



A  
Ministry  
of:

**CORNERSTONE  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

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**THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH!**

**February 2017**

This much needed message was given about 100 years ago by the great Baptist preacher, I. M. Haldeman, Pastor of the First Baptist Church, New York City. Things are clearly much worse today. He said, "The general concept of the mission of the Church in the world is that it is here to make the world better, to lead it to a higher plane of life... The Church is to make the world a better place for the natural man to live in and to make the natural man a better man to live in the world. To this end, the Church and the Christian minister are to engage in all moral and reform movements and join hands with good men everywhere in an effort to purify and stabilize government. I reply that it is wholly unwarranted in the Word of God, and that the very constitution and outlook of the Church repudiates it. *The Church is not here to make the world better. On the contrary, it is here to testify the world cannot be made better.* The Church bears the same relation to the world that a lifeboat and its crew do to a ship pounding on the rocks. The people in the ship do not appear to be aware of their danger. There is laughter and song and dancing... The men in the lifeboat are putting out. They have but one aim; get the people out of the ship and into the lifeboat. *The Church is here to impress upon men two facts: the fact of the soul and the fact of eternity.* The Church is to cry in the ears of men, 'You have a soul. You are a soul! The real life, your soul is invisible and just as eternal as God.' The Church is here to so move men that each man shall ask himself the question, 'Where and how shall I spend eternity?' *Eternity! Eternity! Eternity!* Thy soul not the body, eternity, not time: arouse, awake, arouse O sons of men before it is too late. *The Church is here to warn men of hell that awaits every soul outside of Christ.* The word "hell" has fallen out of theology. It is banished. It is not heard in the pulpit... And yet the sweetest lipped Man whoever spoke, not only uttered it, but invented that ruthless and most jarring of places. And it is this Man that described that most harrowing scene ever presented to mortal gaze, the awakening of the rich man *in this place of torment.* Luke 16:19-31.

"The faithful minister must tell him that the only basis on which he can build his life for time and eternity is regeneration, the possession of new, the perfect and holy life which the risen Son of God alone can give. What right has any minister of Christ, to talk to the man about being sober, about overcoming the habit of drink in his own strength? What right has the ambassador of Christ to link himself to a movement which is a part of the self-gratulating civilization of the hour, a civilization which, at best, will be swept away? He cannot logically take part in sociological endeavor even though (but mistakenly) it calls itself Christian; for it is a very movement which denies the fundamentals of the Church, based on the idea that there are self-redemptive forces in human nature. The moment he lends himself to such a movement, he becomes a false witness. This is the admonition of the Apostle Paul: **'Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness?'** The Church is here to warn men, to tell them that however long delayed, the end of 'man's day' is certain. Let the Church in the hour of her opportunity be faithful... not only to invite men to surrender to Him to be saved but to lift up her voice in warning a world that each day is rushing on to judgment." Ed. How pitiful this voice of warning is not sounded in many "Fundamental" pulpits today. As we said in an earlier message, there are three forbidden words in many a Fundamental Church today. They are SIN, HELL AND REPENTANCE! It will not go well at the Judgment Seat of Christ for those who ignore them! After all, it is God's message, not our own! If you are not saved, trust Christ today!

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**GOSPEL TRACTS:** We have 39 different Gospel Tracts; most of them deal with salvation. Write or call for a sample packet and Order Form.

### A GREAT DECISION

A.W. Tozer wrote the following: "There is a great decision...every Church has to make...Every Pastor has to face it and keep renewing his decision on his knees. Finally, every church member, every Christian has to make this decision...The question is this: Shall we modify the truth in doctrine or practice to gain more adherents? Or, shall we preserve the truth in doctrine and practice and take the consequences?" The sad truth is that many in Fundamental circles are modifying their ministries to please the people and gain more members. But this is a treacherous path! Many say that times are changing and we must change with the times. No, it is the world that needs to change! The Scriptures declare: **"For ever, O Lord, thy Word is settled in Heaven."** ~Psalm 119:89

### A GOOD CHURCH MEMBER

Henry Ward Beecher, the great preacher, went to rent a horse and carriage in order to take his wife for a ride. The man tried to sell him a horse. He said, "He is a good saddle horse, a good buggy horse and a good carriage horse. He works well with other horses on either side of the tongue. He is a good all-round horse and a good team worker." Mr. Beecher replied, "My Friend, I cannot buy your horse, but I sure would like to have him as a member of my Church.

## YOUTH CORNER

**THE FAITH WAY IS GOD'S WAY.** It is God's way to have your sins forgiven – have faith in Christ and His death on the cross for your sins. It is the way to live the Christian life. God says, **"Without faith it is impossible to please Him."** ~Hebrews 11:6. A school teacher gave three bright students a difficult problem. He said, "You will find it very hard, but I promise you there is a way to solve the problem." After several attempts without success, one of them gave up saying, "There is no way!" A little later, the second pupil also gave up. He said, "I think it can be done but I do not know how." The third student worked on for some time and though he was somewhat worn out, labored on saying, "I know there is a way because the Master has said it." We believe and act upon the Word of God because it is the work of the Master. If the Master, the Lord Jesus has said it, it must be so! One of the simplest definitions of faith I know is "taking God at His Word." It has been said: "God said it, I believe it; that settles it!" I think a better statement is, "God said it; that settles it!" **"For we walk by faith and not by sight."** ~II Cor. 5:7. I John 5:4 says: **"...and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith."** C.T. Studd said: "Yes, let us ever see the impossible, Yes, the utterly impossible, and then go to God and ask Him to do it. This glorifies Him, magnifies Him, or gives Him a chance to magnify Himself –"

### SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT!

True Faith is not a victory for you but a victory in or through you.

The Christian must be willing to forfeit human companionship in order to have God's fellowship. If you want to know who your human friends are, just make a mistake or disagree with them.

One fool can ask more questions than ten wise men can answer. M.R.D.

We must be saved from dependence upon people and walk alone with Jesus. J. Hudson Taylor

If you don't believe in the devil's existence, try resisting him a while. –Charles Finney.

"And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful. Let the Word of God dwell in you richly in all wisdom..." ~Colossians 3:15,16.

### BIBLE VERSION BOOKLET

Pastor Starr has a 62 page booklet on the Bible Version issue: "Is Your Bible Really the Word of God?" will help you understand the truth. \$3.00 each plus 1.50 postage. 3 for \$9.00 pp. (U.S. only)

## NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

### **LESBIAN COUPLE TO PASTOR BAPTIST CHURCH**

The following is excerpted from “Married lesbian couple,” *The Washington Post*, Jan. 9, 2017: “Calvary Baptist Church, a progressive Baptist landmark in the heart of downtown Washington, has named a gay couple as co-pastors. Sally Sarratt and Maria Swearingen were presented to the congregation during worship services Jan. 8 and are set to begin their new jobs Feb. 26. A spokeswoman for the congregation said she didn’t know whether a gay couple leading a church was a first for Baptists. ‘We look for the best people in the world and that’s who they were,’ said Carol Blythe. ‘We’re very excited.’ The 155-year-old church severed ties with the Southern Baptist Convention in 2012: It was at loggerheads with the group on several issues, including the SBC’s stance against homosexuality. Calvary Baptist still affiliates with American Baptist Churches USA.” (1/20/17)

### **LAST MAN ON THE MOON SAID SCIENCE CANNOT EXPLAIN THE FINELY-TUNED UNIVERSE**

- Eugene Cernan, the last man to walk on the moon, died on January 16 at age 82. Together with Ronald Evans and Harrison Schmitt, Cernan was on Apollo 17, America’s final manned mission to the moon; and Cernan was the last man to leave the moon’s surface, at 5:26pm EST on December 13, 1972. It was on the Apollo 17 voyage to the moon that the world-famous “Blue Marble” photo was taken of an almost fully-illuminated earth. Israel is at the top of the photo, with the Red Sea clearly visible, and almost the entire coast of Africa is in view. On previous Apollo missions, the moon’s shadow covered part of the earth. In a 2007 NASA Johnson Space Center Oral History Project, Cernan made the following statement: “Science and technology got me to this plateau on another planet, another body in this universe. Science and technology got me there, but when I got there and I looked back home at the Earth, science and technology could not explain what I was seeing nor what I was feeling. You look at the Earth, and it very majestically yet mysteriously rotates on an axis you can’t see, but must be there. There are no strings holding it up. It moves with purpose. It moves with logic. Every 12 hours you’re looking at the other side of the Earth. It’s inconceivable to be somewhere to watch the Earth rotate in front of your very eyes. But when I looked back home there was too much purpose, too much logic. The Earth to me--and we all, I think, come home with our own impressions--was just too beautiful to have happened by accident. Science and technology could not give me the answers I was looking for, and I

came home with a conclusion that it’s just too beautiful to have happened by accident. There must be something you and I, all of us don’t fully understand about the creation of the universe, about the miracle of life itself. ... I said earlier looking at the Earth in all its wonder, in all its splendor, it’s all dynamics, it’s alive, it’s not tumbling through space, it’s not moving aimlessly, it’s moving with logic and purpose, it’s too beautiful to have happened by accident. What I’m saying is there is a creator of the universe. There’s a God. I don’t care how you dress him, by what name you call him, I’m telling you I’ve been there, I’ve religions are manmade. But from my point of view they all get to the same place. They get to a creator; call him, worship him in any way you want” FBIS (1/27/17/). Ed. Though this man obviously did not know Christ, he had brains enough to see the Universe was created by Someone.

“The heavens declare the glory of God...” ~*Psalms 19:1*

### **TOWN FORCED TO TAKE FLAG DOWN**

Late last month, Mayor Walter Williams of Rienzi, Mississippi, received a [letter](#) from the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation that exclaimed that the town of Rienzi was violating the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment by flying a Christian flag at the town’s Veterans Memorial Garden and called for the government to remove the flag. The flag features an all-white base with a red cross inside of a blue box located in the upper left corner. The letter, written by FFRF attorney Sam Grover, also warns that other towns have had to pay hefty sums for trying to fight legal battles to defend the right to display Christian flags or other Christian icons on public property. Grover highlights the [case of King, North Carolina](#), which in 2015 had to pay \$500,000 in legal fees after it was sued for having a Christian flag and a statue of a soldier kneeling before a cross on public grounds. Not wanting to entrench the town in a costly legal battle, Williams had the flag taken down, an act that did not go over very well with his constituents. According to local CBS affiliate [WREG](#), a crowd of 100 or more gathered at the memorial garden to show their support for the town’s right to display the flag last Saturday. A number of the demonstrators were Christian bikers who participated in a 12-mile motorcycle caravan from the Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Corinth all the way to the Veterans Memorial Garden. The bikers proudly flew their Christian flags on the back of their motorcycles as they made their way down the road. “There just comes a point in time when you’ve got to be politically incorrect and take a stand,” rally organizer Kevin Nelms. –Christian Post

## NOTHING HE WANTED

On a voyage from New York to San Francisco, the steamship Central America sprang a leak in mid-ocean. A vessel in the vicinity, hearing her signal of distress came close by. The captain of the would-be rescue ship sent a message: "What is amiss?" The reply came back, "We are in bad repair. Lie by till morning." The reply came, "Let me take your passengers aboard now!" Because it was night, the Captain of the Central America, not wanting to possibly lose anyone, and believing that they would be able to keep the ship afloat until daylight said, "Lie by till morning." Once again the Captain of the rescue ship said, "You had better let me take your passengers now." As on the previous occasions the answer came back: "Lie by till morning." It was about an hour and a half after the last call when the lights of the Central America were missing and no sound was heard. The Central America had gone down and all who were on board perished because it was thought that they could be saved at a later time. Perhaps someone is reading this article who is not saved from his sin. You have never been **"born again"** through faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. You need a Savior! Christ died for your sins 2,000 years ago, but you must put your faith in Him. The Bible says, **"Prepare to meet thy God!"** Perhaps you may say, "Well, I will do it at a later time but not now." Delay is dangerous! God says that the time to be saved is NOW – when you hear the Gospel, the "Good News" that Christ died for your sins. Listen to God: **"...Now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation."** ~II Corinthians 6:2. If you are not saved, God's time for you to be saved is right now, while He is speaking to you! **"Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."** ~Proverbs 27:1.

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## NOW IS THE TIME TO BE SAVED

A.W. Tozer wrote the following over fifty years ago. He said: "There are millions who cannot live without entertainment... For centuries the Church stood solidly against every form of worldly entertainment. But of late...she appears to have decided if she cannot conquer the great god entertainment she may as well join forces with him and make what use she can of his powers. So today we have the spectacle of millions of dollars being poured into the unholy job of providing earthly entertainment for the so called sons of Heaven. Many churches these days have become little more than poor theatres where fifth-rate 'producers' peddle their shoddy wares with the full approval of Evangelical (and many Fundamental) leaders... And hardly a man dares raise his voice against it." What would Tozer say today if he could see what is going on in so called Bible believing churches? Now, I am talking about supposedly Fundamental churches. In many of them, what goes on is mostly religious entertainment. They have their big screens, worldly music, little choruses instead of "psalms, hymn and spiritual songs," contemporary music. Imagine "Fundamental" churches showing the carnal stuff of Rick Warren, Bill Hybels, etc. Then, what sermons there are, they are filled with stories and jokes. One person told me they were recently in a Fundamental Baptist Church where the message was one joke after another. Vance Havner said, "We worship an awesome God, but what you see in the average Fundamental Baptist Church is not awesome; it is just awful." One does not have to wonder what God thinks of all of this, it is all based on the flesh and **"They that are in the flesh cannot please God."**