

Pastor's Pen

Don't Stumble!

"You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth? This persuasion is not from him who calls you. Galatians" 5:7-8

Paul is perplexed that those that he had shepherded were being turned from the true Gospel. Paul is reminding them through the metaphor of running that they had received the Gospel of Jesus Christ with joy and they were running well in the Lord. They believed that Jesus died in their place, for their sins, on the cross. By faith, they were welcomed as children into God's family. They received the Holy Spirit and they were following Christ. Then they stumbled while they were running well. Paul is asking them who made you trip? What made you turn away from the truth of the Gospel? The Galatians were being persuaded to begin following the law in order to be made right before God (Galatians 2:4). They were disobeying the truth that they were fully forgiven and accepted by God (Galatians 1:6-8). They were starting to believe the lie that they must do more to be right with their Father. He is reminding them that this "persuasion" is not from God.

We must understand that legalism is never from God. These false teachers were trying to get the Galatians to abandon the true Gospel for one of works. We are saved by God's grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone. Following man-made rules and laws does not make us right with God.

Obedying God is a sign that we truly belong to Him. As a matter of fact, what brings joy to a believer's life is when they are obedient to the commands of Christ. Obedience is a fruit of your salvation. Run the race well Christian, and do not allow those who would distort the Gospel of Jesus Christ

To hinder you from obeying the truth.

Your shepherd,
Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Crucify your sins!

(William Dyer, "Christ's Famous Titles")

"Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires." Galatians 5:24

Crucify your sins, which have crucified your Savior. Did the rocks rent, when Christ died for our sins? And shall not our hearts rent, who have lived in our sins?

Oh, that the nails which pierced His hands, should now pierce our hearts. Oh, that they should wound themselves with their sorrows, who have wounded Christ with their sins. Oh, that they who have grieved His heart, should be grieved in their hearts. Oh, that I should be such a bad a child to Him, who has been such a good a Father to me. My sins have been my greatest terror, and my Savior has been my choicest helper. Oh, put sin to death, for sin was the cause of Christ's death.

If someone killed your father--would you hug him and embrace him as your friend, and let him eat at your table? Would you not rather hate and detest the very sight of him! If a snake should sting your dearly beloved spouse to death--would you preserve it alive, warm it at the fire, and hug it in your bosom?

Quote of the Week

"I can safely say, on the authority of all that is revealed in the Word of God, that any man or woman on this earth who is bored and turned off by worship is not ready for heaven."

— A.W. Tozer

Would you not rather stab it with a thousand wounds!

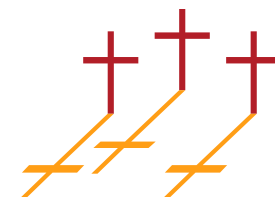
And were not our sins the cause and instrument of Christ's death? Were not they the whips that scourged Him; the nails, the cords, the spear, the thorns that wounded Him, and fetched the heart-blood from Him? And can we love our sins, which killed our Savior? Can a wife truly love her husband, and still embrace an adulterer?

We complain of the sins of Judas, and seem to hate them, and shudder at their mention. And can we love our Judas sins, which put Christ to death? And yet how many are there--who had rather have sinful-self satisfied, than to have sinful-self crucified. Oh, sin is that mark at which all the arrows of Divine vengeance are shot! Were it not for sin--death would never have had a beginning. And were it not for death--sin would never have an ending. Man began to be sorrowful, when he began to be sinful. The wind of our lusts, blows out the candle of our lives.

If man had nothing to do with sin, death would have nothing to do with man. Oh, did sin bring sorrow into the world? Oh, then--let sorrow carry sin out of the world. Of all evils--sin is the great evil.

"The wages of sin is death." Romans 6:23

Oh, sin is worse than punishment, banishment and imprisonment. Sin kills both body and soul: it throws the body into cold earth rotting, and the soul into the hot Hell burning."



Weekly Gatherings



Bible Classes

New Testament
Sunday School
Sunday Morning @ 9-9:45 & 10-10:45



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM
Men's Zoom Bible Study



Job Study

Wednesdays @ 7PM
Teaching Series (Online Only)



Build the Body Teams

If you would like to serve on a BtB Team and forgot to sign up, please contact the team leader at the appropriate email address.



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study
AWANA @6:30PM-8PM



Service Times

Sunday Service 8:30AM & 10:30AM
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 09/06/2020

General Offering9,591.00
Building Fund 1,250.00
Uganda135.00
Total 10,976.00
Attendance ...83 present
38 online connections

Build the Body Ministries

Women's Ministry-women@ghbcva.org
AWANA-awana@ghbcva.org
Outreach Ministry-outreach@ghbcva.org
Worship Ministry-worship@ghbcva.org
Men's Ministry-men@ghbcva.org
Children's Ministry-children@ghbcva.org
Youth Ministry-youth@ghbcva.org
Prayer Team-prayer@ghbcva.org
Maintenance-maintenance @ghbcva.org
Fellowship-fellowship@ghbcva.org
Communications-communications@ghbcva.org
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Grace Harvest Baptist Church

September 13,

