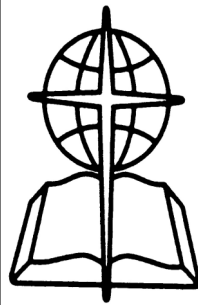


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Thursday, September 8, 2022
Local Edition of the Alabama Baptist



BIBB BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

"I have the daily burden of how the churches are getting along."

2 Cor. 11: 28b

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The House Nobody Can Tear Down

Psalm 127:1 Nobody can build a house without the LORD.

Nimrod wanted to build a name for himself. He and his one world government tried to build a tower without the LORD. That didn't work out. Haman, in his pride and prejudice, tried to destroy the Jews and build a kingdom for himself. He ended up hanged on gallows he built. Simon the magician thought he could purchase the power of God for money. He wanted to be worshipped. He was rebuked.

Jesus promised that the house built on the sand would crumble. He said the house built on the ROCK would survive the storms of this world. Jesus assured us He would build His church on the solid foundation of a confession that affirms the fact that He is the Christ, the Son of the living God. With a confession like that Jesus' Church went on the offense.

The powers of the day sought to humiliate Him. They thought they assassinated the King, but the Father rescued Him from the grave. The Father highly exalted Him and He is now and always will be on His throne. One day every knee will bow to Him. Every tongue will confess that Jesus is LORD to the glory of the FATHER.

The apostles proclaimed the gospel of the life, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus as the only way to be saved. The people who thought they were somebodies, tried without success to stop them. One of their own told them that if this movement was of God, they would find themselves fighting the God they wanted to serve.

Here it is. Without the LORD's help nothing is going to happen that has eternal value. Not salvation! Not sanctification! Not even service. We are dependent on the LORD's grace, mercy, and power. If we cooperate with Him, He has provided all we need. 2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence." If we learn how to appropriate God's resources of life and godliness, we can participate in building a house nobody can tear down.

How do we appropriate God's divine blessings in our effort to build strong lives, homes, and churches? Here are four suggestions.

Suggestion #1. Use the Bible as your blueprint.

The Creator of life gave us the blueprint for building a house on the ROCK. The Bible teaches principles for living in harmony and in a loving relationship with God and mankind. You want God's help and blessing? Use, the Bible as your guide for decision making. Take advantage of the opportunities to receive biblical instruction.

Suggestion #2. Pray much.

Prayer helps us view circumstances from God's perspective. Follow Jesus' example and pray "Thy will be done". When we do that, we will see with His eyes and heart. James 1:5. Prayer brings the wisdom we need to treat each person with respect and dignity. That opens many opportunities to build relationships that will change lives. That wisdom will bring fruitfulness.

Suggestion #3. Talk openly with each other.

James 1:19 "Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God." Communication breakdown usually leads to family breakdown. Talking openly helps a us build oneness. Frequent communication enables us to understand the needs of those around us. Good communication coupled with the wisdom of the Bible and a strong prayer life makes breakthroughs possible.

Suggestion #4. Put forth the effort.

Strong lives do not originate by chance or accident. The government does not make them. You can't buy them. They are produced by the grace of God by surrendering our will to HIM. 2 Peter 1:5 For this very reason, make **every effort** to supplement your faith with virtue. We have the responsibility to do it. We have God's resources to have success in His work. There are great rewards to reap if we do our best with what God makes available.

Believers must go on the offensive with the gospel. We must resist the temptations and pressures of this life that hinder. Giving in, giving up, or giving out will destroy families, churches, and lives.

Trust in Jesus, Pray, and study God's word because it all depends on Him. Communicate and cooperate and cultivate good habits like it all depends on you. Then the LORD will build a House nobody can tear down. It will bring good to you, your community, your church, and your family. At the same time, it will bring glory to God in this world and in the world to come.

Mark Your Calendar

September 10 - Mt. Carmel Women's Retreat "It's Okay to Not Be Okay", guest speaker Brenda Ladun, 8am-lunch, complimentary lunch, door prizes. No nursery provided.

REVIVAL at New Life Baptist beginning Sunday, Sept. 11th @ 11am and 5pm. 12th - 14th @ 7pm. Evangelist: Grady Colvin.

September 11-18 - Week of Prayer for State Missions and Myers-Mallory State Missions Offering

REVIVAL at Pondville Baptist beginning Sunday September 18th @ 10:45 and 5pm. 19th and 20th @ 7pm. Rev. Jimmy Headly

CHURCH	August
ANTIOCH	\$ 98.05
ASHBY	\$ 1,298.70
BETHEL	\$ 100.00
BETHLEHEM	\$ 133.47
BIBBVILLE	\$ 611.22
BLOCTON III	\$ 75.00
BRENT	\$ 677.96
CAHABA VALLEY	
CALVARY	
CAMP BRANCH	
CENTREVILLE	\$ 1,166.10
COMMUNITY	
EOLINE	
FBC WOODSTOCK	\$ 894.24
FOUR POINTS	\$ 570.64
HAYSOP	
JOHNTOWN	\$ 204.20
LOWERYTOWN	
LUCILE	
MARVEL	
MT. CARMEL	\$ 488.04
MT. MORIAH	
MT. ZION	
NEW HEBRON	\$ 125.00
OLD UNION	
PINEVIEW	\$ 624.00
PONDVILLE	\$ 219.45
RANDOLPH	\$ 739.50
REHOBETH	
SCHULTZ CREEK	\$ 397.11
SHADY GROVE	\$ 795.00
SHADY GROVE 2	
SIX MILE	\$ 326.98
SMITH HILL	\$ 150.00
THOMAS MILL	\$ 116.95
WEST BLOCTON FBC	\$ 200.00
BRAEHEAD (Church Plant)	\$ 132.45
ANONYMOUS	\$ 120.00
Church Receipt Sub Total	\$ 10,264.06
Other Donations	
MORTGAGE	\$ 500.00
Alabama SBOM	\$ 443.08
MONTHLY TOTAL	\$ 11,207.14