

# Baptist

## Mississippi

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## World Changers are made in Local Churches

There's a young woman from Springhill Baptist Church in Greenbrier, Arkansas, whose missions legacy runs deep through the BMA. Her name is Hannah Tilley, and throughout her family's generations, there have been pastors, a BMA Missions director, a president of Central Baptist College, and she, herself, is a short-term medical missionary.

It began with her great-grandfather, W.J. Burgess, the first ever BMA Missions executive director.

"He helped start the Missions part of the BMA and how it relates to all the churches," said

Tilley. "He would write letters to missionaries all over the world."

The legacy that W.J. Burgess left for his family is still being realized today. In fact, in the summer of 2017, Tilley went on a short-term missions trip to Cape Verde, Africa, with a Volunteer Student Mission team. While in Cape Verde, a local lady remembered Hannah's great-



Hannah Tilley (right) on mission trip to Peru remembered Hannah's great-grandfather because he was the

one who helped begin the BMA's ministry on that island. That local woman's father was the pastor of the Cape Verdean church and her father would communicate with Burgess about the missions effort. Half a world away, never having met before that trip, Tilley was able to personally experience the scope of her great-grandfather's legacy.

"I got to go to the church and pray for them," explained Tilley. "Some of them [Cape Verdean believers] recognized who my family was. It was really neat."

Because W.J. Burgess was so heavily involved in the BMA,

his children would naturally be immersed in ministry. His son, Wassel Burgess, ended up being the President of Central Baptist College and was also the Pastor of Springhill Baptist Church, where family continues to worship together.

God first moved in Hannah's heart toward missions at DiscipleGuide's annual student conference -SOAR.

"I first got involved with missions at SOAR 2015," said Tilley. "They were talking about being selfless and surrendering your life to Christ. I felt called to go and help people because I'm very blessed. I felt almost guilty when

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## Rejoicing With All The Heart

by Bro. David E. Steele - Message preached at 2017 BMA of Mississippi Annual Meeting

*Sing for joy, Daughter Zion; shout loudly, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has removed your punishment; He has turned back your enemy. The King of Israel, the LORD, is among you; you need no longer fear harm. On that day it will be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear; Zion, do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is among you, a warrior who saves. He will rejoice over you with gladness. He will bring you quietness with His love. He will delight in you with shouts of joy." Zephaniah 3:14-17*

God expects us to be a rejoicing people. The Bible encourages us to rejoice always. "Rejoice in the Lord always; and again I say, Rejoice" (Philippians 4:4). Yet, we have had too many experiences to be able to rejoice with all the heart. Everything may be good now, but how long will it last before something bad happens? You may be healthy now, but you know that one day sickness will come calling. Some-

times we must spend time weeping before joy can return. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning" (Psalm 30:5).



David E. Steele

You have always been reminded that there is a vast difference in being happy or glad and having joy in the heart. The Lord can give you joy when you are certainly not glad or happy about the circumstances you are

going through. In our text, Zephaniah referred to the same people by three names and called on them for three responses. "Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel; be glad and rejoice with all the heart, O daughter of Jerusalem" (verse 14). He called them 'daughter of Zion', 'Israel', and 'daughter of Jerusalem.' He expected them to 'sing', 'shout', and 'be glad and rejoice with all the heart' respectively. It is his command to rejoice with all the heart that gives the subject for this message.

This message from Zephaniah was not written concerning what Israel was expected to do in Old Testament times. It

was not written about our current day when they have been regathered to be a nation. It refers to the beginning of the Millennial kingdom when Jesus will reign on earth as King of kings and Lord of lords!

### Israel Will Rejoice With All The Heart

Obviously, many changes must take place from what Israel has endured in the past and will face in the future until Jesus comes for them to be able to rejoice with all their hearts. Our text reveals four things that will occur that will enable such rejoicing. "The LORD hath taken away thy judgments, he hath cast out thine enemy: the king of Israel, even the LORD, is in the midst of thee: thou shalt not see evil any more" (verse 15).

God will take away all their judgments! During the period of the Judges, He sent armies to take them into captivity six times because of their idolatrous practices. He later used the Assyrians, Babylonians, and

others to inflict His judgment. Numerous times, God sent famines, pestilence, droughts, etc., because of their unfaithfulness to Him. But in the Kingdom, they will never have to face His judgment again!

God will cast out their enemies! Many nations such as Egypt, the Philistines, Assyria, and Babylon were enemies in Old Testament times. Today, the Palestinians live among them while Iran, Syria, and Lebanon are their neighbors with each desiring to destroy Israel. Russia and China share their desires from afar. The Scriptures tell of many men such as Pharaoh and Herod the Great who attempted to destroy all the Jews. But in the Kingdom, all the enemies of Israel will have been cast out!

The Lord Jesus will reign as King of Israel in the very midst of them! There will be sadness to realize their long awaited Messiah King was the One who was

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**Editor's Note:** We asked Bro. Steele to provide us with a copy of the message he brought at the annual meeting in October. He has shortened it for our readers. We appreciate his efforts.

BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

Missions Department & Revolving Loan Fund



Larry Geraldson  
Director



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*“Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;” Rev. 5:9*

John said in Revelation 5:9, that the only one who is worthy to receive praise for the rich blessings which we have experienced, is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the One who was slain, He is the One who shed his blood, He is the One who redeemed us, He is the One who saves. It is all Christ and Christ Alone!

Let us join the angels who are round about the throne and the elders and the ten thousand times ten thousand and thousands of thousands which say, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing.” Let us join in with, “...every creature which is in heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth, and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, ...saying, Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power, be unto him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb for ever and ever.” Rev. 9:11:13

Each time I write one of these articles, I remind myself that it is necessary to speak of the things which have been done because our churches deserve to receive a report of the missionary

activity throughout the state. But I always remind myself that it is Christ and Christ Alone that deserves the glory.

**Our Newest Missionary Family**

Will Hutchinson has been approved to serve as a State Missionary to the



Hutchinson Family

D’Iberville area beginning November 1, 2017. Will is married to the former Kelly Patterson (daughter of Denny and Debbie Patterson) and they have three children: Katelyn 12; Isaiah 6 ½; Zackary 5. Campground Baptist Church, Pastor Bryan Atwood, will serve as the Mother Church for this mission

project.

Will is a graduate of Southeastern Baptist College in Laurel and the Baptist Missionary Association Theological Seminary in Jacksonville, Texas. He has served on staff at a number of churches in Mississippi and has pastored in Texas. Most recently, he has served as a State Missionary for the Baptist Missionary Association of Texas and comes to us with their recommendation.

They have found a home in the area where they will be ministering and will be moving, from Texas, on November 7th. Over the next few months, Bro. Hutchinson will be seeking opportunities to visit in our churches to share his vision for the work at D’Iberville. His goal in visiting our churches is to raise regular monthly salary support. We encourage you to invite him to attend your church and prayerfully consider supporting him. If you would like to schedule him to come to your church, you can contact him at 512-354-6703 or through Campground Baptist Church at 228-832-9016.

**First Service In New Building**

Grace Baptist Mission in Clinton, Missionary Pastor Danny Bartlett, has announced that they will hold their first



service in their new building on November 5, 2017. This past week, we received the final approval, in the form of a “Certificate of Occupancy” for the building at 584 Clinton-Tinnin Rd. We are so excited for the Mission which has also scheduled their organization service for December 9, 2017. Praise the Lord!

**First Service In New Building**

No, it’s not a mistake or a double print. Central in Southaven, Missionary Pastor Anders Lee, will hold their first official public service in their new

building on November 12, 2017. Landscaping is going in this week and the final inspection is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31, 2017. Please pray for them that all goes well. Again, we are praising the Lord!

**Day Star Is Ready To Build**

The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees recently approved the use of \$50,000.00, from the Missions Discretionary Fund to conduct a matching funds campaign for Day Star in Sumrall. With the help of Big Creek Baptist Church, which gave \$11,000.00; First Baptist Bay Springs (their Mother Church) which gave \$33,000.00; the Capital Association which gave \$2,000.00 and the Big Creek Association which gave \$1,000.00, and Day Star committing (per Bro. Burns) to give the remaining \$3,000.00, they have reached their goal.

This \$50,000.00 will be matched by \$50,000.00 and they will have enough to pay off their land and have approximately \$75,000.00 remaining to begin construction. We are grateful to Bro. John Prickett, who has volunteered to oversee this project. Bro. Prickett is an Engineer and has helped us on both projects at South Forrest, both projects at Caledonia, Freedom, and Grace at Clinton. His contribution to our work is priceless. If you would like to help with this project, you can call Bro. Burns at 601-670-6191.

**Redemption Baptist Mission is Ready To Purchase**

The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees recently approved a loan for Redemption Baptist Mission at Diamondhead for the purchase of the facility that they are presently meeting in. The cost for the building and some of the land, to Redemption, will be \$400,000.00. This does not include the cost of possible improvements to enlarge the building so that they can have adequate education space.

The Revolving Loan Fund Trustees also approved the use of \$50,000.00, from the Missions Discretionary Fund, to conduct a matching funds campaign for Redemption. They have just begun to raise money for this matching fund

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Recent Missionary Cookout

# DiscipleGuide

Scott Attebery, Executive Director  
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Scott Attebery

## Discipleship Produces Tomorrow's Spiritual Leaders

Jenni Johnson grew up in the BMA, attending Daniel Springs and SOAR every summer. She learned to grow in the faith because of her local church's and DiscipleGuide's investment in her life. Now, she is a full-time missionary with her husband and children in China.

"I'm a product of BMA discipleship," said Jenni, "and now serve in a ministry that is being supported by and prayed for by DiscipleGuide. It's full circle!"

She has been a missionary in China for a decade now, where they strive to live a lifestyle of discipleship and outreach, just like they received growing up. This has resulted in their involvement in many different discipleship and outreach ministries that are bringing hope to many in Beijing.

You can help DiscipleGuide invest in local churches so that they can be healthy and produce the next pastors, missionaries, and faithful disciples—like Jenni.

This holiday season, join in our World's Largest Potluck—a simple fund-raiser where we ask BMA churches to take up a special offering for DiscipleGuide at their church body's holiday meal

—whether that's Thanksgiving, Christmas, or even New Years!

If we reach the goal of raising \$200,000, we will be able to provide new services to churches, such as an intentional interim pastor program and pastor search services to help churches without pastors. In addition, we will be able to offer a traditional Sunday school quarterly for churches that prefer the previous format. Funds from the offering will also allow us to begin printing youth and children's material again—the same kind that missionaries like Jenni Johnson grew up studying.

We pray that you will consider joining with other BMA churches in giving during the World's Largest Potluck. To get your church ready for the potluck, begin by registering at [discipleguide.org/potluck](http://discipleguide.org/potluck). There, you can sign up to receive bulletins and posters to promote your church's event.

Thank you in advance for allowing DiscipleGuide to continue equipping local BMA churches. Feel free to contact us by phone (501-358-7054) or email ([info@discipleguide.org](mailto:info@discipleguide.org)) if you have any questions.

## Missions Report from page 2

and would welcome your help. Every dollar they raise, between now and the end of January 2018, we will match (up to \$50,000.00). This will go a long way to offset improvement costs and lower their overall indebtedness. If you would like to help with this project, please contact Bro. Wesley Martin at 228-380-0690.

### Missionary Cookout

Recently, we invited all of our missionaries and their wives to join our office staff for a cookout at the Missions Office. Bro. Sidney Farmer (Missionary Coach) provided a smoked pig and we had a wonderful time of food and fellowship. The next day, we met with our missionaries for a very productive time of

sharing, which concluded with a very inspiring and encouraging message brought by Bro. Bryan Atwood, Pastor of Campground Baptist Church near Gulfport.

### Missions & Evangelism Conference

Please mark your 2018 Calendar. The Missions and Evangelism Conference will be on May 4th starting at 10:00 am at Grace Baptist Church in Clinton Mississippi. More to follow!

### Office Closed

Our office will be closed between Christmas and New Years Day. If you need to deposit or withdraw money from the Revolving Loan Fund, please make sure to do it before we close.

## Texas Church Helps Camp Survive

When First Baptist Church of Palmer, Texas, received word that Daniel Springs Baptist Camp might have to close its doors, they generously donated funds, and now the camp is able to continue. Because of their kindness and generosity, along with that of several other donors, Daniel Springs will carry on and continue to change lives for Christ!

"One of the biggest factors of letting us know about the camp's need was Scott's article about how the camp is worth saving," said Paul Gauntt, pastor of FBC Palmer. "I wrote another article expanding on this, because we really need the camp. It's probably the greatest evangelical tool we have—thousands of people are saved there. It's definitely worth saving."

FBC Palmer began to seriously consider donating to the camp when one deacon, who wishes to remain anonymous, was given a large burden for the camp, and then spurred on the giving efforts in his church.

Brother Gauntt has a vested

interest in the camp because his father, Eugene Gauntt, was the first full-time director of the camp. The deacon who headed up the effort to give, though, had

projects come along that are in need and are worthy, the church really doesn't think twice about giving."

FBC Palmer is hoping that



only attended the camp one time in high school. Yet when he and Gauntt visited the camp to talk to Jason Prewitt, the director of Daniel Springs, he took notes and assessed the need for renovation projects. From this, he developed an interest in the camp.

"I didn't prod this guy to launch out in to this," said Pastor Gauntt. "He's just very active and very resourceful. We have an extra fund in our church for projects like this, and when

they can do other things in the future to help ministries in need as well.

DiscipleGuide would like to thank FBC Palmer for their generosity to Daniel Springs, and their passion for continuing the important evangelistic work of the camp.

If you or your church are considering supporting Daniel Springs to continue its ministry and make essential improvements on the facility, visit <https://danielspringscamp.com/give/>.

## From The Mind of Chuck Lee

### A Good Fire

There are certain things I look forward to throughout the year. There is the first weekend in September, when dove season kicks off the beginning of the hunting season. Then there is the beginning of October, when bow season kicks off the beginning of deer season. There is that magical time in March, when turkey season comes around for about a month and a half. Of course, April carries our friends from Indiana down to the south where we meet up at the camp on the Big Black River and put out lines for big blues and tabbies. There is July, when I reflect on a beautiful girl walking down the aisle towards me, actually desiring to be my wife....I probably should have started with that one.

However, there is something that I truly enjoy when that first cool snap blows in from Canada, and that is a good fire. There is just something about a fire when the weather turns from boiling hot to nice and cool. I like the smell

of the smoke as it blows in my face—no matter which side of the fire I am on. I hear it follows handsome, debonair, charming, and intelligent men. My friends have a different theory, but it is so ridiculous to even merit a mention.



Bro. Chuck Lee

I will burn limbs and boards all throughout the year, but it seems like a fresh start when the weather starts to chill. I have to relearn my techniques for absorbing the warmth radiating from the flames. I do the rotisserie, in which I turn around and around warming front, side, back, side, and then front. I can do the back away, where as the fire begins to heat up I back away until I reach the perfect distance for maximum warmth without singeing my eyebrows.

Then there is the cake walk when there are only so many chairs around the fire. The way this works is, as you are circling the fire trying to get out of the smoke, you wait until someone rises from their seat and then quickly slide into it as they are

*There is just something about a fire when the weather turns from boiling hot to nice and cool*

searching for a marshmallow to pierce onto a stick. There are other techniques, but only the most experienced should attempt them.

If you have never experienced a good fire when the weather first starts to cool, grab you a few limbs, call a few friends, and come find out what the rest of us are enjoying. You only have a short period of time before the weather gets too cold, and then eventually too hot, to truly enjoy a truly good fire.

*Lee serves as pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis. He may be reached by email at [leecharles47@yahoo.com](mailto:leecharles47@yahoo.com)*

## Children's Home Special Emphasis October - November 2017

*Greetings from the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home:*

Once again, it is that time of the year for the Special Emphasis period for the Home. We certainly want to express our sincere appreciation, gratefulness, and thankfulness for your continued prayerful and financial support for the vital ministry of the Children's Home.

We live in an age and period where the sanctity of life is under attack, even in our own nation. It is so sad to recognize the fact that many people consider an unborn baby as a nuisance. In today's society many times babies are looked upon as burdens to bear rather than blessings to share. By many, babies in the womb are seen as dreaded tumors to be removed and destroyed, instead of persons to be received and enjoyed with arms that are reaching out to welcome them with love. Psalm 127:3; Mark 10:14.

This is where the ministry of the Mississippi Baptist Children's Home comes into play. A Home where the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of children are met. We are asking you to partner with us in meeting these needs by participating in this year's Special Emphasis during the months of October and November. We would like to suggest to you to consider designating Sunday, November 12th, as "Children's Home Emphasis Sunday." We would like for you to have special prayer for the outreach and ministry of the Home on that day. Also, we would like for you to prayerfully consider receiving an Emphasis Offering for this ministry. Will you help us in reaching our goal of \$25,000.00?

God bless you as you partner with us in caring for the needs of children.

Caring for God's Heritage, Psalm 127:3

Sidney D. Davis, Director



## Former Mission Church Reunion



Pictured above are former members of Parkview Baptist in Gautier, Mississippi, who recently held their annual reunion. Parkview Church was a state mission project in the early 1970's. Bro. Arthur Smith was the founding pastor and led the church to self-support status.

After establishing the church he left to begin another work in Purvis, Mississippi.

The church enjoyed good growth and reached many in the area for Christ. One blessing that Parkview Church will always cherish is that a number of men surrendered to the ministry from the church.

Brethren Dewitt Bain, R.D. Cline, Don Brown, Hoyt Moore, Wallace Beasley and at least one other individual made known their call to the ministry while members there.

Each year individuals from across the state gather to remember the blessings and good times while at Parkview. The group meets the last Saturday of September each year.

This year's meeting was held at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove in Laurel. Former pastor Lynn Chapius and his wife Brenda joined us this year with him bringing our message. Current state Missions Director Larry Geraldson and his wife Cherita were also our guests.

## Rejoicing

Message from page 1

rejected and nailed to a cross by their fathers! "Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen" (Revelation 1:7). But their sorrow will turn to joy when they hear Him say, "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty" (verse 8). All their expectations will be realized in the joy of having Jesus as their King!

The fourth reason given by the prophet is: "Thou shalt not see evil any more." It is no wonder they will be singing, shouting, and with gladness they will rejoice with all their hearts!

### Christians Will Rejoice With All The Heart

Many who study the Scriptures make a mistake when they try to take all the verses that make promises to the Jews and try to apply them to Gentile

Christians. We do share many things spiritually as revealed in Galatians 3:7, 9, 14, and 26-29, but Israel has many promises made to them nationally that we cannot claim. We can share the expectation of being able to rejoice with all the heart with them, however, because we will also be a part of the Millennial kingdom.

I believe there will be a pre-Tribulation Rapture when all the saved (living and dead) will rise to meet Jesus in the air. This will be followed by a seven year Tribulation period on earth. The Tribulation will end when there will be a pre-Millennial coming of Jesus in glory to destroy the wicked kingdoms of the world and establish His one thousand year reign. We who are taken up in the Rapture will return with Him in the armies of Heaven to rule and reign on the earth.

Therefore, I believe the same four reasons given why Israel can rejoice with all the heart in those days can also be applied to us!

### Our judgments will have ended.

There are at least four judgments on us that will have ended

when the Kingdom begins. First, we will no longer have to judge ourselves as Paul instructed us to do. "For if we would judge ourselves, we should not be judged" (1 Corinthians 11:31). It is important for us to judge ourselves so we can confess our sins for forgiveness, but it is not a pleasant thing for us.

We will also never be judged by others again. Sometimes we are judged falsely and unjustly accused and that is not enjoyable. But, it is even worse when others criticize and condemn us and we know their charges are accurate! We will never face the judgment of others in the Kingdom!

We are also being judged when God chastens us. He deals with us as His children. While we rejoice that He chastens us because of His love, it is still not

an enjoyable thing to endure. "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby" (Hebrews 12:11). Our glorified bodies will never sin and, thus, will never need to be chastened!

Our final judgment will come after the Rapture when we face Jesus at the Judgment Seat of Christ to be judged and rewarded for the work we have done for Him after being saved. Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 5:10 this judgment would include "whether it be good or bad." I believe Solomon was referring to this same judgment when he wrote, "Whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:14). The description in 1

Corinthians 3:11-15 describes our work as being gold, silver, precious, stones, wood, hay, and stubble. We will suffer loss when we observe the wood, hay and stubble of our lives being burnt up. I cannot imagine anyone looking forward with excitement to that event! Thankfully, it will have ended before the Kingdom begins.

### Our enemies will all have been cast out

A Christian living in this world can face many enemies. Sometimes they come from within the family (Matthew 10:36). One of our most dangerous enemies comes from within our own bodies. "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and en-

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**Mississippi Baptist**

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# Southeastern Baptist College

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*Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere*

## President's Perspective

Hello fellow BMAers! It was so good to see "all y'all" on our campus at the annual BMA of Mississippi meeting a couple of weeks ago. It was a wonderful time of fellowship and unity. It was, well..., biblical! I send a big thank you to all who attended the special Brother and Mrs. Pitts' recognition and picture unveiling event. It was truly a blessed observance in honor of Danny's service to Southeastern Baptist College.

As I shared in my p u b l i s h e d President's Perspective in the last Mississippi Baptist, I learned while serving in the Army that successful commanders, especially at the highest headquarters, formulated primary talking points that promoted the mission of their command. These talking points would be sent out in numerous venues encouraging soldiers and supporters to share with others whenever they had the opportunity. I have settled on five primary talking points for the promotion of Southeastern Baptist College. I wrote last time about the first talking point which is: SBC Equips the Saints.

The second point is: SBC Exalts Christ.

This is the whole purpose of the founding and existence of our college! For without Jesus, our school literally has no spiritual foundation! The Apostle Paul records in 1 Corinthians 3:11, "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

Everything we do here at SBC is for the sake of the Kingdom of our risen Savior whether it is our staff, our students or our professors. We all serve our one and only Lord, Jesus Christ. It is important to note that we will never compromise on this point. The Scripture tells us, "For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;" 1 Timothy 2:5. Today, there is an emphasis on a pagan definition of pluralism. The word "pluralism" has been distorted by our enemy the devil and his minions. For over 240 years, constitutional pluralism has been understood to be a good thing. We call it Freedom of Religion. As Ameri-

cans, we hold this understanding of pluralism to be inherently good. It permits all citizens of the United States to worship both privately and publically according to their conscience. Therefore, we Baptists may worship without fear of harassment or arrest. That is a very good thing!

However, many have now reinterpreted "pluralism" to mean "universalism". They say that to practice constitutional pluralism is to practice universalism. Universalism teaches that all religions are the same and it does not matter what one believes (Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, Muslim, pagan, etc.), we are all going to heaven. And, to hold that the Christian faith is superior to manmade religions is a bad thing. A recent study reflected that two-thirds of evangelical believers hold to this pagan ideology! This is heresy, plain and simple!

There is only ONE mediator between God and man, and his name is Jesus. The Apostle Peter said in his sermon found in Acts 4:12, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."



Dr. Aaron Parker teaching our eager Greek I students. (Jason Goodwin; Shawn Piper; Zech Rogers; James McGhee, Jr.; Matt Crumpton; David Ledlow; Charlie Meadows)

There is no other name, no other person, no other religion, no other practice, no other belief, or dogma, or persuasion. Jesus is the ONLY way into the presence of our Living God. Southeastern Baptist College holds to this eternal truth that Jesus is God's one and only Son. We will boldly stand against universalism while proclaiming Jesus as the only Savior of the world. The SBC students, staff and

faculty ardently and prominently declare Philippians 2:11, "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."

Let me be plain (if I have not been already): We at Southeastern Baptist College teach that only through faith in Jesus is one accepted into heaven. Any other religious concepts lead to a place called hell. Through Jesus is God's love for humankind revealed and eternal life offered. This is the very good news (gospel) offered to all humanity. Heaven is obtained by Jesus alone, by grace alone, and by faith alone.

Jesus said, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6

## Special Emphasis

Offerings continue to come in earmarked for Special Emphasis. Thank you to every church and individual giving to this important ministry of the BMA of Mississippi! Below are additional churches giving toward SBC Special Emphasis not listed in the last two reports:

Berean, Soso	\$183
Westlawn, Picayune	\$13
Paramount, Wiggins (additional)	\$50
Lee's Chapel #2, Picayune	\$56

## Moving Offices

Our staff and volunteers have worked hard to consolidate SBC staff offices in one location, the Library building, which will now serve as our administrative

ciation Dinner at 6:30 p.m., on November 30, 2017 in the SBC gymnasium. Invitations will be out soon and we request your R.S.V.P. by November 23. This will be a great time of celebration!

## Special Projects

If your church or ministry activity would like to take on a special project to help the college, we have several that need addressed. Some projects include: updating the gym's entrances and bathrooms; fixing the exterior of the men's dormitory; upgrades to our apartments; new flooring in offices and hallways. This list is not exhaustive, but these are some of the projects that are toward the top of our list.

## Available Scholarships

Take note! Thinking about taking courses in the Spring semester? There are several scholarship opportunities available for our student body that supporters of the school have graciously provided. In addition, if you are a BMA minister, there are specially set aside scholarships available for you! Our recruiter, Justin Rhodes, has all the information you need to sign up for classes or contact Brother Ronnie regarding financial aid. Both can be reached at 601-426-6346.

## VA Benefits

Tremendous news! SBC has been elevated from the 2017 Silver Award status to the 2018 Gold Award level as a military friendly college! Have you served in America's armed forces? Then you probably have Veterans Administration tuition benefits that you can use toward a free education right here at SBC. I urge you to contact your local VA representative for an evaluation of your benefits. You earned them! And remember, the Post 9-11 GI Bill is fully transferable to family members. SBC has numerous students receiving VA assistance for both online and in-classroom tuition.

## Vehicle

Southeastern Baptist College is in need of a late model four door pickup truck with low mileage. Our current mini-van is old with high mileage and in need of replacement. Contact us if you are interested in donating your truck. Southeastern Baptist College is a 501(c)(3) certified tax deductible charity.

## Available to Preach

Thank you for the many churches providing Dr. Carson an opportunity to preach the Word of God to your congregations! Dr. Carson is available to fill the pulpit for preaching or to make a presentation about the great work and vision of Southeastern Baptist College. You can reach him at 601-433-4736 or at scarson@southeasternbaptist.edu

base of operations. This has not been an easy task but we did it just in time of the annual Mississippi Missionary Baptist Association meeting. I invite you stop by and visit the new location of our offices.

## Private Donors Dinner

We will honor our much appreciated individual supporters at a Donor Appreciation

# MORAL ACTION

**Baptist Missionary Association of America**

Dr. John M. Adams, Director

P.O. Box 305, Mantachie, MS 38855 - 662-231-3863

On The Web at [www.macbma.net/](http://www.macbma.net/)

Email - [fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com](mailto:fbcdjmaj@yahoo.com)



John Adams

## JUDEO-CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

### Alcohol Abuse

**Proverbs 20:1, Isaiah 5:22**

Some Christians favor the use of alcohol beverages in moderation, where as other believers insist on total abstinence. Some believe it is possible to drink alcoholic beverages without damaging their Christian testimonies, and others that the only safe rule is to completely stay away from strong drink.

As a nation, little of what we say or do is based on the Word of God. We have rejected God's counsel in government, business, schools, and in the family; and we are paying the price. Will we fail to recognize that God has the first and last word? As Christians, we ought to see the alternatives clearly, pray, and then speak out as those who understand and are committed to the will of God.

Although widely scattered, the majority of tragic happenings all had a common cause—drinking alcoholic beverages. These tragedies take place every twenty-four hours of every day across the nation. Forces outside the church rise to quench the tide of useless deaths by alcohol abuse – such as Mothers Against Drunk Drivers (MADD) and Students Against Drunk Drivers (SADD).

### The Reasons For the Liquor Problem

First, some people like the thrills that come with drinking, and nothing,

including tragedy, will make them give it up. Second, our nation gives alcohol its unholy place because of our insatiable lust for profit. Readers Digest states that “retail sales of alcoholic beverage in one recent year totaled \$223.2 billion. From that our government claimed \$6.4 billion in federal, state, and local taxes. Money over people!

The liquor industry, along with many moralists, join in a persuasive chorus: “If people would only learn to drink sensibly, there would be no liquor problem.” However, the very nature of alcohol is to weaken the will to drink with moderation. Alcohol is no respecter of persons. It can touch and destroy you or someone that you love.

Observers and recent newscasts tell us that although per capita consumption of alcohol (beer, wine, vodka, gin, and whiskey) has leveled off in recent years, more young people are becoming heavy drinkers, and more women are drinking now than in the past. Reports are stating that even moderate drinking by pregnant women can and will damage an unborn baby's brain for life.

### The Remedy For the Liquor Problem

In the face of facts like these, what should be the Christian's view concerning social drinking? We must remember that a person becomes a Christian believer only by repentance of sin and faith that Jesus Christ can save your

soul. Faith in Christ makes us new creations with new goals and standards. The believer will want to abstain and restrict himself to please the Lord who saved him.

There are four basic reasons that all should voluntarily abstain from strong drink:

**First**, the Bible proclaims that abstinence is a sound position and a solid footing. The Holy, Heavenly Father required total abstinence for those in close relationship to Him. Leviticus 10:9 forbids the use of wine to priests who ministered in the Tabernacle. Wine was forbidden to those under special vows to God as Nazarites...Numbers 6:3. Even the “little wine for the stomach's sake” of I Timothy 5:23 refers to medicinal purposes and that too was sweet, unfermented wine.

Paul writes, “Let us walk honestly (or decently), as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness...but put ye on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the flesh.”...Romans 13:13-14. I Peter 1:15, 16.

**Second**, another reason for staying away from strong drink is the role and character of alcohol in our modern day. Liquor today is the partner of excess and evil. One cannot drink without giving endorsement to a baneful custom, and a conscienceless enterprise. It is unthinkable that a Christian or moral person should contribute to an industry that deals in thousands of deaths, misery, and the total ruin of countless lives. I Thessalonians 5:22, “Abstain from all appearance of evil.” One cannot ever argue that drinking is a harmless cus-

tom when literally millions are alcoholics. We need to read II Corinthians 6:14-15.

**A third reason** for abstinence is that drinking is harmful to the body. Thomas Edison, the inventor, said, “To put alcohol in the body is like putting sand on the bearings of an engine. It does not belong.” Shakespeare wrote it this way, “Alcohol is a poison that men take into the mouth to steal away the brain.” Brain cells die when alcohol is taken into the bloodstream. Heart, liver, and kidneys are also permanently affected.

**A fourth reason** for abstinence is to abstain for the sake of others, especially those who may be influenced by the example...that is children and teenagers. Moody Monthly declares, “Eight out of every dozen social drinkers succeed as moderate drinkers, but four others will fail, and one of them will drop off the precipice of addiction.”

It seems clear that the only safe principle is total abstinence from alcoholic beverages in any form. In light of the extreme cost, in terms of deaths, property, and health, alcohol is a luxury that we cannot afford. If you wish to be high, let Jesus, God's Son, lift you up...”ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.” I Peter 1:8.

Recommended web sites and readings:

- 1) [www.PacHills.com](http://www.PacHills.com)
- 2) [www.gricetrack.net](http://www.gricetrack.net)
- 3) Addictions – A Banquet in the Grace – Ed Welch
- 4) God is For the Alcoholic – B. Palmer

## Cases of Religious Discrimination Increase

According to a report by the First Liberty Institute entitled Undeniable, the number of documented incidents of religious discrimination saw an increase of 15% in 2016 compared to 2015. Between 2011 and 2016, the cases increased by 133% (from 600 to over 1,400 incidents).

First Liberty Institute, a nonprofit legal organization, concentrates on defending religious freedom in the U.S. Since 2004, it has compiled data on religious freedom cases and began publishing its annual report, Undeniable, in 2012.

Kelly Shackelford, the president of First Liberty Institute, said, “We are in battle right now for religious freedom in the future of our country.” He and others with the group are confident that attacks on religious freedom will continue to increase.

The Institute's research is compiled from court filings across the country and from news outlets and communities from groups, such as the Freedom from Religion Foundation, an atheist and anti-Christian organization.

Justin Butterfield, the editor-in-chief

of the Undeniable study and a Harvard Law School graduate, pointed out that his researchers looked specifically for cases where an individual or business owner was illegally restricted from, or

prosecuted for, practicing his or her faith. The annual report reflects religious liberty cases in four groupings — religious liberty attacks in churches and ministries, in schools, in the military and in businesses and workplaces.

Butterfield was asked why he thought the attacks on religious liberty were increasing, and he responded, “The concept of religious freedom is unpopular.” Some Americans, he said, are “increasingly hostile to religious beliefs that differ from their own.”

Butterfield added that what makes America different from other countries is that Americans stubbornly fight for their faith. “When people stand up to their religious liberties, they win.” That is an encouraging word that should keep us diligent in protecting our fundamental rights to embrace and practice our faith — God would expect nothing less.

## Senator Roger Wicker Visits Mantachie



Dr. John Adams presenting gift to Wicker



Wicker Speaking to crowd



Wicker speaking to other representatives



## COMMISSION ON *Senior Adults*

4226 Highway 15 North, Laurel, Mississippi 39440

The ministry of the Commission on Senior Adults has proven to be one of the highlights of the year for the senior members of our churches. Thank you for your financial and prayerful support and for the privilege of serving as director of the commission.

During the past year, we have once again ministered to over 500 seniors and they have responded with glowing reports of blessings received. Our host churches have responded with open hearts and hands in providing every need for these special days for our seniors. We look forward to the one-day conferences planned for the coming year. Host church will be Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso for the South Conference on Tuesday, March 20, 2018. Hopewell Baptist Church, Fulton will host the North Conference on Tuesday, May 8, 2018. Let's pray that these will be the best yet.



Kenneth Flynt  
Director

Mrs. Kim Parker of the Missions Office will continue to serve as bookkeeper for the Commission and will provide careful attention to the financial affairs of the Commission. She does an excellent job and we deeply appreciate her assistance.

Trustees serving the Commission are Jerry Overstreet, Dr. Medrick Savell, Noel Hillman, John Riles, Jackie Gray and J.L. Johnson. These men have served well and have a heart for the seniors of our churches.

Thank you once again and may God bless each one of you for your valuable support of this ministry.

### Oak Grove Association Report

The next meeting of the Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Association will convene with Pine Grove Baptist Church near Purvis on November 16. The time of food and fellowship normally begins around 6:00 with the Association meeting beginning at 7:00. All churches are encouraged to send messengers to this meeting.

Ed Steele, Reporter

### Meridian Church to Host Sing

Broadmoor Baptist Church, 5426 Highway 39 North in Meridaian (just north of Hardee's) will host the singing group, The Bibletones, on Sunday, November 19, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. and at 1:00 p.m. Mississippi legends, The Bibletones have traveled all over the southeast at some of the most prestigious concert halls sharing the gospel. Admission is free and everyone is invited to attend. A love offering will be taken. For more information call 601-323-4400 or 601-482-2229.

### Louisiana Church Seeking Staff Member

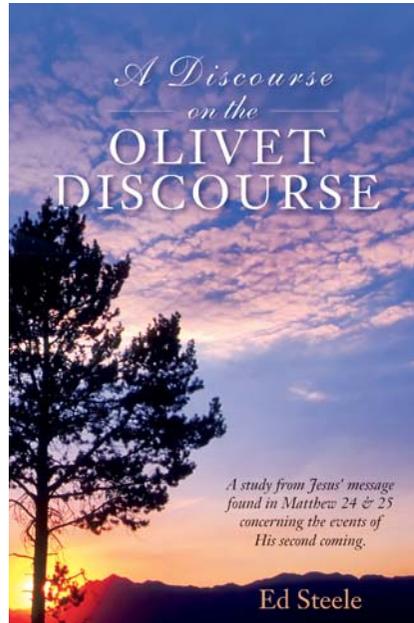
Calvary Baptist Church, Vidalia, Louisiana, is seeking a bi-vocational Youth & Family Outreach Director. Please send resume to office@calvaryvidalia.com or 2001 Murray Drive, Vidalia, LA 71373.

### Big Creek Auxiliaries to Meet

Big Creek District WMA and Brotherhood will meet on Monday November 6, at 7:00 p.m. at Big Creek Baptist Church for their quarterly meeting. We look forward to seeing all the Big Creek Association's Pastors and WMA/Brotherhood members at this meeting. The ladies will meet in the sanctuary and the men will meet in the Family Life Center.

## Book on Second Coming of Jesus Released

A book entitled "A Discourse on the Olivet Discourse" has been written and recently published by Ed Steele. Matthew 24 and 25 present Jesus' message preached on the Mount of Olives (the Olivet Discourse) just prior to His crucifixion wherein He referred to the signs of the times, the Rapture, the Great Tribulation, the Millennium, and the coming judgments. The book is separated into these five segments with three chapters being written on the signs of the times, two on the Rapture, five on the Great Tribulation, two on the Millennium, and three on the judgments. The Bible text for each chapter is taken from the Olivet Discourse with supportive Scripture from throughout the Bible enlarging and giving more details on the events surrounding His second coming.



*A study from Jesus' message found in Matthew 24 & 25 concerning the events of His second coming.*

Ed Steele

ed.steele@att.net.

The book is written from a Pre-Tribulation Rapture point of view. The future of Israel in the plan of God is greatly stressed in the presentation. Steele states, "I believe that what I have written is consistent with what the majority of people in the BMA also believe, but it is my prayer that I have provided many supportive verses to help them verify and explain what they believe. Some readers may find some minor differences in my explanations concerning what I believe the Bible teaches will happen when Jesus returns."

The book contains about 250 pages and is the third book published by Steele joining "God's Creation Story" (2009) and "God's Covenant of Grace" (2015). Each of these books is available through Amazon.com in book form and as Kindle downloads. A click on the author's

name on either of these books will open the author's page that also reveals three of the Compass Adult Sunday School Quarterlies written by him that are offered by DiscipleGuide. The price of the books on Amazon is around \$15.00 each with the Kindle copies being less than \$4.00.

To provide a savings to any who may desire to purchase any of these books, he orders them in bulk and is able to sell them for \$10.00 each plus the shipping cost. For more information on this new release or to order any of the books, he can be reached by phone at (601) 794-8861, by mail at Ed Steele, 1244 Purvis Oloh Road, Purvis, MS 39475, or by e-mail at

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### WOMEN'S MISSIONARY AUXILIARY

<b>President</b> Beth Caldwell 166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452 601-947-60118	<b>Corresponding Sec.</b> Mrs. Shirlene Smith 730 Hwy 533 Laurel, MS 39443 601-729-5638
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### Mississippi State WMA Treasurer's Report October 30, 2017

BMA of Mississippi Churches receiving certificates for contributing \$100.00 or more to the WMA Project:

Berean Baptist Church, Soso  
Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso  
East Amory Baptist Church, Amory  
First Baptist Church, Bay Springs  
First Baptist Church, Calhoun  
First Baptist Church, Shady Grove  
Homestretch Baptist Church, Cleveland  
Hopewell Baptist Church, Laurel  
Lebanon Baptist Church, Laurel  
Movella Baptist Church, Lucedale  
Parkview Baptist Church, Laurel  
Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl  
Temple Baptist Church, Lucedale  
Vardaman Street Baptist Church, Wiggins

### District Associations:

Capitol Association District WMA  
NE Mississippi District WMA  
Ten Mile Association District WMA  
Washington Association District WMA

### Top Five Churches in Contributions

Skyway Hills, Pearl .....	\$3,075.00
First, Bay Spring .....	1,100.00
Parkview, Laurel .....	1,000.00
Temple, Lucedale .....	935.00
First, Calhoun, Laurel .....	720.00

### Mississippi State WMA Project for 2016-2017

75% Water for Christ .....	\$9,981.54
25% General Fund .....	1,901.20
<b>Total Received .....</b>	<b>\$11,882.74</b>

The Mississippi State WMA voted to transfer \$18.46 from the General Fund to the Project to make a total of \$10,000.00 for Water for Christ. This is enough to drill two wells of clean water for the people in Ghana, Africa. In the past two years, the WMA has given \$25,000.00 to Water for Christ. That is enough to drill five wells of water. Many of the wells have already been drilled and the people are enjoying clean water to drink.

The Mississippi State WMA project for 2017-2018 is 75% to Missionary Carl Sookraj and his work in building an orphanage for the children in Peru; 25 % to the Mississippi State WMA General Fund. Please send all funds for the general fund and the orphanage to: Shirlene Smith; 730 Hwy 533; Laurel, MS 39443. God bless and direct our work for Him in the coming year for His honor and glory. Pray and encourage each other in this great work.

Shirlene Smith, Treasurer

## Pastor's Wife Dies

Mary Jewel Dean Welch Riles, 82, of Ellisville, Mississippi, died Sunday, October 22, 2017 at her Residence in Ellisville. She was born April 20, 1935 in Seminary, Mississippi.

Funeral services were held Saturday, October 28, 2017, with burial in Bethel Baptist Cemetery in Seminary. Bro. Harold Floyd, Bro. Justin Rhodes and Bro. Gary Shows officiated.



Mary Jewel Dean Welch Riles

Mrs. Riles received a Bachelor's Degree in Chemistry from the University of Southern Mississippi, (Mississippi Southern College) in 1958. She retired from the Veterans Administration in Biloxi after 30 years. She loved

## Compass Classic Provides Traditional Format

Do you prefer the traditional format of Compass Sunday school literature? Beginning this spring, DiscipleGuide will offer Compass Classic: a traditional



format of Compass curriculum. Now, every class in your local church will be able to choose the format they prefer while all studying the same lesson. For teachers, Compass Leader will be compatible with both formats.

Compass Classic will provide the printed text of the lesson in the King James Version without fill-in blanks or discussion questions. Samples of Compass Classic will be placed in every shipment of DiscipleGuide curriculum this winter so that every church can get a preview.

Compass Classic will be offered in the regular size that fits in most bibles, as well as a large print size. For more information or to request more samples, call 800.333.1442 or email [info@discpleguide.org](mailto:info@discpleguide.org).

### AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

**Dale Wirick** available for pulpit supply where ever the Lord may lead. 228-281-6476 or 228-235-2731.

our veterans and they loved her.

Survivors include her husband of 61 years Bro. John Leland Riles of Ellisville; daughter Rebecca L. Emfinger (Dalton), Meadville; son John Timothy Riles (Christie), Midlothian, VA; daughter Regena L. Prince (Mike), Seminary; grand children Joseph L. Emfinger (Rikki), Krystle Prince Lambert (Mikey), Melissa Prince Harper (Austin), Bethany Emfinger Abdul-Hadi (Trace), Amanda Caitlin Prince, Andrew Todd Riles, and Alec Harrison Riles; Brother - Edward Welch (Elaine); 8 great grand children.

## World Changers

from page 1

I saw the little starving kids – I knew I needed to help them.”

So during that year's SOAR conference, Tilley talked to Angela Rice, the VSM director, and signed up to go on a missions trip. Originally she was assigned to Panama, but through God's intervention she ended up going on the trip to Peru. This first VSM trip would forever change her life.

She stayed for two weeks in Peru with the Poulin family and during the second week she worked with Baptist Medical Missions International (BMMI). Tilley is working toward becoming a

Physician's Assistant, so medical missions is where she truly found her niche.

“The week after I got back, I put down my deposit to go back again,” shared Tilley. “I went to Peru for another two weeks the following summer and it was great. This past summer I went to Cape Verde in May and Peru in July. It was the best summer of my whole life.”

She will go to Peru next summer with a medical team, and also travel back to Peru to hand out Christmas Shoeboxes in the winter. For the future, Hannah Tilley hopes to someday lead medical mission trips for the BMA, as well as work with the Children's Hospital.

“The Lord may do something else, but that's what I feel like I'm going to do

## Children's Home Special Emphasis

October - November

2017

Our Need - \$25,000



for right now!” Tilley concluded.

The BMA has a rich history of world changers just like the Burgess/Tilley family. These world changers are molded, shaped, and disciplined in local churches, like Springhill Baptist Church.

At DiscipleGuide, our goal is to help churches maximize their Great Commission potential.

This holiday season, we want to invite you to participate in our World's Largest Potluck offering, to help DiscipleGuide continue to invest in students like Hannah as they obey Christ's commission to make disciples of all nations.

Will you join us? Visit [discpleguide.org/potluck](http://discpleguide.org/potluck) to register.

## Rejoicing

Message ontinued from page 4

ticed" (James 1:14). None of these enemies will bother us in the Kingdom!

Satan is the one behind all the enemies who oppose us and he will not be around to bother us in the Kingdom as well. In Revelation 20:1, one angel, who has the key to the bottomless pit, will bind him and cast him into the pit where he will remain for one thousand years. "And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled" (verse 3).

We will be able to sing, shout, and be glad and rejoice with all the heart when all our enemies have been cast out!

### Our Lord will be in our midst

A beautiful verse is found in Isaiah 33:17, "Thine eyes shall see the king in his beauty." In our text, when Zephaniah promised our judgments would end and our enemies would be cast out, he offered no further explanation. But, when he promised Jesus would be in our midst, he presented four reasons why that should mean so much to us. "The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing" (verse 17).

The first promise is that He will save! He will save from all sorrow, afflictions, and anything that will offend. That is why we call Him Savior!

He also will rejoice over us with joy! We will not be the only ones rejoicing. He will be rejoicing because He is with us. That is what He asked of the Father just before He went to the cross! "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory" (John 17:24).

His love will finally be able to rest! His love has always been working for us when He came to be our Savior and then ascended to the Father's right hand to be our Great High Priest. "But Jesus answered them, My Father worketh hitherto, and I work" (John 5:17). But no work will be required for us in the Kingdom and all His love will only have to love us!

You can only imagine the "hallelujah's" and "praise the Lord's" that will be ringing over the earth. Maybe this will be the moment when Habakkuk 2:20 will be fulfilled: "But the LORD is in his holy temple: let all the earth keep silence before him." Imagine all the angels standing and waving the arms downward to quieten all the voices until there is total silence. Then the voice is heard! A magnificent voice! The most beautiful voice we will have ever heard! And then we will realize it is the voice of the Lord singing praises to us fulfilling Zephaniah's prophecy, "He

will joy over thee with singing." It will be a moment beyond comprehension when the One we have spent our lives singing to suddenly begins singing to us!

### We will not see evil anymore

This prophecy can only be fulfilled when all our judgments will have ended, all our enemies will have been cast out, and our Lord Jesus Christ will be reigning in our midst!

We will not worry about tomorrow because every tomorrow will be a perfect day! We will not worry about sickness or death because they will never touch our glorified bodies! We will not worry about the possibility of our committing any sin because our bodies will be as perfect and sinless as the body of our Lord!

The thousand years of singing, shouting, being glad, and rejoicing with all the heart will continue into the eternal age on the new heaven and new earth. This truth should cause us to rejoice even more today. What a wonderful Savior we have to provide such a tremendous future for us! I remind you of the beautiful words written by Jim Hill in 1955: "What a day that will be when my Jesus I shall see, And I look upon His face, the One Who saved me by His grace; When He takes me by the hand and leads me through the promised land, What a day, glorious day, that will be!"