And it was certainly before men landed on the moon.

Yet, we still have the same Articles of Faith and Church Covenant. We still sing, pray and preach the way they did back then. There are some things that we will not change. No matter what happens in the future, I believe the doctrines of our forefathers will continue to bless God's people in their travels on the Earth.



Celebrating yet another blessing from above. Brother Luke Lawrence graduated from the Correctional Officers Academy in Clermont. Pictured with his family, wife Mary and children Lorianne, Nathan and Phillip.



Its always a privilege to worship with members from other area Primitive Baptist churches. Member of Orange PBC in Apopka, Bob Giddins.

“Work Out Your Own Salvation” - By Elder Neil Phelan, Jr.

- from his book entitled “The Daily Record”, The First Year in Retrospect”

“Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure”-Philippians 2:12:13.

From prison, Paul writes this affectionate epistle to his beloved brethren at Philippi. He refers to them as “my joy and my crown” and from the gloom of the prison cell he states, “I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.” Even during his absence, his love for these brethren had not diminished and his concern for their welfare had not ceased. But at this juncture in his life he was unable to visit them personally and see to their needs and he admonishes them, even though he was physically absent, to “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

But who is the apostle writing to? Is he writing to people who have no knowledge of Christ? Is he writing to people who know nothing about the Bible? Is he writing to people who have not made a public confession of their faith; a people who have no knowledge of God? No, he is writing to baptized believers, people who are all of the above. To these members of the church at Philippi he admonished to “work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.”

From these few words we learn a lot about salvation. It does not always refer to eternity. As a matter of fact, we will find that much of the salvation that the Bible warns us about concerns the believer’s salvation from the pitfalls and dangers of Satan in this life; a salvation from problems and dangers that so disrupt our lives and destroys our peace. I believe that many of God’s people miss this salvation. Though they are heirs of grace, they have made shipwreck of this life. They have missed out on today because their eye is only on eternity. This salvation involves every facet of one’s life. From child rearing to the marriage, from the workplace to God’s house, it is all involved. It is this salvation that the apostle addresses and warns the brethren to “work out.”

Since the admonition is addressed to believers, it must apply to **me**. I must have a salvation to work out, every day, every hour, every moment. And since the apostle refers to it as “your own,” it must be a work that no one else can do for me. When Paul met Jesus on the road to Damascus, he didn’t say, “Lord, what will you have the Pharisees to do,” or, “what will you have these men that are with **me** to do.” He said, “Lord, what will you have **me** to do?” We cannot blame others for our own soul trouble. We all dwell under our own vine and fig tree. In this sense, our personal relationship with the Lord is not the church’s responsibility; it is not the pastor’s responsibility; the members’ responsibility; but our own. Whether Paul was present or absent, the Philippians were still accountable to God!

From the apostle’s language, it seems that this salvation is to be taken very **seriously**. It is to be worked out with “fear and trembling.” This metaphor is very suggestive. It depicts one who approaches life seriously and with great caution. In such a posture we will find one with eyes open; with a proper fear of God as well as a healthy fear of our accuser, the devil. Every decision is fraught by “all prayer.” God’s pleasure is in mind with the realization that life “under the sun” can be rewarding or mingled with great misery. According to Paul, the joy that the believer will experience in this life is, to a large degree dependant upon how seriously he works this salvation out.

But Paul would not have them to believe that they were alone in this Holy pursuit. Though he would be absent, he reminds them that God would be present with them, “for it is God which worketh in you.” And how would God work with the brethren at Philippi? Just the same as He works with His people today. According to Paul, God must come first. He would first give them a “will” to do His good pleasure. Then

(Continued on page 4)



Brother Don and Sister Jackie were on cloud 9 worshipping with their family: Kathy Watkins Pierce, Jackie and Don Watkins, Kim Watkins Engmann, Dianora DeMarco and Tanner Engmann (first row) Conner Pierce, Keith Pierce, Mathew Engmann, Steve Engmann, Keith Watkins (2nd row)

“Work Out Your Own Salvation” (continued from page 3)

He would give them the ability to “do” His good pleasure.

The will must come first. The preacher cannot give it, nor can a host of religious exercises. It is a byproduct of life; an evidence that God already lives in the heart. If we have the will to please God we have the evidence that His spirit abides within us. Today, God continues to work in the lives of His people. HE is not dead nor is HE silent. Is He working in your life? Has He given you a will, a Holy anointing to please Him? If He has, follow His leadership. There is great reward!

But how to perform those yearnings of the heart becomes the part of the believer. The flesh is willing but the spirit is weak. Since God has given the will, surely He will make the way. It is to God that we must look for the wisdom and the strength to accomplish His Holy will. To the beloved at Philippi, this was Paul’s wish. I wish it for you today.

[Special thanks to Elder Phelan for allowing us to reprint the articles from his book *The Daily Record*].
- Elder Glenn Blanchard.

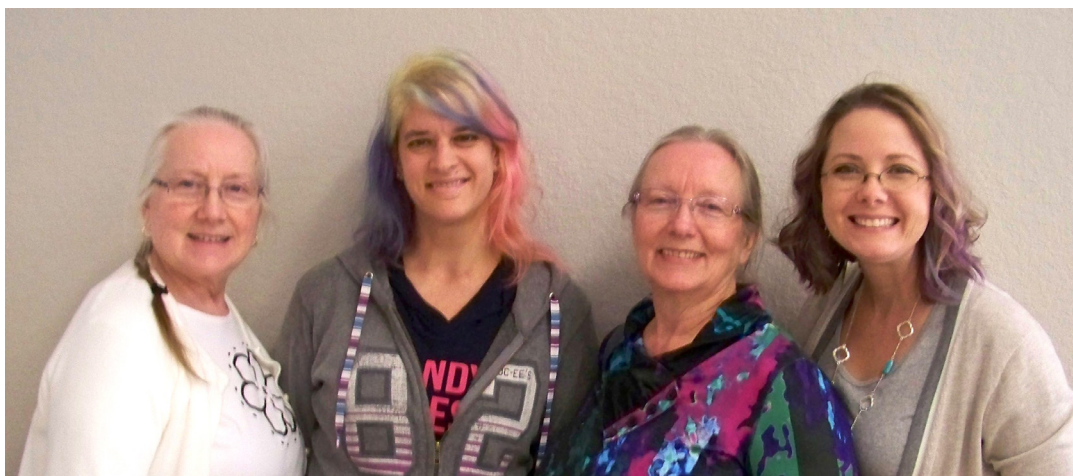


We enjoyed worshipping with area visitors Robert and Mamie.

Blessed to be able to worship with like minded believers across the country. Lon & Rula Roberts, Clermont; Georgia Johnston, St. Joseph, MO; Bonnie Flickinger, Clermont; Nancy Scott, Boonville, MO.



Winter Garden Primitive Baptist Church member Sister Robin enjoyed having family in town. Barbara, Jeannie, and Kat.



The Touch of the Master's Hand

'Twas battered and scarred, and the old auctioneer
Thought it scarcely worth his while
To waste much time on the old violin,
But he held it up with a smile;
"What am I bid, good folks," he cried,
"Who'll start the bidding for me?"
"A dollar, a dollar," then "Two! Only two?
Two dollars, and who'll make it three?"
"Three dollars, once; three dollars, twice;
Going for three" – But no!
From far back in the room a gray-haired man
Came forward, and picked up the bow.
Wiping the dust from the old violin,
He lovingly tightened the strings,
Then he played a melody as pure and sweet
As the caroling angels sing.
When the music ceased, the old auctioneer,
In a voice that was reverent and low,
Asked, "What bid you now for the old violin?"
As he held it up with the bow.
"A thousand dollars! And who'll make it two?
Two thousand! And who'll make it three?"
"Three thousand, once, three thousand, twice,
And going, and gone," he said.
The people cheered, but some of them cried,
"We simply do not understand –
What changed its worth?" Swift came the reply;
"The touch of the master's hand."
Many a man with his life out of tune,
And battered and scarred with sin,
Is auctioned cheap to the thoughtless crowd,
Much like the old violin.
A mess of porridge, a glass of wine;
A game – and he travels on.
He's going once; he's going twice.
He's going and almost gone.
But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd
Can never quite understand,
The worth of a soul, and the change that's wrought,
By the touch of the Master's hand.

-Adapted, Author Unknown-



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