Payton's Pen

What Now?

# "So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin." James 4:17

On July 25th at 3:30 PM, the Elders of Grace Harvest unanimously voted to separate us from the Sothern Baptist Convention. Since our founding in 2006, as a Church plant of the SBC of Virginia, we have faithfully supported our state and national conventions. However, over the last four years, I was deeply concerned with the direction the SBC was taking in reference to the Social Gospel. We are and will continue to be a Church that focuses on the Gospel of Jesus Christ and will stand on the infallible and inerrant Word of God.

We are a Bible Church that will not compromise on the Word of God no matter what others will say and do. The writer of 1 Kings wrote, "And Elijah came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him." And the people did not answer him a word (1 Kings 18:21)." Grace Harvest will not "limp" between two opinions. We will seek God's will for us and stand on His Word alone even if we are the only Church to do so. We know what the right thing to do is and will not fail our duty to the Lord.

As we seek God's will for Grace Harvest, we must also seek God's will for our lives as individual members of the local Church. How do we know God's will? The following is from John MacArthur on seeking the will of God:

"In the broadest sense, God's will is expressed in all the commands and principles of Scripture. Specifically, the Bible says that God's will is that people be saved (1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Pet. 3:9), Spirit-filled (Eph. 5:17–18), sanctified (1 Thess. 4:3–8), submissive (1 Pet. 2:13–15), and suffering (1 Pet. 3:17).

To the person obeying those five aspects of God's will, the Bible says, "Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Ps. 37:4)—that is, He will both plant the desires, then fulfill them.

Those who know God's will are responsible to obey it, and if they fail to do so, they sin. They will find no comfort in the fact that they have not actively committed sin. Just leaving God out is itself sin. The sin of disregarding and disobeying God's will is one of omission, of not doing what one knows is right (cf. Luke 12:47). Sins of omission are rarely isolated from sins of commission."

As we seek God's will as a Church and individuals, we may move forward together and serve the Lord. Let us remember to, Go-and share the Gospel, Gather-the saved into Grace Harvest, Grow-them through discipleship, Go-out into the world and share the Good news that Jesus Christ died to set men free form eternal death.

Your shepherd, Pastor Mark

Quote of the Week

"We have somehow got hold of the idea that error is only that which is outrageously wrong, and we do not seem to understand that the most dangerous person of all is the one who does not emphasize the right things."

-Martyn Lloyd-Jones

Grace Gems

Praise God!

-From Spurgeon's, DAVID'S DYING PRAYER

"All your works praise you, O God"

The stars still sing their Maker's praise; no sin has stopped their voice, no discord has made a jarring note among the harmonies of the spheres.

The earth itself still praises its Maker, the exhalations, as they arise with morn, are still a pure offering, acceptable to their Maker.

The lowing of the cattle, the singing of the birds, the leaping of the fishes, and the delights of animal creation, are still acceptable as votive offerings to the Most High.

The mountains still bring righteousness; on their hoary summits God's holy feet might tread, for they are yet pure and spotless.

Still do the green valleys, laughing with their verdure send up their shouts to the Most High.

The praise of God is sung by every wind it is howled forth in dread majesty by the voice of the tempest, the winds resound it, and the waves, with their thousand hands, clap, keeping chorus in the great march of God.

The whole earth is still a great orchestra for God's praise, and his creatures still take up various parts in the eternal song, which, ever swelling and ever increasing, shall by-and-by mount to its climax in the consummation of all things.

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



#### Service Times

Sunday Service 10:30AM Children's Church @10:30AM Giving from service on 07/25/2021

 General Offering
 6,930.69

 Building Fund
 443.35

 Uganda
 400.00

 Total
 \$7,774.04

Attendance .......199
Sunday School ......122
Online ......25

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
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