

The Missouri Missionary Baptist

“Holding Forth The Word of Life”

Philippians 2:16

Volume LXXXI

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Issue No. 3

What The Righteous Can Do When The Foundations Crumble

Preached at Bethany Baptist Church, St. Louis, February 25, 2018
by Tim Boatright

King David wrote in Psalm 11:1-7, “*In the LORD I put my trust; How can you say to my soul, “Flee as a bird to your mountain”? For look! The wicked bend their bow, They make ready their arrow on the string, That they may shoot secretly at the upright in heart. If the foundations are destroyed, What can the righteous do? The LORD is in His holy temple, The LORD’S throne is in heaven; His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men. The LORD tests the righteous, But the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates. Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind shall be the portion of their cup. For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright.*”

Usually psalms (songs) are written from one’s personal experience with something or someone. But we are not told what the circumstances were that David was experiencing that led him to write this song. We do know that David, by what he said in this Psalm, was facing a national crisis in his life that had threatened the stability of the nation of Israel. It no doubt was having a profound effect upon him since he was the King.

David had the choice of whether to respond to this crisis with **fear or with faith—trust himself or trust God!!!** His advisors had panicked and advised David to flee from Jerusalem. But David remained calm, and resolved to keep his eyes on the Lord, and trust God in spite of his circumstances.

We often go through some troublesome times, a crisis that shakes us up, that calls for a response of **fear or faith**. We even see this in our nation as well where there have been evil things take place which have created a national crisis. Like the terrorist attack on 9-11 where over 3,000 were killed, and the mass murders in churches like in Charleston, South Carolina where 9 people were killed at a Bible Study, and in Sutherland Springs, Texas where 26 people were killed on a Sunday morning, and recently the mass murder of 17 people in a high school in Parkland, Florida (one of many school shootings over the years). These things cause us to ask the ques-

tion of verse 3 of this Psalm, “*If the foundations are destroyed, what*

can the righteous do?”

The foundations that have held us together have been shaken and many have been destroyed. Our society has been built on truth, law and order, and justice. If these things are undermined, then what can the righteous do? How are we as Christians suppose to live in an atmosphere such as this, where humanism, socialism, and liberalism challenges everything that is foundational for a moral society to function. These ideas dominate in our schools, government, courts, politics, and media.

There has been a purposeful and strategic attack mounted against everything decent, and moral, and Christian in our society. We have seen that this world is no friend to Christians, nor Biblical values. Biblical morality has been replaced by the new morality where: I won’t tell you you’re wrong, and you don’t tell me I’m wrong—we are both right as we choose to believe. (It is as if truth has become a personal preference).

In his day David could see important things that are foundational were being attacked and challenged by vicious and wicked people, who were shooting at “*the upright in heart.*” The same has happened to us. No nation or society can exist for long where: a lie is presented as the truth, and the truth as a lie. Where right is taught as wrong, and wrong is taught as right. God warned His people in Isaiah 5:20, “*Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!*”

When something happens that threatens to destroy, or shake the foundations—what are the righteous going to do? This psalm gives us two options:

I. We Can Run Away

Notice first the temptation to run away in verses 1-3

What Others Advised

Others advised David, “*Flee*”
• See **WHAT** Page 5 •

**Missouri State GMA House Party
and Annual Meeting**
March 23 - 24, 2018
First Baptist Church, Matthews, MO

Camp Garwood - Important Dates

April 6 -7, 2018 • Paintball Retreat - See Camp Garwood Facebook page for details as they are announced.

May 4 - 5, 2018 • Men’s Spring Retreat - See information on page 7 of this publication.

July 30th - August 3rd, 2018 • State Camp - Watch for more details.

Anytime - All Year! • You are welcome to come to Garwood and help get the grounds and buildings ready for retreats, camps and other meetings. Contact Chris Polk for more information • 573-380-1975

Remember: Everyone 18 years of age and older MUST complete the Adult Screening to be able to stay overnight at any camp activity. Go to bmamissouri.org and click on Camp Garwood to find “Adult Screening” which will lead you through the process.

Interested??

There are a few in the Potosi, Missouri area that have shown some interest in trying to have a reunion of those who were involved in state and district youth camps and other fellowships back in the 60’s and 70’s. If you would like to be a part of this contact Deborah Rauhut at vonrau@yahoo.com.

He’s Alive!!

As we approach Easter Sunday (April 1, 2018) we should look for ways to share the wonderful news of the **Living Savior** with those around us.

A wonderful way to show the Love of Jesus is to share it with the everyday people we work with, go to school with, trade with, speak to, or touch in other ways each day. If He lives in us, it will show in all we do and say.

Christians are the only ones who have a the Living Savior. Because He Lives we have The Promise of eternal life and can look forward to being in Heaven with God forever.

Do your friends and neighbors have this hope? Do you tell them how they can have this Hope? Do you show them that this Hope makes a difference.

Let’s celebrate His Resurrection by Sharing our Hope with others every day all year round. To God Be The Glory!!

Deacon Ordination
Bates Creek Missionary Baptist Church
April 15, 2018 • 2:00 p.m.

We will be ordaining Bro. Jason Wright to the office of Deacon and invite our sister churches to attend and to send your ordained pastors and deacons to assist in this service.

A noon meal will be served.

Missions Symposium & Mid-year Meeting

May 18th at 7:00 p.m. • May 19th at 9:00 a.m.

Zion Baptist Church • St. Louis

Offering • Designated as a love offering for Bro. David Griggs
Come and meet 2 new foreign missionaries

See more information in Mission Director’s report (page 3)



NEWS BRIEFS



Spring greetings from **Bates Creek, Potosi!!** The Lord has been at work at our church, so I have lots of news to report. The beginning of December, we learned that Bro. Knight was resigning as pastor. He and Sis. Bertha are missed but we knew the work had to continue and that they wanted it to continue. We had several participate in the local Christmas parade with Bibles handed out to many in our local community. We had a great Christmas event called "Journey to Bethlehem." Thank you, to Sis. Debbie Moses for her hard work organizing it. Then we took our biggest group yet to Youth Alive and all had a good time of fellowship and learning. Thank you Lord!! Our youth pastor, Bro. Bryan Buckley was called to be our pastor and he accepted God's call. The WMA had their annual silent auction with a great turn out. Our services have been uplifting and spirit led. We have had visitors. One visitor has joined and another has been saved. As one member stated, you can just feel the Spirit at work. God is blessing our church greatly. I hope that you find this as encouraging as we have and may God bless all of our churches.

Bryan Buckley, Pastor • Sara Buckley, Reporter

Landmark, DeSoto, reports that we've had so many ill for quite a while and it would probably be easier to tell you who wasn't than who was. January 19th, we had three church members in the hospital and all missed the Sunday afterwards. Sis. Catie Decker, is due to have her baby very soon, and there are serious problems concerning him. By the time you receive the paper, the baby will have arrived. He is scheduled to have surgery as soon as he is born. But, we have a great God and are fully aware that He has control. Prayers are certainly coveted for him, his parents and sister, grandparents and great grandparents. Bro. Aaron has been bringing good messages and then teaching the Evangelism Explosion soul winning course on Sunday nights. The parsonage is still not ready for them to move into and will still be several weeks more. They are very anxious to get moved to DeSoto and not have to travel every weekend. We've had to cancel several services due to bad weather. It always seems so long between services when we have to do that. The Action Team sponsored an ice cream social the 24th. They had both homemade and some store bought ice cream. I don't know how many attended, but do know that there was a lot of ice cream left over. We went downstairs Sunday night after church and again on Wednesday night after church and pigged out. Very good stuff! Until next month or the Lord's Return,

Aaron Maxwell, Pastor • Sharon Page, Reporter

Greetings once again from **Bethany, St. Louis.** We are all looking forward to Spring and new beginnings. Bro. Boatright is still willing to be our interim pastor and we are thankful for his willingness to be used as God's instrument. Bro. Hoffmann filled in for him as he and Connie traveled to Oklahoma to celebrate a grandchild's birthday. We are having visitors from the assisted living complex across the street. Some of us have had the flu and have been confined to home. Sis. Tiny Blanchard has been hit with it, thanks to me! Please pray for her as her immune system is very low. We covet your prayers as we continue to be a lighthouse in our area. God bless.

Tim Boatright, Interim Pastor • Kathy Chapman, Reporter.

Greetings from **First Baptist Church, Potosi.** February definitely has been a mixed up month with all the temperature and weather changes. We even had to cancel Wednesday evening services for everyone including upward practice, COW, and the adult service; we also had to cancel one Sunday morning service due to ice. That is very rare for us. The older adult

classes completed their study on the book of Ephesians; the couples class is still studying "The Story." Sickness continues to run rampant and the recovery is long awaited. Wednesday evenings the adults are studying Matthew 5. The class is very interesting and interactive. All of us were saddened at the death of the Reverend Billy Graham. What a great example of love and discipleship for the Lord. On WORLD MISSIONS SUNDAY Bro. Donny Parrish blessed us as our guest speaker. My favorite missionary was Bro. Harold Morris and that was because he visited our church several times and I was able to get to know him on a personal basis. I really enjoyed it when he visited in our home for meals; his wife even gave me a couple of pointers on the accordion. We are preparing for many activities. UPWARD is ending and the closing program is March 5th. Our 62nd annual Friends Day is March 4th (BBQ theme again) and the SHINE Conference for middle and high school girls is March 10th. Bro. Kevin is planning to take the youth to Creation Museum March 29th. Missionary Stan Scroggins will be here for our morning worship service April 8th. Our evening service April 8th is the beginning of our in-home Sunday evening Community Groups. I really enjoyed the two I have attended and am anxious to begin a new study. I wonder on whose list I will be placed. It is a mystery. Our GMA's are working on some of their mission work and trying to learn proper table setting and manners. That may take some time. While several are ill, two special ladies, Sis. Judy Heeter and Sis. Verniece Snyder, who have been members for many years need your prayers. Also, a few of us are interested in getting a group together of anyone who was involved in the youth during the 60's and 70's. That is when we had church camp at the YMCA

and had monthly youth meetings. Maybe it could be an annual event. We have new outreach programs beginning and Celebrate Recovery is going strong. Please remember to pray for us as we pray for you.

Jim Ainley, Pastor • Deborah Rauhut, Reporter

Greetings from **Faith Baptist Church, St. Charles.** Things are off to a good start this year. We've added a few more to our number by baptism, and it seems that each week more of our youth are bringing their friends to learn and worship with us. Our Men's and Women's groups have started up again, and several couples are participating in a Marriage Oneness class on Sunday evenings. We're thankful that we have so many opportunities to fellowship with our church family! As signs of Spring have been appearing, we have started planning our spring and summer events. The softball team has been assembled, and they are working on scheduling practices. There has been some planning towards VBS, as well, with a strategy meeting scheduled for mid-March. Of course we are all looking forward to Easter! The choir has been diligently practicing "In Christ Alone" to sing in the morning service, and there have been preparations for the children's Easter Egg Hunt on March 24th. On March 1st, Pastor Justin launched a ministry that has been laid on his heart for a while. Because social media has taken off as such a popular method of communication, he has been led to use that platform to share the Gospel. He and a few other pastors are taking turns preaching on Facebook Live every evening. The goal is to reach as many people with God's true Word as possible.

Justin Arender, Pastor • Annaliese Wagner, Reporter

Hello from **Bethel, Sikeston.** Spring is right upon us and we are so ready! We are looking forward to our plans for the rest of the year. We are seeing new visitors each week. Bro. Billy gave each of us a folder for our Wednesday night study of the names of God. It gives us the names and the meaning of each one. It has been a real help with our study! Bro. Robert Mendoza from the Philippines was with us on the 11th and gave us a report of his ministry. It is a blessing to see how our support is being used to spread the gospel in other countries. He was given a generous love offering to help with the ministry and outreach of his people. We may not be able to physically go to another country but we can spread the gospel through our monetary support and prayers. The youth put on a Valentines dinner the 17th and did an awesome job, The food and service was great! They raised a little over \$600. for their mission trip

• Continued on Page 4 •

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FINANCIAL REPORT BMA OF MISSOURI MISSIONS • FEBRUARY 2018

General Fund:

Checking Account:

Balance January 31, 2018		\$	46,034.06
February Receipts:			
Missions:	\$	1,720.69	
Total Income:	\$	1,720.69	\$ 1,720.69
Total Available			\$ 47,754.75
Disbursements:			
Director Salary	\$	600.00	
Planning Mtg for Sym.	\$	27.98	
VSM - BMAA	\$	1,000.00	
Office Supplies	\$	50.00	
Total Disbursements	\$	1,677.98	\$ (1,677.98)
Balance February 28, 2018:			\$ 46,076.77

Bank of America Savings Account:

Balance January 31, 2018		\$	(1,100.64)
Interest:	\$.02	\$.02
Balance February 28, 2018:			\$ 1,100.66

Investment in BMA of Mississippi Revolving Loan Fund:

Balance January 31, 2018		\$	101,169.03
Interest:	\$	0.00	\$ 0.00
Balance February 28, 2018:			\$ 101,169.03

Total of all Funds February 28, 2018 **\$ 148,303.73**

From Our Director...

Last month I mentioned that the states that make up our National Association are making an effort to have a plan in operation for gathering volunteers from all over the U.S. that are willing and able to help during times of natural disasters. I have had two individuals show some interest in helping get this started in Missouri. We can still use others who are willing. In fact we are going to eventually need someone in each church help us compile a list for a database listing those who can be contacted when the need arises.

Please e-mail me or call me if you have an interest in working statewide, or in your church, or your local association. In the next few months we will be contacting those who show an interest in this.

Our Special Missions Committee will be meeting in the next few weeks to discuss our work in Missouri and

formulate recommendations to present to our churches at our Mid-Year Association that meets at Zion Baptist Church in St. Louis, May 19th. Please pray for us as we seek God's leadership in all matters. If you have any suggestions about what we need to consider in our associated work please let us know and we will be happy to discuss your ideas. Your input is valuable to our work.

I hope you are making plans to attend our Missions Symposium which will meet on Friday evening, May 18th at Zion Baptist Church in St. Louis. The program this year will be different than we have had in several years. We have invited two missionary families to be with us and let us get acquainted with them as they tell us about themselves and the work to which has God has called them.

The Larry Wood family who is going to Ukraine and the Jimmy Walker family who is going to the Phil-

ippines are looking forward to meeting the folks here in Missouri and this should prove to be an enjoyable and profitable evening.

Each year we ask the churches to bring an offering to the Missions Symposium and the Special Missions Committee select a ministry or need to which that offering is given. This year we have a brother Pastor who has been through some very difficult physical problems since last summer and we have decided to designate the offering from this year's symposium to be given to Bro. David Griggs to show our love and support for him.

Bro. David has been a faithful pastor at Emmanuel Baptist in St. Louis for many years and has held associational offices in our local and state associations, including serving as editor of the Meramec Banner, the publication of the Meramec Association. He presently serves as the Treasurer of the Missouri

Preparing For The National Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi April 16-18, 2018

It is time to finalize your plans for attending the 2018 session of the Baptist Missionary Association of America that will meet April 16-18 in Jackson, Mississippi.

Information Packets have been mailed to BMAA Churches. These packets contain the schedule for the meeting along with information on three hotels that are near the meeting area. Using these facilities will help our association with expenses involved in using the convention center. These packets also contain other information that will help you become familiar with other things pertaining to the area. If you did not receive a packet you can go online at bmaamerica.org and go to "National Meeting 2018" to find a brief schedule, motel information and other information needed.

Department and Committee Reports and Recommendations booklets should arrive at our churches by the time you receive this paper.

"This year we have the added convenience of **Department Video Reports** being available online as described in the following announcement:

In the spirit of keeping Annual Reports at the national meeting between ten and fifteen minutes in length, BMA departments (DiscipleGuide, LifeWord, Missions, Ministers Resource Services and BMA Foundation) have videotaped lengthy, in-depth reports for your benefit

Departments leaders want you to have all the information you need about your ministries, so follow this link for a detailed report from each director, then call 1-844-262-8637 and name the department you'd like to speak with regarding any questions you may have: <https://bmaamerica.org/annual-reports/>

We hope to have a progressive meeting with great fellowship and cooperation as we take care of business, worship the Lord and fellowship with one another.

How To Fix America

Put JESUS back in

All the Places You Asked HIM to Leave...

Home

School

Government

Church

Your HEART!!

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

II Chronicles 7:14

Missionary Baptist Loan Association and actively attends local, district and state meetings.

I know some have wanted to know if there is some way they could help him as he recovers from hospitalizations and surgeries and this seems to be a good way to accomplish that. He is doing well at the present time and is anxious to resume his activity.

Please begin now to give

your church an opportunity to help us encourage him by sending an offering to the symposium.

If you are unable to attend the meeting you may send an offering to BMA Missions designated for "David Griggs" and we will see that it is included in the offering at the symposium.

Let pray for a great meeting and time of fellowship at Zion in May.

• **NEWS From Page 2** •

next year. The Freeman Family was with us on the 28th. They had a slide show of some of the villages and the work that's being done there. There are many souls being saved because of this ministry! They presented us with a gift of their appreciation, a hand woven banner with the scripture verse, Mark 16:15 "And he said unto them, go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," printed in the middle of the banner. All the glory goes to God! We could not do any of this without him! It is very uplifting to know that God's Word is being spread and God's work is being done in these places. We are so blessed to live in the USA! We had a movie night March 3rd. "The War Room" was shown. A good group of youth and adults attended. Popcorn & Pizza was served. This is all free for anyone that attends. We plan on having a movie night once a month, 4:00-7:30. We plan to observe the Lord's Supper on the 25th of March. Our Vacation Bible School will be June 18th-22nd. The theme will be "Jungle River Adventure." We look forward to a big turnout of children again this year. Bro. Ronnie Warren, evangelist from Springfield, Missouri and his wife, Mary Lou, will be here the 29th of April. Everyone is invited to come join us. God's blessings to all
Billy Davis Pastor - Joan Wood, Reporter

Yes, the **Lower Doe Run Church, Ellington**, continues to spread the Word in our community and surrounding area. Members faithfully reach out as far as Columbus, Ohio and Macon, MO. What a blessing it is to know that our salvation is secure in Christ. Spread the Good News! Jesus Saves! Fresh in my mind is the blessing of attending the Missouri State WMA at Zion Baptist Church in St. Louis. What a joy to worship the Lord, fellowship with dear friends, and catch up all the news from the churches and departments. Bro. Baker gave a clear glimpse of the Heavenly Sanctuary, the dwelling of our Lord and Saviour. All of the scriptures and the devotional, by Sis. Kerri, gave a clear glimpse of God's Promises. Our guest speaker blessed us with a message of God's love and His nurturing care. She spoke of the ministry of the Philippine Bible College. The Bible College has trained local pastors and workers and also those who are called to minister and work in Southeast Asia and China. We pray faithfully for Doyle and Linda Moore as they adjust to reentry. Pray for their health and their travels. Missionaries on furlough from the Philippines, Sam and Dawn Freeman and two sons visited in our home recently. They live and work in our former home area, Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental. We are so thankful for visitors at church. Dakota brought friend, Kelsey, and Rylan brought friend Jerratt. We love when our youth bring friends. Please pray for 4 year old, Emmitt, who has had brain surgery and had to go back again for more surgery this week. Please pray for Nick as he adjusts to dialysis at home, and for his caregivers. Pray for Thelma as she endures painful therapy. Others are out because of sickness. Pray for Betty Rayfield as she prepares to attend a special program at the church this month. We want to remember her deceased husband as deacon and honor her as the last charter member this month. We will also celebrate her 90th birthday. Until we meet,
Melvin Meade, Pastor • Carolyn Meade, Reporter

Abundant Life in Christ, Charleston, rejoices in the addition of Julie French by baptism and progress being made on finishing our building.
Rodney Dunlap, Pastor

Greetings from **Black Creek of Poplar Bluff!** God is blessing the church of Black Creek in a tremendous way in 2018! We have been praying about purchasing new songbooks for the church for a couple of months. Bro. Troy was talking to some friends of his about what books to be looking at. When his

friends told him they had 28 brand new books they could give him provided the church would like to have them. So now we have 60+ new songbooks and the church only had to buy half of them. Plus we were able to get one of them enlarged for our piano player. God is so good to us! February 18th we were blessed with the presence of a new family who came to church with Bro. Terry and Sis. Ashley (Sisk) Childers. That Sunday evening James Childers (brother of Terry) came forward and turned his life over to our Lord Jesus Christ. Sunday, February 25th, Bro. James came forward asking to be baptized and to become a full-fledged member. The baptism of Bro. James was scheduled for Sunday, March 4th right after the morning service. Maybe this next piece should actually wait until next month but is just too good to keep! When the service was coming to close on March 4th, Lisa Childers came forward and gave her testimony of giving her life to the Lord on Thursday, March 1st and asked to be baptized to become a member also. So, instead of going to Black River on the 4th day of March, with the river up and muddy for one to be baptized, we had two! Black Creek is growing! Bro. James and Sis. Lisa's two young daughters are attending with them also. The entire morning congregation went to the river to witness the baptism. We also had someone just stop by to watch and they recorded it. God is good, all the time and all the time, God is good! We will be having an Easter Sunrise Service April 1st at 5:30 a.m. with breakfast to follow. Then our regular services will begin at 9:45 a.m. with the preaching hour at 11:00 a.m. The Sunday evening service will be with Bro. Caleb Davis (11 years old) leading the singing and a devotional by Bro. Matthew Thurner. Bro. Caleb is the son of Bro. Matthew and Sis. Stephanie Thurner; grandson of Sis. Sherry Vance; and the nephew of Sis. Lindsey Vance.

Please remember to pray for all of our Sister Churches who are without Pastors. And also pray for all our Pastors. May God continue to bless us all.

Troy Sisk, Pastor • Yvonne Hill, Reporter

Bethesda Landmark Baptist Church, Park Hills, has had to cancel services several times due to the weather. We had a Valentine's fellowship on February 18th with pasta, desserts, and games. Sis. Barbarasue Marler and Bro. Tommy Cantrell's brother, Danny Cantrell (a former member of Bethesda) passed away on February 22. We have had Bro. Roy Brakefield, Bro. Leonard Knight, Bro. Jamie Jones, Bro. Len Young, Bro. Michael Huddleston, and Bro. Alan Dane preach for us. Ashton Dane, Youth Reporter

Stony Point, Mineral Point, sends blessings to everyone. We are very proud of our youth and leaders. The Valentine Dinner was so much fun and the youth raised \$149 in tips to go towards their trip to ALIVE. Sunday February 25th Sue Shafferkoetter presented herself for Church membership on promise of letter. She was given the hand of Christian fellowship. Our youth presented an afternoon service with a very moving concert. We are blessed that Pastor Claude Evans has been our Pastor for 19 years as of March 1, 2018.

Claude Evans, Pastor • Debrah Coleman, Reporter

First Aid (CPR & AED) Training

by

The American Red Cross

at

***Matthews Missionary Baptist Church,
Matthews, Missouri***

April 14, 2018 • 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Camp Committeemen & Teachers - FREE

Everyone else - \$ 63.00

Please RSVP so we know how many to expect.

To Give or Not?

***Is Giving Money to Panhandlers
the Compassionate Thing to do??***

"As long as we as a community continue to give \$5 to somebody and say 'God bless you,' that person will always be on a street corner," says campaign spokesman Tony Marciano, head of the Charlotte Rescue Mission. "But when the supply dries up - and they no longer get their money, the panhandling stops. An addict only seeks help when they hit bottom. As long as we continue to give them funding for their drug habit, they don't hit bottom."

"Amy Murphy added her opinion: "The article didn't mention that we are in the middle of an opioid crisis - and that alone should be reason enough not to hand cash to folks panhandling. The likelihood of the money ending up in the hands of a drug dealer is simply too high."

Murphy will serve a meal to anyone who shows up at Center City Park in downtown Greensboro on Monday mornings, no questions asked.

"But hand someone a few dollars? Never," she says. And don't you do it, either. It will do more harm than good."

Her advice: Every time you feel like handing cash to a panhandler, say NO. Put the money in an account and then contribute to an organization that finds long-term solutions to the underlying problems of hunger and homelessness - usually mental illness and addiction.

Doug Clark, in Greensboro, *North Carolina News and Record*.

Posted February 7, 2018

Via - *Northern Landmark Missionary Baptist* - February 2018
Editor's Note: A good way to help others in need is through your local church organizing a "Help Others" or similar Ministry.

• **WHAT From Page 1** •

as a bird to your mountain” For look! The wicked bend their bow, They make ready their arrow on the string, That they may shoot secretly at the upright in heart. They were telling David that he should run and hide while he could. They were telling him that evil was present and that it could strike at any moment. They had been terrorized, and it seems that the wicked people had been successful on David’s friends. Sometimes running away is the right thing to do when you face the temptation to sin. Paul told Timothy, “Flee also youthful lusts” (2 Tim. 2:22). Much like Joseph did when propositioned by Potiphar’s wife (Gen. 39:10-12).

But running away is the wrong thing to do when it interferes with us serving the Lord. We should be like Nehemiah when threatened to stop building the walls of Jerusalem or else be killed. His response, “Should such a man as I flee? And who is there such as I who would go into the temple to save his life? I will not go in!” (Neh. 6:11) Paul told Timothy, “For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.” (2 Tim. 1:7) David was not looking for a way to escape—therefore he would reject the advice of others.

What David Affirmed

“In the LORD I put my trust; How can you say to my soul, Flee as a bird to your mountain?” V. 1. David had fled to the mountains for safety at other times. (1) when hiding from Saul who had attempted to kill him on more than one occasion (2) when hiding from Absalom when he stole the throne from David and was looking for him in order to kill him. But not this time. This was a time to stay put, trust in the Lord, and keep standing on the foundation of truth from God’s Word. This time David ran to the Lord for safety, rather than run to the mountains. David recognizes that his life was in the Lord’s hands, and that is where he places his confidence. He also wrote in Psalm 56:11, “In God I have put my trust; I will not be afraid. What can man do to me?”

What Others Asked

“If the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do?” V. 3. The foundation is the most important part of any building. Foundations here referred to God’s Law (Word) and the people’s commitment to follow it. In rebelling against David, and trying to eliminate David, they were rebelling against God—Who had placed David on the throne. David was God’s appointed man. The foundation of any society is the laws of God on how to love God, and how to love one another. Any foundation that is not built on God’s rules and laws is headed for an eventual collapse. This was the point of the story that Jesus told in Matthew 7:24-27, where the difference in the ability to stand the storm was upon what each man had built his house upon. Jesus applied it to those who build their lives on their compliance to the teachings of God, and those who do not.

David’s friends were advising, and the enemies were scheming, and the foundations were crumbling. What should he do? How could he deal with this situation. This is the question I’ve asked myself as well. With all that is happening, and that has happened, what should I do? On a recent Face Book post from Oak Cliff Bible Fellowship on February 19, 2018, Pastor Tony Evans was asked by his congregation about why things like the school shooting in Parkland, Florida was happening in our culture. This is the just of what he said. Pastor Evans told them that there is a cause and effect relationship taught by the Bible. In 2 Chronicles 15:3-6 it says, “For a long time Israel has been without the true God, without a teaching priest, and without law; 4 but when in their trouble they turned to the LORD God of Israel, and sought Him, He was found by them. 5 And in those times there was no peace to the one who went out, nor to the one who came in, but great turmoil was on all the inhabitants of the lands. 6 So nation was destroyed by nation, and city by city, for God troubled them with every adversity.” He then said that these verses explained why it was happening and why it will keep happening. The further you remove God, the more chaos will fill the vacuum. When you remove God, you also remove His value system. Removing God is not just removing a name, but a value system. When you remove God and His value system, then something else will take His place. When God is removed from our culture, education sys-

tem, politics, government, etc., then that empty space that was left by God’s exclusion will be filled with evil. If people do not value their lives—they will not value your life either. We are living in a day where there is the dumbing-down of the conscience. As more people’s consciences are dumbed-down, the more chaos there will be. We as Christians have the job of bringing God back. When God was removed from the school—chaos entered in. Wherever God is removed, chaos will fill that space in your life, in your family, in your culture. Bringing God back is the only hope of bringing ease to a chaotic world.

I, like David, have seen the foundations shaken in my life. Let me share just a few things that I believe have contributed to destruction of the moral fabric and may explain a little about people’s behavior. I was born in 1955, and when I started to school a new explanation for our existence became the norm in public schools. The theory of evolution replaced creationism in the 1960’s ... if I came from nothing, and I am nothing, and I am going nowhere—then I’m supposed to care what happens to you and me? In my opinion, there is nothing that had produced more destruction to the foundation of this country than this lie. Then it really took off when Madeleine Murray O’Hare complained she didn’t want prayer in our schools. Then someone said you better not read the Bible in school ironically the Bible says thou shall not kill, thou shall not steal, and love your neighbor as yourself. In 1973, the year I graduated from high school, abortion was legalized and human life was cheapened at an all-time low as being an inconvenience. Then the psychologist replaced the preacher, and in moved Dr. Benjamin Spock who said we shouldn’t spank our children when they misbehave because their little personalities might be damaged and they would develop a bad self-image. Most people agreed, and followed Dr. Spock’s advice. Now we’re asking ourselves why our children have no conscience, why they don’t know right from wrong, and why it doesn’t bother them to kill their classmates, their parents, and them-

selves. Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out.

Billy Graham’s daughter, Ann Graham Lotz, was interviewed on CBS’ “The Early Show” and Jane Clayson asked her “How could God let something like this happen?” (Referring to the attacks on Sept., 11, hurricanes and earthquakes.) Anne Graham gave an extremely profound and insightful response. “I say God is also angry when he sees something like this. I would say also for several years now Americans in a sense have shaken their fists at God and said, God, we want you out of our schools, our government, our business, we want you out of our marketplace. And God, who is a gentleman, has just quietly backed out of our national and political life, our public life. Removing his hand of blessing and protection. We need to turn to God first of all and say, God, we’re sorry we have treated you this way and we invite you now to come into our national life. We put our trust in you. We have our trust in God on our coins, we need to practice it.”

What can the righteous do? What do you do when the laws are ignored, and the morality is redefined, and the Bible is disregarded. What should we do?—isolate?—withdraw?—hide?—run? Running away solves no problem—it only delays our facing it.

In the first three verses this Psalm deals with the first option of the temptation to run away. Next there is the second option:

II. We Can Run To Vv. 4-7

Instead of running for the rocks (mountain), David ran to the ROCK (the Rock of Ages). Notice how David described the Lord in 2 Sam. 22:2,47, “The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer; The God of my strength, in whom I will trust; My shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold and my refuge; My Savior You save me from violence. “The LORD lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let God be exalted, The Rock of my salvation! This was David’s version of the hymn “Rock of Ages.”

Motivated by The Sovereignty of God V,4,

“The LORD is in His holy temple, the LORD’S throne is in heaven;” David was reminding himself and all of us as readers that God is present—He is not dead, not sick, not asleep, not senile, and not on vacation. He is ever present and aware of everything. He is still in control, even when we think that things are out of control. David also stated in Psalm 46:1, “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.” Someone said, “When the outlook is grim—try the uplook.” Instead of looking around so much, maybe we should try looking up.

This was the heavenly temple where God is enthroned that David referred to here. This is what the Prophet Habakkuk discovered in his crisis as well when he wondered why God was allowing evil people to rule over His people - Hab. 2:20 - “But the LORD is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him.” When a crisis came to Isaiah, it is said the throne of Israel was empty because of the death of the king, but it also says that Isaiah looked and saw the Lord high and lifted up in the heavenly temple (Isaiah 6). Isaiah saw that the Lord’s throne was still occupied. The same thing with the Apostle John when was on the Isle of Patmos, and it was there in that dark and difficult time in his life that the Lord revealed Himself there to John (Rev. 1). What John saw enabled him to deal with his circumstances.

David replied to his fearful followers by redirecting their focus to the Lord. **DON’T RUN TO THE MOUNTAINS—RUN TO THE THRONE OF GOD.** The solution is not running away, but running to! Never do believers experience God to be so sufficient as when they find themselves in the most difficult of times when things are out of control. Corrie Ten Boom said, “Look at the world, you’ll be distressed; Look at yourself, you’ll be depressed; Look at Christ, and you’ll be at rest.”

Motivated by The Scrutiny of God Vv. 4-5

“His eyes behold, His eyelids test the sons of men. The LORD tests the righteous, but the wicked and the one who loves violence His soul hates.” God observes all people and is aware of their behavior, “His eyes behold.” The Bible also says in Proverbs 15:3, “The eyes of the LORD are in every place, keeping watch on the evil and the good.” No one gets away with wrong doing—men may evade law enforcers—but not the Supreme law

• See **WHAT Page 8** •

WMA & GMA NEWS

Articles for this column may be sent to

WMA Secretary: Norma Womble
7421 Hillsboro House Spg. Rd.
Cedar Hill, MO 63016
e-mail - nrwomble@juno.com

Send all WMA Offerings to:

STATE WMA TREASURER:

Connie Reifsteck
P.O. Box 190493
St. Louis, MO 63119

Send all GMA Offerings to:

STATE GMA TREASURER:

Shelia Polk
P.O. Box 259
Matthews, MO 63867

49th Annual Meeting Missouri State Women's Missionary Auxiliary Zion Baptist Church, St. Louis March 3, 2018 • 10:00 a.m.

The meeting opened with the WMA and Brotherhood meeting together. President Juanita May led in prayer. Van Widger led the congregation in singing accompanied by Ladonna Baker. Claude Evans led in prayer and the men left for the Brotherhood meeting.

Juanita read the theme verse Philippians 4:19. Janet Widger gave the Welcome from Zion. She read Psalm 19:14 and gave Juanita May a gift as the outgoing President. The gift of flowers was given for a job well done with an explanation of what each represented in Juanita's life in the service of the Lord.

Lisa Payne (Kewanee) gave a response to the welcome.

The ladies from Kewanee were appointed to the Registration Committee. Finance Committee was Connie Reifsteck,

A devotional was given by Kari Hartlein of Matthews. She spoke on the Promises of God. She had memorized Proverbs 3:5-6 a long time ago and it assured her that God would take of her and it is a promise that we all can claim. She also read the theme verse, Philippians 4:19 and said that God doesn't promise our wants; He did promise our needs. God is faithful and will not break a promise. We can trust in Him.

We took care of the following business:

The minutes from last year's meeting were approved. No Petitionary Letters were presented. The Treasurer's Report was approved. There was no Historian report. The Retreat Committee reported the Retreat would be September 14-15, 2017 at the Drury Inn in Arnold, MO. The Resolutions report was approved. The Registration Committee reported 13 Missouri churches and 1 Mississippi church registered with 21 Messengers and 7 Visitors.

The following Officers were elected for 2018-2019:

President – Barbara Williams (Emmanuel - St. Louis)
1st Vice President – Sharon Page (Landmark - DeSoto)
2nd Vice President – Terri Adams (Kewanee)
Secretary – Norma Womble (Zion)
Asst. Secretary – Liz Fikac (First Bourbon)
Treasurer – Connie Reifsteck (Zion)
Asst. Treasurer – Ruth Gibson (Landmark – DeSoto)
Bible & Tract Distributor – Carolyn Meade (Kewanee)
Historian – Tracy Goede (Zion)
Youth Promoter – Lisa Payne (Kewanee)
Asst. Youth Promoter – Terri Adams (Kewanee)

Retreat Committee:

2020 – Kate Adams (Matthews)
2019 – Terri Adams (Kewanee)
2021 – Ladonna Baker (Zion)

Advisory Council:

Terry Sharpe (Ohlman)
Bro. Dennis Baker (Zion)
Bro. Claude Evans (Stony Point)

Approved the 2018-2019 Project:

30% Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper, 30% Andy Lahmann Work Fund, 30% General Fund, 10% Youth Fund.

Project Promotion Committee is Connie Reifsteck (Zion) Jennifer Brooks (1st, Bourbon) Chris Griggs (Emmanuel, St. Louis)

Jennifer Brooks (First, Bourbon) gave a brief report on Missionary Andy Lahmann's work with the Navajo Indians. She shared John 4:35 and said she began to go out to the Navajo Nation in 2009. She gave a little of her personal testimony regarding

her desire to do mission work, stating that our actual mission starts when we leave the door of the Church. She told about one of the Navajo children that she met when she first went there and that he is still coming to the mission at Mexican Waters. The Lord is blessing in this missionary work and a report is issued in the Missouri Missionary Baptist Paper when available. She also presented a video slide show of the work.

Editor James Hoffmann thanked the ladies for their support of the MMB Paper. He also talked about the Mission Symposium May 18, 2018 at Zion, St. Louis.

The Widgers presented special music preceding the annual message by Pastor Dennis Baker. His subject was: "The New Sanctuary is better than the Old Sanctuary" based on Hebrews 9:24-28. He compared the Old Sanctuary (on earth) made by human hands and the New Sanctuary (Jesus' dwelling place). The Old Sanctuary could not settle the sin problems but Jesus settles the sin problem for us. He described the different components in the Sanctuary made by human hands using the 9th Chapter of Hebrews and then the New Sanctuary as in Acts 7:48-49. Jesus settled the problem of sin by purchasing redemption with the blood He shed, when he became the sacrifice, paying the price of sin. We have to make a decision if we will follow or continue in the Old Sanctuary or will we be a part of the New Sanctuary in Jesus.

We enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by the ladies of Zion. The afternoon session opened with more business. The 2019 meeting will be at Kewanee Baptist Church March 2, 2019 and will be the 50th annual Missouri WMA meeting. The speaker will be announced later.

We voted to send \$200. to the National WMA project, and to send \$300. to the Program Speaker. The Final Registration Report: 15 churches, 22 messengers and 7 visitors.

Sharon Lourance gave the Resolutions report that was approved along with giving a rising vote of appreciation to the host church and officers.

Janet Widger introduced our speaker Sis. Linda Moore,

The Women's Ladies Retreat

September 14 & 15, 2018

Speakers • LifeWord Trio

Registration Fee

\$ 25.00 BEFORE August 31, 2018

\$30.00 after August 31st.

(No refunds after August 31st.)

Drury Inn & Suites • Arnold, MO (636) 287-3111

Group Name: Women's Missionary Auxiliary Of Missouri

Group Number: 2333172

Room Rate: \$ 114.99 (Plus Tax)

2 Queen beds (up to 4 people)

Rate guaranteed until August 15, 2018

Room Occupancy will include:

"Kickback" (Supper) & "Quick-Start" (Breakfast)

**NOTE: Make Room reservations directly with the motel
Be sure to mention Group name and number.**

**Fun begins at 4:00 p.m. Friday & ends
around 3:00 Saturday.**

Enjoy the fun and fellowship!

**Make check payable to Missouri WMA
And send with the registration form to:**

**Terri Adams
1450 State Hwy HH
Matthews, MO 63867**

**(Registration form will be printed in next month's issue of
the Missouri Missionary Baptist)**

Missionary to the Philippians for 43 years. The Widgers sang, "To the Regions Beyond."

Sis. Moore opened with Proverbs 4:19 and she sang, "Consider the Lilies." She reported about the beginning of the Philippine Bible College. She and her husband, Bro. Doyle Moore, went there in 1976 and started the school because of the need of the people for Christ. The people did not know Jesus or anything about Him, there were no churches and no one there to show them Jesus. They did not know how to worship, even though they may have been saved. Under a dictatorship the people were told what to do, when to do it and how to do it, and this was the only way they knew how to live. The Moore's went there and began training them on the basic fundamentals that we have grown up knowing about serving God. They did not even know how to love one another. The school has had many graduates to send out to start churches and pastor them. It is still serving the Lord with the people. The Moore's have moved back to the states and are now involved in Bible Studies to continue training others. They will be doing this as long as the Lord allows. They still support the school and invite others to do the same.

Janet Widger led the installation of the officers using the theme, "Flowers for the Lord" Psalm 103:15. The verse tells us that our days are as grass, a flower of the field. Life is like a flower. We start out as a bud, bloom for a season, then fade and die. So in a spiritual sense, the psalmist is comparing life to a flower. Look at our WMA flowers. She then called the officers up one at a time and presented them with flower with a definition as to why they could be regarded as each flower. She ended by saying that the officers are "The Bloomers," the ones everyone sees. But each member of the WMA is a part of the field of flowers. We each have a place in God's field. She challenged each of us to serve in our place and make the fields where God has placed us a beautiful place for the world to see.

*Juanita May, President
Liz Fikac, Assistant Secretary*

Brothers.... Dealing with men's issues and Promoting the Fellowship & Growth of Men in the BMA of Missouri

Our King Cometh

Zechariah 9:9

by **Dennis Baker, Brotherhood President**

"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass."

Zechariah prophesies of future events, such as the triumphant entry of Jesus on Palm Sunday, Judas' betrayal of Jesus, the soldiers piercing the side of Jesus, and return of Jesus Christ, introduced Jesus Christ as Israel's King. The events describe future revelation of Israel's King, but the Kingship of Jesus was a present reality for Zechariah's readers.

"Thy King cometh unto thee: he is just." Jeremiah 23:5, *"Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will raise unto David a righteous Branch, and a King shall reign and prosper, and shall execute judgment and justice in the earth."* Isaiah 9:6-7, *"For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even for ever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this."* John 12:13-15, *"Took branches of palm trees, and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna: Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord. And Jesus, when he had found a young ass, sat thereon; as it is written, Fear not, daughter of Sion: behold, thy King cometh, sitting on an ass's colt."* The modern relevance is the inclusion of the Gentiles into God's plan of Salvation. Daniel 7:13-14, *"I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed."*

"The King cometh with salvation." The word "Lowly"

suggests that before Jesus reigns on the earth as King that He would come as a servant. Isaiah 53:11, *"He shall see of the travail of his soul, and shall be satisfied: by his knowledge shall my righteous servant justify many; for he shall bear their iniquities."* Zechariah's prophecies, concerning the thirty pieces of silver (11:12-13), Christ's crucifixion (12:10), and wounds in His hands, were witnessed by the Apostles. New Testament fulfillment references: Matthew 26:14-16; 27:5-10; John 19:31-36; John 20:26-27.

The Apostles wrote and taught what they had witnessed. Their message was not a new revelation. They saw Old Testament prophecy was fulfilled before their eyes. Therefore, they are valid witnesses that Jesus came with salvation. Our test for the message of salvation is what Jesus taught and the Apostles wrote.

Rejoice, Jesus Christ is King! The Kingship of Jesus Christ is a present-day reality for believers from all languages, people, and nations. As King, He came as a servant, fulfilled God's plan of salvation, including the inclusion of all languages, people, and nations.

National Brotherhood Meeting

The 2018 National Brotherhood Meeting will be held on Tuesday April 17 at the Jackson Convention Complex in Jackson, MS. This meeting will be held at 8:00 AM in room 212. This meeting is a part of the BMA of America National Meeting. Bryan Risner, missionary to Romania will be our guest speaker. We need all our BMA men to show up for this meeting. May God bless each and every one of you.

The World Needs A Few Good Men

by **Richey Hester, National Brotherhood Editor and Promoter**

There are some prerequisites to be a Good Father. You need to be a man for one, you need to be functioning as a man, taking responsibility as a man, acting like a man, and working like a man. All of these are prerequisites to being a good Father!

You will not be a good Father until you are a good Man. It's a dying art today...there are not many in our nation anymore. Thank God we DO have a few good men here...we can always use a few more though.

Men of the Brotherhood of the BMA, we need to stand up tall and teach these young boys and young men how to be real men. Men that are not afraid to stand in the name of Jesus. In our nation you cannot use the name Jesus in our government. One has to say in the name of God's son. All this is teaching our kids and grandkids is that it is okay not to believe in Jesus

and God's judgement. This is the prime reason that crimes, drugs, rape and murder has become a part of a young person's life. Ezekiel 22:30 *"I searched for a man among them who would build up and stand in the gap before Me for the land, so that I would not destroy it, but I found no one."* Brothers, be that one who will stand in the gap. If you want the killing to stop, it has to start with us. We have a voice, let it be heard. Christianity is not dead, we need to teach that.

How Can I Be Saved?

Romans 10:6-9: *"But the righteousness which is of faith speaketh in this wise, Say not in thine heart, Who shall ascend into Heaven? (that is, to bring Christ down from above:) Or, Who shall descend into the deep? (that is, to bring up Christ again from the dead.) But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart; that is, the word of faith, which we preach; That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."*

Why Must I Be Saved?

John 3:18: *"He that believeth on him (Jesus) is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."*

Revelation 20: 14-15: *"And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire."*

Submitted by: **Charity Landmark Missionary Baptist Church**
Bismarck, Missouri

7th Annual Men's Spring Retreat **Camp Garwood**

Friday, May 4 starting at 7:30 p.m.
and Saturday May 5, 2018

Who Can Attend?

Men of all ages, and you are encouraged to bring your friends who do not attend church.

What is the Cost?

There is no cost for those attending, but churches are encouraged to bring an offering to help with the expenses. We will be taking up an offering at the meeting to help with the expenses.

What is the Purpose?

We want to provide fellowship and encouragement for men of all ages.

What to Bring?

You are encouraged to bring your, 22 rifles (young men), 12 or 20 gauge shotguns (for our competition events), along with personal items, bed sheets and blankets (or sleeping bag), and pillow. Beds, food and fun are provided. Ammunition will be furnished by the BMA of Missouri Brotherhood

Questions??

Contact the following for more information:
Dennis Baker 636-461-1625, 5146 Darkmoor LN Imperial, MO 63052, bbsafety4332@gmail.com
James Hoffmann 314-427-8644, mmbpaper@charter.net
Claude Evans 573-562-7036, cbe34@hotmail.com

Tony Evans says "Young men need a positive influence, especially when they don't have a strong male figure in their lives. They can be influenced by a great, godly man in the church, which gives men a great mission in the church to influence these kids." Men of the BMA, will you be that Godly influence? You may say how can I do this? You can do it by living by Psalm 107:8, *"Oh, that men would give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!"* We are a few good men, let's now show the world.

• **WHAT From Page 5** •

Enforcer. Don't confuse the inactivity of God as the inability of God. Some do, and regret it, "Because the sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men is fully set in them to do evil" (Eccl. 8:11). Just because God hasn't done anything yet, doesn't mean God is not going to do anything at all. God is just being merciful waiting for evil doers to repent. (2 Peter 3:9)

David reminds us God also examines all people, The LORD tests the righteous. God may use the evil in others to bring out the best in us, or to see what you are made of. HE tests us to bring out the best in us, the devil tempts us to bring out the worst in us. Job 23:10 - "But He knows the way that I take; when He has tested me, I shall come forth as gold." Psa. 66:10 - "For You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined." The crumbling of the foundation might be a test for you. What will you do? Will you flee or fight? Stay or run? Speak up and risk, or be silent and stay safe? Comply or resist?

Motivated by The Severity of God V. 6

Something else that motivated David to run to and not run away was the severity of God in verse 6, Upon the wicked He will rain coals; Fire and brimstone and a burning wind shall be the portion of their cup. God will handle those who do evil—God will judge those who do wicked. This imagery probably alluded to God's fatal judgment such as that which fell upon Sodom and Gomorrah as recorded in Genesis 19. What God did to Sodom and Gomorrah stands as a reminder to all who persist in doing evil - 2 Pet. 2:6 - and turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes, condemned them to destruction, making them an example to those who afterward would live ungodly; God knows how to, and will handle wickedness.

Motivated by The Simplicity of God V. 7

"For the LORD is righteous, He loves righteousness; His countenance beholds the upright." God is on your side.

BMAA Seminary News

Closure of BMA Seminary's Arkansas Extension Site From BMAA Seminary Dean Philip Attebery

February 16, 2018, the BMA Theological Seminary's Board of Trustees voted to close the institution's Arkansas Extension Site in Conway at the end of its 2017-18 academic year.

The decision to close the site came following extensive evaluation by the trustees to research the feasibility of the site. In September 2017, the trustees formed a committee of trustees to conduct an initial evaluation. This occurred mostly in response to data showing a recent decline in enrollment. The committee's research focused upon interviewing students, BMA leaders, seminary administrators, the extension site's administrator, and more than 30 pastors in the state.

Current students will have opportunity to complete their degrees through online studies and intensive summer and winter sessions held on the main campus in Jacksonville, Texas.

In 2003, the BMA Theological Seminary received approval by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education (ADHE) to offer seminary courses and degrees through an extension site on the campus of Central Baptist College in Conway, Arkansas.

Administrators from the seminary's main campus in Jacksonville, Texas and Dr. Thom South in Arkansas worked successfully to gain the approval. At the time, BMA Seminary's extension site alone had approval to offer complete seminary degrees in Arkansas.

Seminary administrators continued to enhance the site by gaining its accreditation from both the Commission on Accrediting for the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges and continued approval by the Arkansas Department of Higher Education.

Regretfully, the site will close after 15 years of service to Christian leaders in the great State of Arkansas. The caliber of students coming through the extension site has been outstanding. The total number of unduplicated students educated at the site from fall 2003 to fall 2017 totaled 122. Thirty-four have graduated with three more extension site students scheduled to graduate in May 2018. Nine graduates have since completed doctoral programs. Sixty-eight percent of extension site graduates continue to minister as pastors, chaplains, departmental workers, missionaries, or in other ministries for the BMA.

Central Baptist College has graciously hosted the site for 15 years. Like a true sister institution, CBC administrators and personnel have consistently and kindly provided for the extension site's many needs. Additionally, Lifeword Media Ministries housed an extension library on its campus for several years. Although on campus classes in Conway will cease, the seminary's online enrollment continues to increase significantly. The seminary offers two graduate degrees completely online: Master of Arts (Religion) and Master of Arts (Pastoral Theology).

Seminary administrators recognize the contributions of Dr. Thom South and Professor Brian Rickett who served as extension site administrators and the many highly credentialed professors who led in providing the site with exceptional higher religious education.

The seminary must also express its appreciation to supporting individuals, churches, and local associations who made the site's existence possible by financially and prayerfully providing for the site. BMA Seminary hopes to continue providing education to Arkansas churches and leaders mostly through short-term seminars and workshops, free non-credit online courses, and for-credit online courses.

David affirmed God's approval of the righteous. Also the Bible says in Psa. 7:11, "God is a just judge, and God is angry with the wicked every day." "When wrong living and actions are rampant—right living and doing right is always in order. So, keep on looking to Him. Keep on leaning on Him. Keep on living for Him. Doing the right thing is always the right thing to do. It pleases God.

What can the righteous do when the foundation crumbles: (1) Run Away (2) Run To. When David considers the greatness

AVAILABLE PREACHERS

Joseph Duckworth, a member of Kewanee Missionary Baptist church is available for Preaching or however the Lord leads. Contact him at 573-521-8039.

Caleb Houston, youth minister of Kewanee is available for weekend revivals, youth events, and pulpit supply. Contact him at 573-521-7826 or calebhouston@yahoo.com.

James Hoffmann, is available for pulpit supply. Contact him at 314-277-8644 or by e-mail at jmhoff@charter.net.

Brian Adams, a member of First Missionary Baptist Church of Matthews is available to preach or as the Lord leads. Contact him by e-mail at bkadams27@yahoo.com or by phone 217-779-9264

Len Young, a member of Lakewood Baptist Church, Potosi is available to preach. Contact him at home 573-786-2485, by cell 573-247-6623, or e-mail libertybooks04@gmail.com.

If you are a preacher and a member in good standing of a Baptist Missionary Association of America church and would like your name added to this column please contact the editor using the information on page 2.

Seeking Pastors

The Naylor Missionary Baptist Church is seeking a Pastor. Interested preachers should contact Bro Billy Asberry at 573-660-1686 or Sis. Nancy Lane at 573-247-1360.

Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church in Bella Vista, Arkansas, is seeking a biovocational/full time pastor. KING JAMES VERSION only. Background check required. Resumes may be sent to 502 W. Lancashire Blvd, Bella Vista, Ar. 72715; or e-mail fmbcbv.com"

Join BMA Seminary for Justin Peters' presentation:

Clouds Without Water

A Biblical Critique
of the
Word of Faith Movement

Exposing the False Prosperity Gospel



Date(s):

April 3 & 5, 2018

Time(s):

4/3 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
4/5 10:00 a.m.

Location:

1530 E. Pine St.
Jacksonville, TX
903-586-2501

Justin Peters Ministries

of God, the care of God, and the observation of God, it all outweighed the danger. For David, trusting God was the safest move of all. **Instead of heeding the advice of fear—he would answer with an affirmation of faith.**