

Pastor's Pen

Fear!

When I am afraid, I will trust in you. Psalm 56:3

Fear is a human emotion that all of us have experienced. Webster defines fear as an unpleasant, often strong emotion caused by anticipation or awareness of danger. Oxford defines fear as "the bad feeling that you have when you are in danger, when something bad might happen, or when a particular thing frightens you." Fear can be debilitating if some allow their fear to remain uncontrolled.

Patton said, "Every man is scared in his first battle. If he says he's not, he's a liar. The real hero is the man who fights even though he is scared." King David admitted that he was afraid, but he would trust in the Lord despite that fear. Christians, we will face fear in this lifetime. Fear of death, injury, heartbreak, sickness, and the list goes on and on. However, God does not want us to fear; we should trust Him. These are just a few verses to meditate on when you are afraid.

-For I am Yahweh your God, who strongly takes hold of your right hand, Who says to you, 'Do not fear, I will help you.' Isaiah 41:13

-God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change And though the mountains shake into the heart of the sea; Though its waters roar and foam, Though the mountains quake at its lofty pride. Psalm 46:1-3

-Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. Psalm 23:4

-"These things I have spoken to you, so that in Me you may have peace. In the world you have tribulation, but take courage; I have overcome the world." John 16:33

-For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and self-discipline. 2 Tim. 1:7

Your shepherd,

Pastor Mark

Grace Gems

Only the blood of Christ can soften it! (Thomas Watson, "The Beatitudes" 1660)

"I will take away their hearts of stone and give them tender hearts!" Ezekiel 11:19

Oh the misery of a hard heart!

A heart of stone is insensible. A stone is not sensible of anything. Lay a heavy weight upon it; or grind it to powder—it does not feel. So it is with a hard heart, it is insensible to both its own sin and God's wrath. The stone in the kidneys is felt, but not the stone in the heart. **"Having lost all sensitivity."** Ephesians 4:19

A heart of stone is inflexible. A stone will not bend. Just so, the hard heart will not comply with God's command. It will not stoop to Christ's scepter. A heart of stone will sooner break, than bend by repentance. It is so far from yielding to God, that like the anvil, it beats back the hammer. A heart of stone will **"always resist the Holy Spirit."** Acts 7:51
A hard heart is void of all grace. While the wax is hard, it will not take the impression of the seal. Just so, the heart, while it is hard, will not take the stamp of grace. It must first be made tender and melting. The plough of the Word will not penetrate a hard heart!

A hard heart is good for nothing, but to make fuel for Hellfire! **"Because of your hardness and unrepentant heart, you are storing up wrath for yourself in the day of wrath!"** Romans 2:5

Quote of the Week

"I would rather wear out than rust out."
— George Whitefield

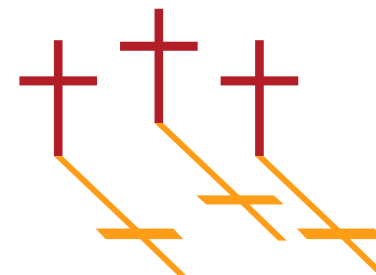
Hell is full of hard hearts! There is not one soft heart there! There is much weeping there, but no softness. We read of **"vessels of wrath, prepared for destruction."** Romans 9:22. Hardness of heart, fits these vessels for Hell, and makes them like withered wood, which is fit only to burn!

Hardness of heart makes a man's condition worse than all his other sins besides. If one is guilty of great sins, yet if he can mourn, there is hope. But hardness of heart binds guilt fast upon the soul. It seals a man under wrath. It is not heinousness of sin, but hardness of heart—which damns!

Oh the misery of a hard heart!

A stony heart is the worst heart. If it were bronze, it might be melted in the furnace; or it might be bent with the hammer. But a stony heart is such, that only the arm of God can break it, and only the blood of Christ can soften it!

"I will take out your stony heart of sin and give you a new, obedient heart." Ezekiel 36:26



Weekly Gatherings

Bible Classes

Old & New Testament Classes
Ladies Class
Young Adults Young Parents
Youth Surge
Sunday Morning @ 9:30AM



Weekday Meetings

Mondays | 7PM Men's Bible Study
1st and 3rd Saturday
Women of Grace | 9AM
Wednesdays | 6:30PM AWANA



Family Groups

Thursdays @ 7PM
Please check church website
for start date and directions to each



Build the Body Teams

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



Youth Study

Wednesdays @6:30PM
Youth Study; AWANA & Surge!



Service Times

Sunday Services 8AM & 11:00AM
Sunday School 9:30AM
Children's Church @11:00AM



Giving from service on 04/14/2024

General Offering	6,120.90
Building Fund	1,060.00
Uganda Missions	25.50
G3 Offering	50.00
Total	\$7,256.40
Attendance	219
Online	25
G3 Foreign Missions	\$877.50

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 BIBLE CHURCH

GO GATHER GROW GO

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Grace Harvest Bible Church

Apr 21, 2024

