

# Pastor's Pen

Are you on Empty?

Here we go again. As I write this, the Governor has declared a state of emergency in Virginia amid the ongoing distribution issues from the shutdown of the Colonial Pipeline. Last year no toilet paper at this time; this year, no gas. Also, in the news today (Tuesday, May 11), a much more serious situation is unfolding. Hamas has sent hundreds of rockets towards Jerusalem and other areas. Including 130 rockets that were fired at Tel Aviv.

This past Mother's Day, NARAL ( a pro-abortion group) posted on its official Twitter account, "When we talk about birthing people, we're inclusive. It's that simple. We use gender-neutral language when talking about pregnancy, because it's not just cis-gender women that can get pregnant and give birth. Reproductive freedom is for *every* body on the same day." It seems that the world is out of control and we are a runaway bus heading for a cliff.

Do not fear Christian, for this is not the case for all who have trusted in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. If we have learned anything these past 15 months it is that God has reminded His people that this is not our home. As the time gets closer to His second coming, we can expect things even to get worse. Jesus gave us the following warning:

"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not alarmed, for this must take place, but the end is not yet. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are but the beginning of the birth pains."  
Matthew 24:6-8

So, what are we to do? First, remember that you are His ambassadors. While everyone else struggles to, make sense of what is going on around them, you have a message from the King you represent. That message is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The world struggles, stresses, and panics, but that should not be so for the Children of God. Second, live out your faith. Does the world see you living out the Gospel you proclaim, or do you say one thing and live like the world?

These are frightening times, but they are also times of opportunity to let those in your circle of influence see the hope you have in Christ even when everything seems to be heading to destruction.

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

## Quote of the Week

"Death is half disarmed when the pleasures and interests of the flesh are first denied."  
—Richard Baxter

# Grace Gems

Vanity of vanities, all is vanity!  
(Thomas Brooks)

"Those who use the things of the world should not become attached to them. For this world as we know it will soon pass away!" 1 Corinthians 7:31

Sorrow attends worldly joy,  
danger attends worldly safety,  
loss attends worldly labors,  
tears attend worldly purposes.

As to these things . . .

men's hopes are vain,  
their sorrow is certain,  
and their joy is artificial.

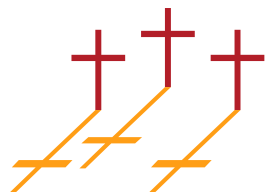
The apostle calls this world a sea of glass — a sea for the trouble of it, and glass for the brittleness and bitterness of it.

Saving faith makes a man see . . .

the prickles that are in every rose,  
the thorns that are in every crown,  
the poison that is in the golden cup,  
the spot that is in the shining pearl.

And thus a Christian counts and calls all these things, as indeed they are, "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity!"  
Ecclesiastes 1:2

"The world is passing away, along with its desires; but the one who does the will of God lives forever!"  
1 John 2:17



# Weekly Gatherings



## Bible Classes

New Testament  
Sunday School  
Sunday Morning @ 9AM



## Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM  
Men's Bible Study



## Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM @ Royall's  
Every other Thursday @7PM  
@ Patrick's & Cox's



## 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 10:30AM  
Children's Church @10:30AM

Giving from service on 05/09/2021

General Offering .....10,563.77  
Building Fund .....948.60  
Uganda .....100.00  
Total .....\$11,612.37

Attendance .....228  
Sunday School .....116  
Online.....14

## 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  
Front Line-frontline@ghbcva.org  
Security-security@ghbcva.org



Grace Harvest  
Baptist Church  
go • gather • grow • go

ghbcva.org | 804.561.3742  
9821 South Redfield Drive, Amelia, VA 23002

# Grace Harvest Baptist Church

May 16, 2021

