

BRIEFS

Bellaire Baptist

Homecoming will be held starting with Sunday School at 9:45 a.m. March 2 at the Dermott, Ark. church. Worship service will follow at 11 a.m. and a potluck will be served at noon. The Promise Land Quartet will entertain afterward.

All friends and former members are encouraged to attend.

Mt. Calvary Missionary Baptist

Pastor of the church, the Rev. Henry J. Williams, will be honored on his 25th anniversary at noon Feb. 17 at the church, U.S. Hwy. 165 north, Mer Rouge. The Rev. Gerald Williams will deliver the message. Everyone is invited.

Mt. Zion Baptist No. 5

A special Bible study presentation explaining the seven feasts will be held at 10 a.m. Feb. 16 at the church, Kilbourne Hwy., Jones.

The Rev. James A. Chisolm, West Monroe, will explain about God bringing his people out of slavery in order to establish a relationship with them, and how he gave them commandments, statutes and laws to live by. The study will reveal how God instructed Moses to perform a ceremony that was to be done throughout the generations as a memorial in remembrance of what he had done for them. It is called the Lord's Passover and involves a total of seven feasts.

Chisolm promises a stimulating lesson and issues an open invitation to anyone interested in discovering how these feasts illustrate salvation.

The church is also looking for a piano player for the second and fourth Sunday services each month. Practice will be necessary and the music will not include contemporary music. Hymns, Spirituals and anthems are to be played and sung, centered around the sermon. Interested persons should contact the Rev. Chisolm at 318.699.0136.

New Hope Baptist

Fires of Revival Conference will be held at 6:30 p.m. nightly Feb. 27-29 at the church, 3870 Old Sterlington Rd., Monroe. Guest speakers will include Danny Greig, Jerry Chaddick, Roger Haney and Jimmy Robertson. In charge of music will be Ken Fryer.

New Macedonia Missionary Baptist

There will be a Women in Red program held at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the church, 206 Louise St. Guest speaker will be Sharon Montgomery, Mt. Arrant Baptist Church. Still Water from the Morehouse Parish Correctional Center, Collinston, will present a special song service.

Everyone is invited.

Salem No. 2 Missionary Baptist

Pastor of the church, the Rev. Raymond C. Gill, will be honored on his 9th anniversary at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 17 at the church, Hastings Road, Collinston.

Special guests will be the Rev. Johnny Green and members of Macedonia MBC of Mer Rouge, and New Light MBC of Bastrop.

Dinner will be served and everyone is invited.

St. John Missionary Baptist

Presented by the Northeast Louisiana Chapter of Gospel Music Workshop of America, "Winter Fest Musical" will be held at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 16 at the church, 1407 West Madison.

The Northeast Louisiana, Greater Alexandria and Baton Rouge Metro chapters will be featured, along with other area choirs.

St. Matthew No. 2 Missionary Baptist

Observation of black history will take place at 11:30 a.m. Feb. 17 at the church, 7789 Grabault Rd. A special tribute to black history, past history, and black progress in the future of Morehouse Parish will be presented. The church youth and adults will present a dramatic skit and the congregation will participate in taking the Black Family Pledge.

St. Timothy Baptist

The church anniversary will be celebrated at 2 p.m. Feb. 17 at the church, 1432 Elm St. The Rev. Mozell Smith, pastor, Greater Magnolia Baptist, will be guest speaker.

Twin Oaks Baptist

The Humphrey Family will be guest singers for the Third Saturday Night Singing to be held at 6 p.m. Feb. 16 at the church, 6308 Cherry Ridge Rd. The public is invited. There is no admission charge, but a love offering will be taken.

Refreshments will follow the singing.

Send your church news to the Bastrop Daily Enterprise, 119 East Hickory, Bastrop, LA 71220. You may also fax it to 318.283.1699 or e-mail it to news@bastropenterprise.com. You may also provide photos for publication that will be returned.

You can't. He can. Let Him

For this commandment, which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off.

Deuteronomy 31:11



Ada
Dunn

The Christian life is not difficult. The same Christ who lived a perfect, obedient and sinless life stands prepared to live it again through us (Galatians 2:20). Scripture says in Romans 6:6 that knowing this, that our old man was crucified with him; that the body of sin might be done away with; that we should no longer be slaves to sin.

God's will is not hard to discern. He has given us the scriptures which reveal his will, and he has placed his holy spirit within us to

guide us to his perfect will in every situation (John 16:13). Our greatest challenge will be to totally commit our lives to follow God's will obediently as he reveals it.

Moses gathered the Israelites around Mount Ebal and Mount Gerizim before they were to enter the promised land. There, God described what they had to do in order to obey him. God gave detailed instructions so there was no

mistaking what was expected of them. Then God asked them to make a choice. If they chose to obey, they would receive his blessing.

God's word comes to us in the same way. It is not too hard to understand. We don't have to struggle to discern God's will about adultery, forgiveness, or honesty. God's word is perfectly clear. The question is, how do we respond? No where in the Bible did God excuse disobedience because his instructions are not hidden from us.

God, through his holy spirit, will always give us sufficient revelation and strength to make the next step with him. If we are

uncertain about what God is asking us, we need to make sure that we are obeying all that we know, and through our obedience, God's next instruction will become clear.

There is nothing hard about living like the Lord says to live. Because his word is very clear and easy to understand. In Isaiah 45:19 the Lord says: "I have not spoken in secret, in a dark place of the earth I did not say to the seed of Jacob, seek me in vain, I the Lord, speak righteousness, I declare things that are right."

We are to love the Lord thy God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commandments, and his statutes.

Shopping for THE BOOK OF BOOKS

Gatehouse News

With almost as much variety as the stories they contain, the Holy Book — by far the best selling piece of literature in human history — comes in all shapes and sizes these days.

And that's a very good thing. Because people can be complicated creatures, and Bibles sold at area Christian bookstores seem to mirror the complexities of their readers.

"The variety can be (mind-boggling)," Mark Sanders said, a manager of a Christian Bible and music center in Missouri.

"Just like you have different customers, we have a lot of different styles and varieties for people who come in here, looking for that special gift."

The best selling "version" of the Bible, Sanders said, is the "Life Applications Bible." It's one of the nicest of a new breed of Holy Books, sometimes dubbed "Study Bibles." Study Bibles have "questions and answers in side columns and commentary notes at the bottom of the pages," Sanders said, that helps ensure better understanding of the book's thousands of lessons.

Bibles and various literature paraphernalia takes up entire stores in some place; with popular box bookstores such as Borders, Barnes & Noble or Books-A-Million, they take up entire shelves. A customer looking for a particular "version" will have quite a lot to choose from, with prices varying from low- to high-end.

The largest Bible is the 2,000-page epic, the King James Version, which comes in a nice deluxe box for \$34.97.

Probably the smallest — and cheapest — is a palm-sized Bible that runs a paltry \$2.99. Perfect for a hike through the woods or long plane ride halfway around the world.

In-between is a dizzying array of Bibles — some traditional, others new age. Some versions come in glossed and lettered boxes, while others are displayed with collectible leather covers. Some of the books come in paperback, while others are strictly hardback. Still others can be found in tradeback covers, paper covers the size of a hard-back book. Essentially, there's a version to fit all customer tastes.

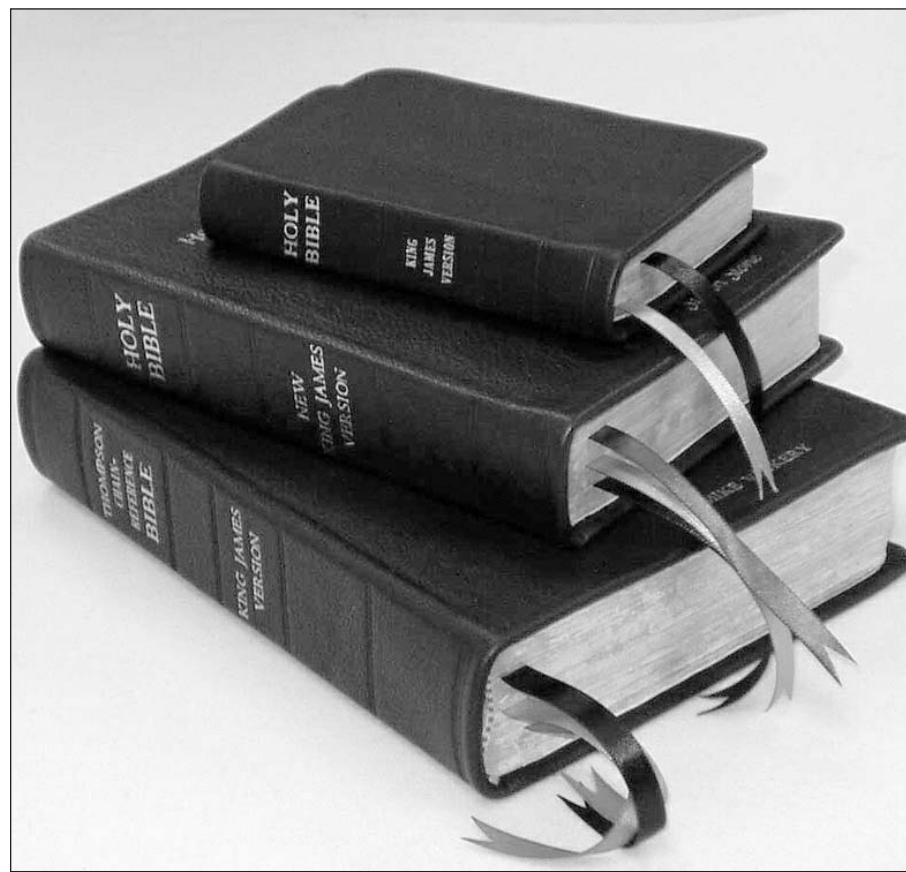
Bibles themselves come in the King James, New or Old Testament versions. There's also the popular "International" version, as well as the "American" and "New Century" versions. There's also the "Extreme Faith."

And then, of course, there's just the plain and simple "The Book."

There are youth Bibles for \$24.99 and a more elaborate "Student Bibles" in boxed form for \$44.97, helping persons better understand what he or she is reading.

Some of the books come in large-print or Braille.

There are several "day-by-day" Bibles where a child or adult can learn the Holy Book's contents in a year's time,



simply by reading seven minutes a day.

There is even an "Idiot's Guide to the Bible," for those interested in what the Book has to say but find themselves too busy to sit down and read it. There are also so-called "year Bibles" with 365 "day" readings.

There are women's devotional Bibles and men's devotional Bibles. Bibles for single men. Bibles for mothers with children.

There is even a Bible for a newborn baby, the "Precious Moments Bible" that runs at \$24.99.

The popularity of religion as a whole may be in a slight decline here in America, but that certainly doesn't mean the Holy Book's reputation, as being a perennial No. 1 on the bestseller list will change anytime soon.

Rational Response Squad

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Religion is divisive and dangerous
it's time for us to stand up to it!

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Question: How important is baptism?

Answer: Many religious teachers minimize the importance of baptism in one being saved. However, the New Testament puts baptism in a different light as necessary to one's salvation.

Note:

1. *I Peter 3:21*—"Baptism doth also now save us...the answer of a good conscience toward God."
2. *Mark 16:16*—"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved."
3. *Acts 22:16*—"Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord."
4. *Acts 2:38*—"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins."
5. *Romans 6:3*—"Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?"
6. *Galatians 3:27*—"For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ."
7. *Colossians 2:11-12*—"In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off of the body of sins...Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead."

Conclusion: There are no examples in the New Testament of a sinner being saved before and without baptism. The doctrine of one being saved before and without baptism is not of God. The doctrine is of human origin appearing in church history in the 4th century and 16th century.

People in the first century were made aware of the significance of baptism as God's means of bringing one into Christ and into His death in order to be saved (*Acts 2:41, 8:36, 16:33*). After the penitents enter baptism and are saved, they are added by the Lord to the church (*Acts 2:47*).

Write for a FREE Bible Correspondence Course: **The Book of Acts**

Address your question or request to:

Central Church Of Christ
P. O. Box 34 Bastrop, LA 71221



TAKING PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

The chiropractic approach to health maintenance focuses on preventing disease by restoring bio-mechanical balance to the spine. The brain and the spinal cord make up the central nervous system, which is the body's "master system" that controls and monitors all body functions. By manipulating the spine to remove mechanical stresses, the chiropractor enables the body's nervous system to function at its maximum capacity, with the goal of restoring the patient to a healthier state. Moreover, the chiropractic approach is preventive in nature and helps ward off potential disease. According to chiropractic philosophy, a strong, flexible, and properly aligned spine is necessary for uninterrupted communication between the brain and various body parts and systems. A healthy body will restore itself.

P.S. Displaced vertebrae, back muscles in spasm, and swollen discs are all conditions that can exert pressure on the nerves as they exit the spinal canal.

Preventative chiropractic treatment attempts to maintain normal body structure and function, thus preventing problems or minimizing those problems that do occur. Preventative care involves periodic evaluation and chiropractic treatment to help prevent problems. Research supports chiropractic. Please call us to schedule an appointment. We're located across from the Sheriff's office. The Name You Can Trust. New patients and walk-ins are always welcome. Most insurance accepted. We have a massage therapist on staff. New patients who mention my chiropractic column when setting an appointment, or signing in as a walk-in, will receive a free/complimentary initial exam, and x-rays if needed (which normally cost \$265). Now there is no reason not to come in and experience the difference chiropractic care can make in your life!

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