

The Mississippi Baptist

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Amendment 26: What it says?



Amendment 26, The Mississippi Personhood Amendment, is a citizens initiative to amend the Mississippi Constitution to define personhood as beginning at fertilization or "the functional equivalent thereof." Its purpose is to protect all life, regardless of age, health, function, physical or mental dependency, or method of reproduction. The entire proposed Amendment is as follows:

Be it Enacted by the People of the State of Mississippi: SECTION 1. Article III of the constitution of the state of Mississippi is hereby amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW SECTION TO READ: Section 33. Person defined. As used in this Article III of the state constitution, "The term 'person' or 'persons' shall include every human being from the moment of fertilization, cloning or the functional equivalent thereof." This initiative shall not require any additional revenue for implementation.

(NOTE: Please understand that the inclusion of the word cloning in the proposed Amendment does not in any way condone cloning.)

The people of Mississippi were required to collect and certify 89,285 certified signatures from registered voters (equally divided throughout the state of Mississippi). This requirement was far exceeded - collecting well over 130,000 and having over 106,000 certified.

In November of 2011, we have the opportunity to vote on the question. If the majority of the people voting vote YES on Amendment 26, abortion will be outlawed in our state; cloning and other forms of medical cannibalism will be effectively stopped; and a challenge will be set up to Roe v Wade.

BMA of Mississippi Annual Meeting

October 17-19, 2011

Southeastern Baptist College

Laurel, Mississippi

Monday - Brotherhood & WMA 7:00 PM - FBC Shady Grove
Tuesday - Association Convenes 9:30 a.m. - SBC

New Testament Normal

by Larry Barker

Director of Operations for North America
BMA of America Missions Department

"The church is so subnormal that if it ever got back to the New Testament normal it would seem to people to be abnormal." That is a powerfully convicting quote from Vance Havner. It begs this question to be asked, "If our church is subnormal are we doomed to remain that way?" Can your church do something to make a difference for the cause of Christ? Yes it can!!!

Where do we start? The best place is with leadership. The apostle Paul said that we were to follow him as he followed Christ. Thom Rainer in his book, *Breakout Churches*, mentions six different types

of leadership found in the book of Acts. The book is about churches and leaders who broke out of the "subnormal" and mediocrity in their churches. Here is a description of the kind of leadership needed to get our churches back to "New Testament normal."

First is Acts 1 Leadership or the "Called Leader." This is where leadership begins with a clear understanding that you have been called to proclaim the message of Jesus Christ. Most leaders testify that they knew God had called them to the ministry and Rainer said they never came across a

"Breakout" leader who did not have a clear sense of being called. If you are not called than go no further but if God has called you do not stop there. Move on to the next level.

The second is the "Contributing Leader" found in Acts 2. Now we see that there are certain duties expected of these called men of God as they dedicate themselves to prayer and preaching. It is interesting that in Rainer's research "Breakout" pastors averaged twenty hours a week in sermon preparation and

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ALL: Komen continues to ignore truth about abortion-breast cancer link

OneNewsNow - American Life League takes exception to the Komen Foundation donating money to Planned Parenthood, the biggest abortion-provider in America.

Komen, which raises money to do research for a cure for breast cancer, provides money to Planned Parenthood for mammograms and other services to detect the disease. But American Life League (ALL) founder Judie Brown tells OneNewsNow those grants allow Planned Parenthood to free up funds to do more abortions.

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sions and they have consistently refused to accept the facts," she reports. "Not only that, but the Komen Foundation is involved in the support and funding of human embryonic stem-cell research" -- research that involves killing a tiny human being.

It is strange, says Brown, that an organization searching for a breast cancer cure supports two sources linked to the disease -- birth control and abortion.

"So again, we also have the problem with Komen ignoring the truth about what they could really do with all that money if they invested in re-

search that actually helped women understand why birth control and abortion are so dangerous to their health and wellbeing," the pro-life leader explains. "So in my opinion they're a pro-abortion organization unto themselves."

Brown applauds Roman Catholic bishops in Ohio who have ordered a ban on raising funds in their dioceses' institutions for Komen. She believes that action ought to be imitated throughout the country.

According to a recent ALL report, 18 Komen affiliates awarded more than half a million dollars in grants to Planned Parenthood in 2010.

These Dry Bones Now Live

By Lavelle Lee
(from the BMA of Missions Website)

Ezekiel 36:16-38, 37:1-14
Ezekiel 37:1-2 The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and behold there were very many in the open valley; and lo, they were very dry.

Today is September 25, 2009. I have been studying for several days in making preparations to write messages concerning the nation of Israel. On today's Fox Net News it says "New world order at G-20 summit." Yes things are changing at a rapid pace! During this UN summit, on September 23, 2009, President Obama spoke and during his speech he made prominent mention of the nation of Israel and the middle east peace process. Israel is in the news daily. There is little

wonder about that. This world system is against God, therefore, this world system is against Israel as a nation and Christians as a people because both belong to God. Hear the words of Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 15:18-20 "If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep your's also."

But God is for his people and God will win and his people will be blessed to share God's victory and live with him forever. Our text is dated 587 BC, having been written some 2,596 years ago. How wonderfully reassuring it is to sit here just at this moment and know that

the words spoken at that time have now at this time been fulfilled. Let us rejoice together as we visit over this passage of Scripture.

FIRST

Israel is God's nation. Gen. 12:1-4 "Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. So Abram departed, as the LORD had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy and five years old when he departed out of Haran. Exodus 3:6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

The nation of Israel originated in the mind of almighty God. Her purpose as a nation is stated at her very origin as stated in our above text. "and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed." Through her Jesus came into the world. Matt. 1:1 "The book of the generation of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham."

Through Jesus salvation is given to all who believe. John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

From Genesis 12 through the rest of the Old Testament, the history of the ups and downs of Abraham's offspring is followed. Through all of Israel's history, the hand of God is with them and his hand is still with them today.

SECOND

The sins of Israel led to their captivity. Ezekiel 36:16-18 "Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Son of man, when the house of

Israel dwelt in their own land, they defiled it by their own way and by their doings: their way was before me as the uncleanness of a removed woman. Wherefore I poured my fury upon them for the blood that they had shed upon the land, and for their idols wherewith they had polluted it."

Israel was to be a holy people living their lives in obedience unto their God. God placed them in the land of Egypt and over a period of 400 years nurtured them until they became a great multitude of people. After he brought them out of Egypt, he gave them his law to live by. Exodus through Deuteronomy contain these laws.

In giving instruction to them through Moses God warned them of ultimate dispersion among other nations if they persisted in sin. Deuteronomy 28:63-66 "And it shall come to pass, that as the LORD rejoiced over you to do you good, and to multiply you: so the LORD will

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TAKE TIME TO PRAY

Editor's Note: My friend Dr. Tony Cleaver is a prolific writer and is gracious in his sharing his thoughts with us. We are highlighting excerpts from a project he is working on. As you read these prayers, let them be an inspiration to you to strengthen your own prayer life.

God who gives good directions, hear my prayer this afternoon.

My wife and I decided to try a new restaurant some distance to the south of our home. We don't normally go this direction. We were being, for us, adventurous; but You know this already. We didn't exactly know the location. We knew approximately where the restaurant was located.

After two hours of finding the restaurant, the food was delicious. We made several turns the same time and again looking for the place. We stopped several times to ask directions. We got varied directions to this place. We could have looked for the map directions before we left. We could have phoned for directions before we left. We could have done many things before we started our quest for the late lunch place.

Lord, hear my prayer. I don't look for Your life directions before I do a lot of process in life. Your Word offers me great guidance. Your historical Church offers me great guidance. Your people surround me with their own assistance. The Holy Spirit lives within me to quicken me to life process. I ignore it all! I strike out on my own hoping to find my way. Today, Lord, let me seek Your directions as I walk with You. Amen.



CHURCH NEWS

News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

Bro. Jim Ingram to be ordained

The Bethel Baptist Church of Louise, Mississippi, has called Bro. Jim Ingram as their pastor. Shiloh Baptist Church of Mt Olive and Pastor Dewitt Bain are inviting all ordained preachers and deacons to assist them in ordaining Bro. Ingram to the Gospel ministry. The date is set for September 24 and the time is 2:00 p.m. All are invited to come and support this service.

Canaan, Lucedale

Canaan Missionary Baptist Church, located on Hwy 26 in Lucedale, will be having their annual homecoming services on September 18th. Bro. Wilkie Parker will be the guest speaker. Morning service will begin at 11 a.m. Afternoon services will begin at 1:30 p.m. Big Blessing, a singing group

from Lucedale, will be performing. Canaan invites everyone to come and join in worship and fellowship!

Lebanon, Homecoming

Lebanon Baptist Church will celebrate their annual homecoming, Sunday, September 18. The guest speaker will be former pastor, Bro. Paul Mooney. Our morning service will begin at 10:00AM followed by dinner on the ground and an afternoon service. All former pastors and members are encouraged to come out and enjoy a day of reminiscing and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you. For more information call 601-729-2436 or 601-729-2123.

Red Creek, Lucedale

Red Creek Missionary Baptist Church in Agricola will hold Homecoming Services on September 18. Services begin at 11:00 a.m. with fellowship dinner and singing to follow. Our guest speaker will be Bro. Colton Havard. Pastor Charles McClure and the congregation welcome all past pastors and members to join us in a glorious day of praise and worship.

Tombigbee Report

The Tombigbee Association met at Ballardsville Baptist

Church on September 8. Our message was brought by Bro. Grover Laird from Matthew 24:29-51. A great meal was served by the host church and special music brought by the Ballardsville Singers and The Harmonizers. Mission reports were brought by Bro. Lavelle Lee and Bro. Joseph Oyeleye. There were 60 present with 9 churches represented.

Moderator Gary Smith
Reporter Debbie Franks

Mt. Moriah, Ellisville

Mt. Moriah Baptist Church near Ellisville would like to invite you to join them in revival. It will begin on Sunday, September 18, at 11:00, followed by lunch, with an afternoon service beginning at 1:00 p.m. The revival services will continue throughout the week, Monday, the 19th through Friday, the 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. Bro. Coy Rice will be the special speaker and Bro. Josh Spears will be leading the song service. Come and join us as we hear from God's Word and worship Him together.

Revival

East Amory Baptist Church
October 2-5, 2011
Sunday: 9:45 a.m. & 5:00 p.m.
Monday - Wednesday 7:00 p.m.
Evangelist Bro. Rocky Goodwin

Church's message: America is doomed

DALLAS - America is doomed. That's the message that will be preached at First Baptist Church of Dallas starting on Sunday evening -- the tenth anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

An online video promoting a new sermon series titled "Twilight's Last Gleaming" asks, "Are we witnessing America's last days?"

Amid ominous music, it in-

vites churchgoers to "discover why America's collapse is inevitable," and "how to prepare for the coming persecution against Christians in America."

The Dallas megachurch's senior pastor, Rev. Robert Jeffress, believes "America is too far gone to be saved," but he believes Christians can delay its collapse so they can win more converts.

"I'm going to talk about what

we can do to delay God's ultimate judgment upon our country," he tells Associated Press. "But the only reason we want to push back against evil and try to delay God's judgment is so that we can be light, pointing people to Jesus Christ."

America's collapse is inevitable, he says. "Now I'm not Harold Camping, predicting that it's going to come on some specific date," cautions the pastor. "But all we have to do is to read the Bible to know that the world is going to end, which means America is going to end -- and that means we're eventually we are not going to save this country."

According to Jeffress, several Supreme Court decisions have doomed the country. "When you remove prayer, when you allow the killing of children, and when you destroy the basic underpinnings of the family, you have destroyed the infrastructure of any culture," he states. "God is no respecter of nations. The nation that fears God will be blessed by God; the nation that turns away from God will be judged by God -- and I think this Sunday is a good Sunday to remember that."

South Mississippi WMA Ladies Retreat

IT'S TIME TO COME
AND REST A WHILE



"And he said unto them, Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest a while" Mark 6:31

Saturday, October 1, 2010

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Temple Baptist Church

Laurel, Mississippi

Hosted by ladies of

*Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis
Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Ellisville
Oakland Baptist Church, Vicksburg*

Speakers will be *Sherri Parker and Patsy Burge.*

Fees - \$10.00 per person
(includes noon meal)

Mail registration and fees to:

Mt. Morian Baptist Church
c/o Tina Adams
1168 Old Highway 15 South
Ellisville, MS 39437

You may register as individuals or as church groups.
Include name, address, phone #, email
and church name and address

North Mississippi Bible Conference

November 6 & 7, 2011

East Amory Baptist Church

November 6: 6:30 p.m.

November 7: 9:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Lunch & Supper will be provided on Nov. 7

Speakers

Bro. Kenneth Bobo
Bro. Kara Blackard
Bro. Charlie Holmes
Bro. Todd West

Sponsored by the BMA churches of North Mississippi

Southeastern Baptist College

4229 Highway 15 North
Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

State Senator Speaks During Constitution Week



Special speaker

Senator Chris McDaniel spoke in chapel at Southeastern Baptist College on September 13 in observance of Constitution Week. Senator McDaniel represents the constituents of the 42nd District. He has spoken at SBC in the past and as always, he presented an excellent program.

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Kirk & Toni Shelton



Mississippi Baptist Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

We Hold These Truths To Be Self Evident

You certainly recognize that the title of this opinion piece is taken from the Declaration of Independence. That phrase continues as follows "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of



Don Brown
Editor

Happiness."

There is no Life, Liberty, or Happiness when the practice of abortion is involved.

I personally see absolutely no time when a mother and/or father could justify killing their unborn child. The only exception (which is medically extremely rare) is the saving of a life. When a woman is fighting for her life and the physicians are doing their best to preserve life, they are charged to do their best for all involved.

This November the people of Mississippi will have the opportunity to vote on Proposition 26. It will be on the ballot and I urge you to vote YES!

The results of this will help the people of Mississippi take a stand for life and effectively end abortion in our state.

Many argue that if passed, this change will be challenged in the courts of our state and nation and that it will be very expensive. I feel those making this argument are correct. The courts are seemingly going to review and rule on any such laws considering the 1973 ruling of Roe v Wade which effectively legalized abortion nationwide. Even at that, we must continue to fight.

Let the people of Mississippi speak. We should stand for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Where abortion is legal there is no life - no liberty - no pursuit. Instead of happiness, there is despair, death and tragedy.

Let us speak loudly in the voting booth.

Steele's to celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

Rev. and Mrs. Ed Steele of Purvis will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, October 15. A reception will be held from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. in the Family Life Center at Midway First Baptist Church in Sumrall, Mississippi.

Ed and Barbara Steele were married on September 30, 1961 at Pine Grove Baptist Church in Purvis, Mississippi. Their children are Rhonda and Keith Brewer, Dave Steele, Karen and Clifton Addison, and Keith Steele (all of Purvis). Ed and Barbara also have two grandchildren and one step-grandchild: Kaylen Addison (attending University of Mississippi), Kelsey Addison of Purvis, and Beth Brewer of Laurel.

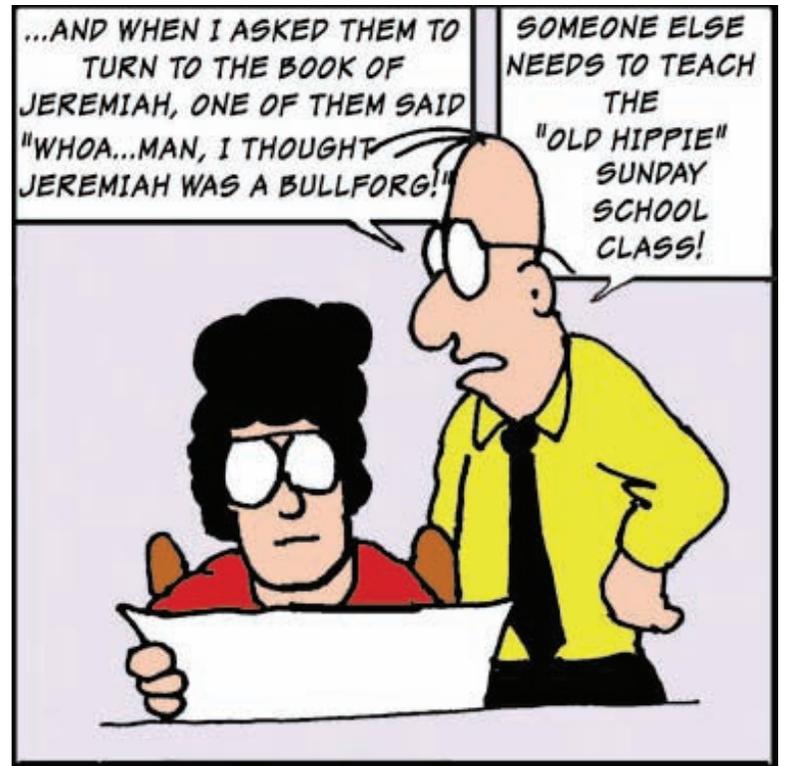


Ed & Barbara Steele

Ed is currently pastoring Mount Gilead Baptist Church in Columbia, Mississippi. Barbara is a retired comptroller for Lamar County.

Friends and family are invited to attend the reception. Ed and Barbara respectfully ask for no gifts.

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



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AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

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

Mark McRaney

Bro. Mark McRaney is available to provide pulpit supply. He is 43 years old and a member of Faith Baptist Church of the Capitol Association. He can be reached at 601-507-5873.

Thomas "Pete" Reynolds

Bro. Pete Reynolds is available for service as God leads. He is a member of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Saucier. He and his wife Debbie have two sons. He has served in a number of church related positions, including interim pastor, associate pastor and pastor. He also has been involved in a number of other church ministries. Bro. Reynolds may be reached at 228-234-0512.

George Rogers

Bro. George Rogers is available for preaching appointments and service to our churches. He currently lives in Wiggins, Mississippi, and may be reached at 601-310-5287.

Mississippi Baptist

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Macho Man - Part Two

Your whole life will be determined by who you see yourself made after. You will view your life as you were made in the image of Adam, or you will view life as you were made in the image of God. That determines your actions in life. You don't want to be a macho man. That will leave you empty and always searching for more, never being satisfied. You want to be a Godly man who has a destiny and a plan - Jeremiah 29:11, a purpose - I Corinthians 10:31, a high calling - Philippians 3:14, and gifts and talents as a son of the Most High God - II Corinthians 6:18.

Don't settle for less than you already are. A prince of power. A son of the Most High God. You are filled with the greatest power on earth, and the strength, wisdom and grace to carry it out as a divine plan of success for His glory.

I don't want to be a macho man. A man's man. I want to be God's man for His purposes, in His timing, for His glory.



Family Ark Ministries

Travis Plumlee

If you view yourself as just a "regular guy", a "man's man" that means you actually see yourself made in the image of Adam. A flesh and bones guy. Therefore, so much of your life will be spent pursuing the things of the flesh. You will work hard and be industrious only so you can attain "things" that society says are necessary to prove to other men around you how successful you are.

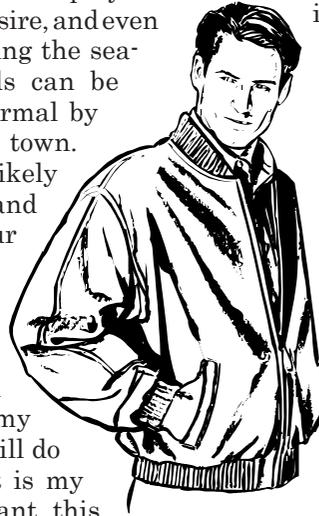
As an "Adam-bearer" you will knock yourself out to buy bigger and better. You want your kids to be popular more than you want them to be pure. You will allow your kids to do whatever they want, such as play all the sports they desire, and even miss church during the season so your kids can be thought of as normal by everyone else in town. You more than likely will talk sports and sex and spend your free time only in the pursuit of what gives you the most comfort for the flesh. You like to say, "It is my weekend and I will do what I want. It is my money and I want this thing."

A man who views himself made in the image of God will pursue the things of the spirit. Romans 8:5. He has to earn a living, and will work hard as a Godly man. Romans 12:11.

I Timothy 5:8 "But if any provide not for his own and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel." However, he sees himself as different. Not better. Different than other men. He is created in the image of God, not man. Society doesn't determine the outcome of his life. God does. He wants to be the picture of Christ in his home.

He will not always be popular or liked by his kids. That is

because he has to make decisions that are not popular, but biblical. He doesn't make his own mind up. He lets the Holy Spirit lead him. Proverbs 3:5,6. He sees the spiritual growth of his children as his job. Ephesians 6:4. Therefore, he has them in church. He does devotions with them in the home. He leads by example so that his wife and children can see Christ in him.



His wife is happy to follow his spiritual leadership in the home because he loves and sacrifices his own life for hers, just like Jesus did for His bride, the church. Ephesians 5:25.

He is a sacrificial servant leader. He seeks to meet

the needs of others and sacrifices his own desires. This is because he does all things as unto the Lord, and not as unto men. Colossians 3:23

A man who views his whole life as made in the image of God will always find time for his personal spiritual growth. He will study the word. He will be a prayer warrior and his friends and family will seek him out for this. He strives to live a life of holiness and purity and has a testimony to all around him of this fact. He glorifies the Father in everything he does. I Corinthians 10:31. He knows what the definition of a real man is because he knows the scriptures. Then

he lives out these characteristics of lover, protector, servant, leader, courageous, humble, strong, wise, speaks the truth in love etc.

All sin that men do is when they are viewing themselves in the image of Adam. Sexual sins such as adultery and pornography come from viewing your manhood as an Adam. Drinking, filthy talk, bad habits are because you see other men do them and copy them because you see yourself as flesh and blood. The Godly man knows His Father will give him a way of escape for every temptation. That he doesn't have to lie in sin, but can rise above it and be cleansed. He's not perfect, but doesn't give into defeat and march on into his favorite sins. He is a man walking in grace.

How can men be successful in life? God tells a great warrior of a man named Joshua how to be successful in life. It isn't by education. It isn't by money. It isn't how big your body, house or car are. If a man wants to be successful and prosper in life then he must follow Joshua 1:8,9 "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way PROSPEROUS, and then thou shalt have good SUCCESS. Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage, be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed, for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest."

These Dry Bones

from page 2

rejoice over you to destroy you, and to bring you to nought; and ye shall be plucked from off the land whither thou goest to possess it. And the LORD shall scatter thee among all people, from the one end of the earth even unto the other; and there thou shalt serve other gods, which neither thou nor thy fathers have known, even wood and stone. And among these nations shalt thou find no ease, neither shall the sole of thy foot have rest: but the LORD shall give thee there a trembling heart, and failing of eyes, and sorrow of mind: And thy life shall hang in doubt before thee; and thou shalt fear day and night, and shalt have none assurance of thy life."

THIRD

Israel was buried among other nations just as God stated in Deuteronomy 28 above: God dispersed them because of their continued sins. Ezekiel 36:19 "And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed through the countries: according to their way and according to their doings I judged them." But there is a remarkable thing about Israel. They always maintained

their identity, even through hundreds of years while among many nations.

FOURTH

The vision of the buried nation of Israel: Ezekiel 37:1-2 "The hand of the LORD was upon me, and carried me out in the spirit of the LORD, and set me down in the midst of the valley which was full of bones, And caused me to pass by them round about: and, behold, there were very many in the open valley; and, lo they were very dry."

First, Notice "they were very dry" indicating that they had been there a very long time. In fact, it had been hundreds of years.

Second, "The valley was full of them" "there were very many in the open valley" Though oppressed and suppressed the buried nation proliferated and survived.

Third, Notice in Ezekiel 37:11 "behold, they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts." They considered themselves beyond help and they had lost hope. Simply stated, they had lost faith in their ancient God, they had forgotten his promises of his own faithfulness to them. But God's faithfulness rests in his own

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National Senior Adult Conference

November 17-19, 2011

Hiltons of Branson, Missouri

\$125 Per Person by October 17, 2011. Register on-line at www.DiscipleGuide.org/nsa or print the form and mail it with your check to the DCM office. Paid registration is non-refundable after the cut-off date.

Make your reservations at the Hilton Convention Center Hotel or the Hilton Promenade by calling 1-800-445-8667 or direct at 417-336-5400 by October 17. The parking garage is \$8 per day and there is limited free parking. Group rate is \$127 per night with up to four in the room.



GMA Girls

GMA Promoter - Beth Caldwell
166 Twin Creek Rd, Lucedale, MS 39452
601-947-6011

Sunbeam Promoter - Linda Dertinger
132 Howard Hill Road, Soso, MS 39480
601-729-2908

Mississippi W.M.A.

Blinda Lee, President
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Corresponding Secretary
Mrs. Shirlene Smith
730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443
601-729-5638

National GMA Week

The third week in September is national GMA week. We would like to encourage each GMA group to promote the GMA program and do something special each day geared toward the GMA program (or you could choose a week that works better for your church.) Below we have provided a list of ideas for each day to help promote GMAs in your local community. Choose a theme for your church for GMA week and incorporate the theme into your activities.

Sunday

Have all the GMA girls sit together during the worship service in designated pews. Ask your pastor to recognize the girls and announce that this is GMA week, a special week set aside to promote the GMA program. Ask your music minister to allow a GMA (or the whole group) to sing or play a special during the worship service. Get creative with involving the girls in the service, you could even do a short skit or show a video of your GMA group.

Monday

Designate a special prayer time for each day—possibly 8:00 each evening. On this day, pray for your local GMA group, your church, your pastor and family, and our country. Have each girl call or send a card to a person that has been a special blessing to them this year (a SS teacher, GMA counselor, youth leader, etc.) Read a Psalm from the Bible.

Tuesday

Special prayer time: 8:00 p.m. Pray for your district GMA, your GMA counselors, your youth minister, and our country. Use this afternoon to do a good deed for someone—reach out to someone who is sick, elderly, shut in or a friend that is struggling. You could make a phone call, visit them, or send a card, text, or email to let them know you're praying for them. Read your favorite Bible story!

Wednesday

If this is your regular GMA night, invite a guest speaker and have a special prayer time with your group. Pray for our missions department and all of our missionaries! If this is a regular youth night for your church, host a GMA night for all the girls of the youth. Encourage other girls to join by showing a video and photos of things you have done in the past. Serve snacks

and refreshments and do a group activity or team building exercise.

Thursday

Special prayer time: 8:00 pm. Pray for your state and national GMA, your music minister and any special GMA services you have planned. Encourage another GMA member—maybe someone younger, someone who has been inactive lately, or a girl of GMA age that could join your group! You could send them a text, email or make a special card for them personally and talk to them at school or church when you see them. Read your favorite devotional or inspirational story.

Friday

Have a GMA Bunk-In at your church or someone's home. Plan lots of fun activities: games, movies, manicures, makeovers, etc! Meet early and order pizza or let the girls cook together! Take a special time that evening to write our missionaries and do a special prayer for them. You could also have the girls make gift baskets for shut-ins or nursing home patients, bake cookies for shut-ins or sick church members, etc.

Saturday

Rise and shine to a special breakfast! Let the girls help make biscuits, gravy, sausage and eggs! Clean up the church or home you stayed in and head home for a nap and shower! Meet back at the church for a special outing later in the afternoon. During that time, deliver the gift baskets you made and visit with the patients or shut-ins. End the day with a nice meal as a group or invite their moms or dads for a special GMA mother/daughter or father/daughter dinner.

Sunday

Sit together in designated pews again during worship service. Ask to participate in the service again with special music or a recap of your activities this week. Have the girls volunteer for a special service project: help with children's church or nursery activities.

Brainstorm with your group what activities fit you and ways you can help promote GMA week. Get together and make t-shirts for GMA week to wear on Wednesday night. Emphasize the week on Facebook or other forms of media the girls look at. Make flyers

State WMA Meeting Near

Ladies once again it is time for our annual WMA State Meeting. We will meet October 17, 2011 at First Baptist Church of Shady Grove, Laurel, Church. There will be an executive session at 6:00 p.m. This meeting is open to all local, district and state WMA presidents and secretaries. If for some reason these two officers are unable to attend, please send two other ladies to represent your church.

The WMA plays an important role in our churches. We support our GMAs and Sunbeams at the local, district, and national levels. We have seen several of our GMA young ladies go to mission fields. Please remember to pray for these young ladies as they are so willing to use their lives to serve the Lord.

The WMA is very supportive of our Mississippi State Missions. Our project for 2010-2011 is 75% for Bro. Joseph Oyeleye and the Maple Street Baptist Church of Columbus, Mississippi, and 25% to the WMA General Fund. The Maple Street Mission realized their hopes and dreams and was organized into a church on May 7, 2011. Please continue to remember them in prayer and support as they move forward in the work of the Lord in their every day lives, that they will let their light so shine that others will see and be willing to surrender their hearts and lives to the Lord and His work until His return.

Enlistment

February is enlistment month for our WMA work. If your church does not have a WMA, please let us know and we would be glad to help you get one started. Our officers are more than happy to see our churches start a new work or help revive an old one. Our Youth Promoters are willing to help in any way you may need them to get the Sunbeam and GMA work started at your church. Our promoter for the Sunbeam work is Mrs. Linda Faye Dertinger and Mrs. Beth Caldwell is the GMA promoter. Please contact them if you are interested in starting these works at your church. These young people are our leaders of tomorrow. It is so very refreshing to see younger ladies that are willing to devote their time to the work of the Lord.

We are looking forward to seeing and handouts about GMAs to give to other girls not attending GMAs in your church.

each of you at our Mississippi State WMA annual meeting October 17, 2011, in Laurel. Remember the executive meeting at 6:00 p.m. and our worship and business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Donna Lawrence, Editor
Blinda Lee, President

Attention WMA Ladies

We encourage you to continue to pray about our State WMA Project 2010-2011. The Project is 25% General fund and 75% Homestretch Church, Columbus, Mississippi. This is a much needed project - let the Lord guide you in whatever you give.

Please send Project money to - Mrs. Shirlene Smith, 730 Hwy 533, Laurel, MS 39443

May the Lord continue to bless you as you serve him in WMA.

Dianne Rainey & Lynn McCoy
Project Promoters

WMA books to close

The State WMA books for our state project will close on September 30. Please send your offerings by this date to Shirlene Smith, 730 Highway 533, Laurel, MS 39443.

The project is 25% General Fund and 75% Maple Street Church, Columbus, MS.

Thank you for your prayers and support for this very worthy project.

Personal note

Thanks to all of you for your prayers for Bro. Arthur and our family as he battles pancreatic cancer. Your prayers and concern mean so very much to us.

Thanks again.
Shirlene Smith
Corresponding Secretary

South Mississippi WMA Ladies Retreat



see ad on page 3

These Dry Bones

from page 5

word, he would not fail them.

FIFTH

The restoration of Israel back into their ancient land: God had great plans for Israel, plans that began to be executed through Abraham and have spanned the ages since Abraham, plans that continue in place even now and reach into the eternal future ages. The plans of God will not be successfully hindered. Ezekiel 37:4-6 and 11-14 "Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus saith the Lord GOD unto these bones; Behold,

I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: And I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the LORD. -----Then he said unto me, these bones are the whole house of Israel: behold they say, Our bones are dried, and our hope is lost: we are cut off for our parts. Therefore prophesy and say unto them, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold O my people, I will open your graves, and cause you to come up out of your graves, and bring you into the land of Israel. And ye shall know that I am the LORD, when I have opened your graves, O my people, and brought you up out of your graves, and shall put my spirit in you, and ye shall live, and I shall place you in your own land: then shall ye know that I the LORD have spoken it, and performed it, saith the LORD."

Notice carefully that the restoration of Israel is by the direct action of God. The emphasis in these passages of Scripture is placed upon Divine intervention. Notice another thing, God also places great stress upon calling Israel his people. So it was that God placed a longing in the hearts of many Jews for a return to their ancientland. Out of this longing the Zionist movement was born, nurtured, planned,

and eventually brought to full fruition.

On May 14, 1948, the nation of Israel was again established in their ancient land. Their neighboring nations were poised on their borders and immediately tried to stomp out the little new born fledgling nation, but they failed because God was on Israel's side. Several battles against Israel have since ensued but there they remain until now.

FOUR PRINCIPLES FROM THESE PASSAGES OF SCRIPTURE

One, The word of God is true. God said and he did it. Two, The will of God is certain. God's word is an expression of his will. Three, The hand of God is powerful. What he promises, he has the power to execute. Four, The way of God is wise. He does things in his own way and in his own time.

AN ALARM IS NOW IN PLACE

We know our time is short to accomplish the Kingdom work. Careful Bible students understand that the return of Israel to their ancient land is a sure indication that the return of Jesus Christ our Lord is very near, even at the door. Even so, come Lord Jesus.

Are you ready for his return? If not, turn to him right now and ask him to save you.

CHILDREN'S HOME

118 LOWE ROAD, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39443 - (601) 426-3928

Good Start in School Year

The academic school year has gotten off to a good start for each of our students. Progress reports reveal that each of our girls and boys are working hard in their studies at school. We thank the Lord for the good report thus far and anticipate more of the same for the remainder of the school year.



SIDNEY DAVIS
DIRECTOR

Remembering 9-11

Ten years has come and gone since those tragic events took place in our nation on September 11, 2001. One of our elementary students was involved with a school program remembering that sad day. But at the same time the program commemorated and honored all past and present military personnel, law enforcement officers, and first responders. Needless to say it was a very touching event. May we continue to pray for our nation that there might be turning to God in these last days in which we live.

Remember in Prayer

Continue to remember the Home and its ministry in your daily prayers.

Ministry Opportunities from BMA of America Missions Office

Visionaries

Visionaries is one of the oldest personal involvement programs - beginning in 1982. Since that date the Department of Missions has not denied a loan request from a missionary (home or abroad) due to a lack of funds.

All funds received from Visionaries go into the Revolving Loan Funds of the BMA of America. Loans are given to mission congregations each year to help with the purchase of property and the construction of worship places. These loans are interest free for five years.

Visionaries are requested to give \$25.00 once each year. The call for funds goes out to each Visionary on May 1st. Of course, a member may give at any time.

Cheerful Givers

This program began in 1993 and provides a faithful inner circle of supporters who are willing to help when mission funds are low. Some of the most faithful BMAA mission supporters are a part of this group of contributors.

Cheerful Givers are those who agree to give \$10.00 or more whenever called upon to help in the support of missions.

BMA of Mississippi Annual Meeting

October 17-19, 2011

Southeastern Baptist College

Laurel, Mississippi

Monday - Brotherhood & WMA 7:00 PM - FBC Shady Grove
Tuesday - Association Convenes 9:30 a.m. - SBC

Resources You Can Trust

Adult Sunday School resources from DiscipleGuide offer your church a structured curriculum for every Sunday and coordinated, Bible-intensive, life-oriented studies.

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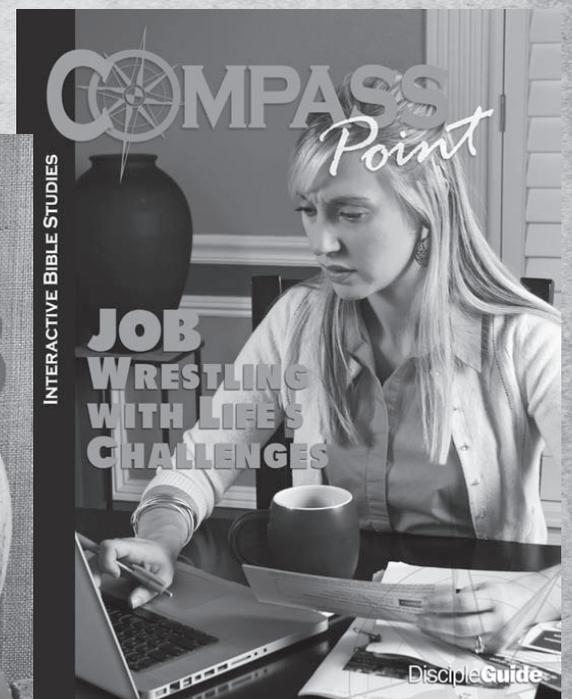
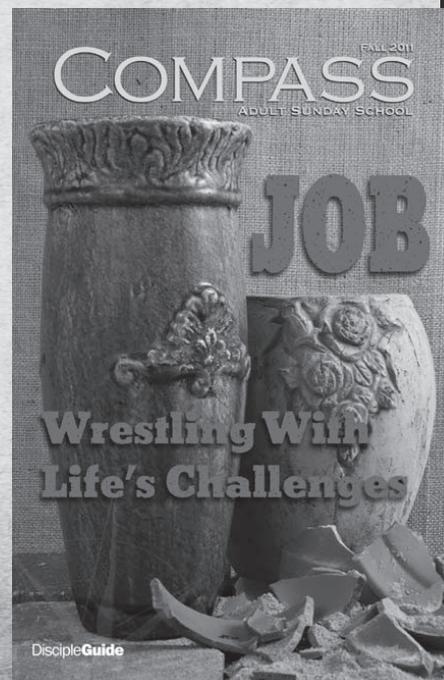
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BMA OF MISSISSIPPI

MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440 - (601) 428-8616

Lavelle Lee, Interim Director

Proverbs 11:30 *"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise."*

Missionary Reports

I am thankful that our mission congregations are still winning souls for Jesus Christ our Lord.

Ripley - Bro. Elvis continues to win souls and their attendance at Ripley, Mississippi, remains good averaging around 90.

Laurel - Bro. Estuardo reports that their attendance for Sunday, September 11th was 97 with 2 professions of faith.

Hattiesburg - Bro. Ray Boone reports an attendance of 56 for September 11th. Please pray for Sis. Joann Boone's mother who has a progressive type illness.

Serious Medical Need

I feel a pressing responsibility to share both a prayer and financial need concerning Bro. Joseph Oyeleye, Pastor of Maple Street Baptist Church in Columbus, MS, and a former missionary of the BMA of MS.

Bro. Joseph has publicly shared his need at one of our local association meetings and has personally shared

his need with me. He has a progressively growing tumor that needs removing sooner rather than later and another tumor of like nature that also needs to be removed. The estimated cost is \$6,500.00. He currently has neither the money nor the insurance to cover his surgery need.

With 1 John 3:17-18 in mind, I make an appeal to our churches, associations, and individuals to respond as soon as possible to this pressing need. Bro. Joseph has labored faithfully on a difficult field and deserves our help. Will you send your love offering to BMA of Mississippi Missions Office, 4226 Hwy 15 N, Laurel, MS 39440, and designated "Bro. Joseph Oyeleye". Should more than the \$6,500.00 amount be received the entire amount will be sent to Bro. Joseph and I know you will pray for him and continue to pray for all of our missions.

Bro. Lavell Lee
Interim Missions Director



Bro. Joseph Oyeleye

New Testament Normal

from page 1

prayer with the pastors of the comparison churches averaging only five. The apostle Paul tells us that we are to "walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called."

The third is the "Outwardly-Focused Leader" found in Acts 3. This leader is evangelistically focused and is continually leading his church to look outside the four walls of their church building. Rainer says that only 4% of churches interviewed qualified as truly evangelistic churches. These leaders are always finding ways to minister to the unchurched and bring the lost to Christ. This level is more difficult than it sounds because it means moving out of our comfort zones, taking risks, and refusing to be satisfied with the status quo. It will not be easy but it will be worth it!

Level 4 is found in Acts 4 and is the "Passionate Leader." This leader is just focused on those outside the church and having a healthy church, he is passionate about it. His enthusiasm is contagious and motivates others to follow and join the team. Who will win their communities to Christ? Those who are passionately in love with Jesus Christ. When Peter and John had been arrested in Acts 4 it is interesting that one of the charges was that they had been with Jesus. Have you?

The "Bold Leader" is found in Acts 5. This level of leadership is distinguished by incredible faith and only reached by 3% of those who say they have been called. This leader knows the mission of the church and what God has called them to do. He is willing to do whatever it takes to keep the church focused and on the right track. He has counted the cost and is willing to pay the price. Just take a look at the boldness of the leaders in Acts 5.

Level 5 is the "Legacy Leader" and is found in Acts 6 and 7. This leader loves to give ministry away to others and they always deflect the recognition to others also. They do not want credit for what is being accomplished for the cause of Christ but are quick to accept responsibility for what goes wrong. Legacy leaders are not only thinking about the health of their church now but are always thinking of what impact their church will continue to have when they are gone. Less than 1% ever reaches this level of leadership.

The question is not, "How many of us are Acts 6-7 leaders?" The real question is where am I in these five levels of leadership and am I willing to do whatever it takes to move to the next level? Read Acts 1-7 over and over and evaluate where you are and what steps you need to take to move forward in your walk with the Lord.



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Thoughts on Love

A few weeks ago I was waiting in a neighboring church office for my time to do my part on a program when I spied this on a bulletin board:

"May those who love us, love us.
And those who don't love us,
May God turn their hearts;
And if he doesn't turn their hearts,
May He turn their ankles
So we'll know them by their limping."

We are built with the desire to be loved, BUT we were never promised that everyone would love us.

Jesus said in the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:11,12, "Blessed are ye when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you."

My thinking is that it's enough just to know that God loves us. What's your thinking on that?

Mission Opportunities

from page 7

Members of the Cheerful Givers will never be called upon to give more than three times in any calendar year.

Go in My Place

Baptist Medical Missions International is a support program of the International Missions division of the Department of Missions of the BMA of America. BMMI has a program called Go in My Place (GIMP).

This program is designed for people who have the financial means to help pay the travel expenses of a participant who would not otherwise be able to go. They may contribute the funds for another to "go in my place".

There are nurses and evangelistic personnel who are eager to serve but are without the necessary personal resources to do so. If you cannot go, perhaps you are able to be a GIMP contributor and send someone in your place.

Any person wishing to make a contribution to this fund may do so at any time. The donor determines the size of the contribution.



National Senior Adult Conference
November 17-19, 2011
Hiltons of Branson, Missouri

\$125 Per Person by October 17, 2011. Register on-line at www.DiscipleGuide.org/nsa or print the form and mail it with your check to the DCM office. Paid registration is non-refundable after the cut-off date.

Make your reservations at the Hilton Convention Center Hotel or the Hilton Promenade by calling 1-800-445-8667 or direct at 417-336-5400 by October 17. The parking garage is \$8 per day and there is limited free parking. Group rate is \$127 per night with up to four in the room.



David Watkins
Speaker



Phillip Allison
Worship



Aaron Wilburn
Comedian



Burchfield Bros.
Guest Artist



Gold City
Guest Artist



Pierce Arrow Theater
Branson Show