



The Grace Proclamator and Promulgator

“To testify the gospel of the grace of God.” Acts 20:24

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THE STUBBORNNESS OF BIBLICAL FACTS

By Wayne Camp

(Written in February 1999)

TEXT: *John 10:35 . . . the scripture cannot be broken.*

Matthew 24:35 *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*

2 Timothy 2:9 *Wherein I suffer trouble, as an evil doer, even unto bonds; but the word of God is not bound.*

INTRO: I have read three verses that set forth the word of God as absolutely certain to be fulfilled. Many more could be read but these will suffice as a foundation for this message.

I recall sitting around the radio when a boy and listening to Dragnet and then, later, watching the same program on TV. A cliché that Sergeant Friday often used was, "Just the facts, Ma'am, just the facts." This week I received a bulletin from an old friend in which he had a message on the subject, *The Stubbornness of*

Facts. Amazingly, the next morning I turned on the radio as I was going to pick up some supplies for the paper and a gentleman on the radio started talking about how stubborn facts can be.

I was further amazed the same afternoon, when I heard one of the floor managers in the impeachment trial (of Bill Clinton), talking about a finding of facts. Several of the senators do not want a resolution on the finding of facts in the case because they know that would put them in a very awkward position if they vote against finding the President guilty and removing him from office. Senator Robert Byrd admitted that the President had perjured himself and that he was guilty of high crimes and misdemeanors but said he should not be removed because the economy is so good and the majority of the American people do not want him removed.

GREETINGS FROM THAILAND

Report For The Month Of January, 2011
January 29, 2011

Dear Friends and Supporters of Thailand Missions,

I had planned to write this report this past Monday. But my visa needed to be extended for another 90 days. We had been told in New Orleans that we could get it done at the local immigration office here in Chiang Mai. We got up Monday morning and went to the office locally but after about 30 min. found out that we would have to go to Burma and leave the country there and then come back in to get a 90 day extension. By this time it was getting close

to 10:00 AM. We decided to leave immediately and go to Burma so that we would not have to miss a day of school to go on the 27th when our current 90 days were up. So off we went to Mae Sai and crossed into Burma and stayed for a while until we could come back into Thailand.

When we did we got our 90 day extension. We headed home and stopped at Chiang Rai and got pizza so that we could eat in route back to the condo. It turned out that it was a little after 8:00 PM when we arrived back at the condo. Needless to say Brother Anond, Ruth and I were all exhausted. Ruth and I got in the bed as quickly as possible after eating a sandwich for (See **GREETINGS Continued P. 8, Rt. Col.**)

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PLANNING TO MOVE? If at all possible, please notify us three weeks in advance of your change of address so that we may keep your paper coming. It costs us up 75 cents to get your new address from the Postal Service and that may take long enough that two papers are returned at a cost of up to \$1.50 before we get the correction. This will mean you miss one or two papers. Your help in saving us this expense will be appreciated.

IF YOU ARE IN Grenada, MS, we invite you to attend our services:

Bible Study 9:45 A. M. Sunday

Worship Service 11:00 A. M. Sunday

Evening Service 5:00 P. M. Sunday

Mid-Week Service 6:30 P. M. Wednesday

You Are Welcome!

My message has nothing to do with that issue, but it illustrates the truth of the thesis set forth in my subject, ***The Stubbornness of Biblical Facts.***

If you believe that the Bible is truly the Word of God, and if you believe it is an all-sufficient rule of faith and practice, and if you believe it can furnish us unto all good works, there are some biblical facts that may give you a great deal of trouble unless you totally submit to the final and all-sufficient authority of the Scriptures. There are facts that the Bible does set forth that

may trouble you. There is also the fact that the Bible does not contain certain things that may trouble you. And I warn you, Biblical facts can be stubborn things. You can deny them, but the next time you open your Bible they are still there. You may gainsay them but they will still be there. You may take the penknife to them but they will still be there.

And, of those things you may believe that are not found in Scripture, you may insert, interject, and eisegete them into a passage today, but they will vanish more quickly than the vapor rising from the spout of a teakettle. No amount of interpretive contortions can keep them there. They may be there in your mind but another reading your Bible with an unprejudiced and spiritually enlightened mind would never see them.

CONSIDER FIRST SOME STUBBORN FACTS ABOUT THE UNIVERSALITY OF SIN IN MAN

There is the undeniable fact that all men, with the exception of the man Christ Jesus, have sinned and are sinners. Paul leaves no room for equivocation. ***Romans 5:12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned.*** There are absolutely no exceptions and I make no apology for using that well-known verse in chapter 3. ***Romans 3:23 For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God.***

It is a stubborn biblical fact that both Jew and Gentile alike are sinners. ***Romans 3:9 What then? are we better than they? No, in no wise: for we have before proved both Jews and Gentiles, that they are all under sin.***

It is a stubborn fact of God's word that all men are under sin. ***Galatians 3:22 But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.***

Let us also consider the stubborn facts about the debilitating effects of sin, especially as it has to do with the sinners ability. It is a stubborn biblical fact that man, in his natural state, cannot be subject to the law of God. ***Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*** It is a stubborn fact of

Scripture than a man in his natural state cannot please God. **Romans 8:8** *So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.* It is a stubborn fact of Scripture that a man cannot, of his own will and motivation, come to Christ. **John 6:44** *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.* **John 6:65** *And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.* No man in his natural, unregenerate state can truly hear the word. **John 8:43** *Why do ye not understand my speech? even because ye cannot hear my word.* No man in his natural, unregenerate state can truly believe on Christ. **John 12:37-40** *But though he had done so many miracles before them, yet they believed not on him: 38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed? 39 Therefore they could not believe, because that Esaias said again, 40 He hath blinded their eyes, and hardened their heart; that they should not see with their eyes, nor understand with their heart, and be converted, and I should heal them.*

This hearing is not the hearing of the audible sound of the message, for anyone with reasonable hearing could hear that and have a mental understanding of what is being said. It is often the case that while hearing the audible sound one is not truly hearing. **Matthew 13:14-15** *And in them is fulfilled the prophecy of Esaias, which saith, By hearing ye shall hear, and shall not understand; and seeing ye shall see, and shall not perceive: 15 For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them.*

This inability is reflected in a rhetorical question posed by God in Jeremiah. **Jeremiah 13:23** *Can the Ethiopian change his skin, or the leopard his spots? then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.*

THIS BRINGS BEFORE US THE STUBBORN FACT OF THE ABSOLUTE NECESSITY OF THE NEW BIRTH

Jesus was not just mouthing words when he declared the new birth to be absolutely essential. **John 3:1-8** *There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews: 2 The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him. 3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. 7 Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again. 8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.*

One may be a respected religious leader, but without the new birth he will be unable to comprehend spiritual matters. We read earlier of those who hear with their ears but do not perceive what is being said in their hearts and Jesus says basically the same thing here. **John 3:3** *Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.* Without this God-given ability to truly comprehend spiritual truth that is given to the sinner in the new birth, no man can enter the kingdom of God. **John 3:5** *Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.*

The unregenerate state of Nicodemus is revealed in his questions. Though he was a great religious leader in Israel he did not have any comprehension of Jesus' words concerning the new birth. **John 3:10** *Jesus answered and*

said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things? The import and meaning of many Old Testament passages had not been comprehended by this man.

Solomon clearly sets forth the necessity of the new birth. **Proverbs 20:12 The hearing ear, and the seeing eye, the LORD hath made even both of them.** Even the saved must have a continual opening of our eyes if we are to comprehend God's truth. **Psalms 119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law.**

The necessity of the new birth is clearly implied in the prophecy of Ezekiel. **Ezekiel 36:26-27 A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them.** Moses wrote of God circumcising the heart which I take as an indication of the necessity of the new birth. **Deuteronomy 30:6 And the LORD thy God will circumcise thine heart, and the heart of thy seed, to love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, that thou mayest live.**

The unregenerate cannot be subject to the law of God. **Romans 8:7 Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.** In this verse from Deuteronomy God promises to do something to them that will fix that disability so that they can love the Lord. It is in the new birth that God opens the heart of the sinner so that he can give attendance to the word. **Acts 16:14 And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard us: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.**

Yes, the stubborn biblical fact of the sinfulness of man makes the absolute necessity of the new birth. The Bible insists upon its necessity. That is a stubborn biblical fact.

In the March issue, we considered the stubborn biblical fact of the natural depravity and sinfulness of man. Regardless of how some

may cavil and quibble, no success will be enjoyed by those who seek to deny the utterly helpless and totally depraved state of those descended from Adam, as are all members of the human race. Emotional arguments may be used to attempt to raise prejudice against this doctrine but they fall in the dust in the light of God's revelation concerning man. **"There is none that doeth good, no not one."** All are shapen in iniquity and conceived in a state of sin.

This fallen and depraved state of men necessitates the new birth or regeneration. That was also considered in our March issue. Jesus declared in no uncertain terms that one must be born again if he is to enter the kingdom of heaven. In fact, he said one cannot see or perceive the truth of the kingdom unless regenerated by the Spirit of God. And John taught, as we showed, that the new birth is not of blood, nor of the will of man, nor of the will of the flesh, but of God.

Now we will consider some other stubborn biblical facts.

CONSIDER THE STUBBORN FACT THAT SALVATION IS OF THE LORD AND IS BY GRACE THROUGH FAITH

Election to Salvation is of the Lord

First, there is the stubborn fact that the election to salvation is of the Lord. **2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.** God is the one doing the choosing, according to this verse, and no amount of twisting will change this stubborn fact. Note that it is God who, from the beginning, has chosen you to be saved. Salvation is that to which we have been chosen and no amount of textual manipulation will change this stubborn fact. There are many who will accept an election to national privileges as in the case of Israel. Many will also accept an unconditional election to service such as men who are called to pastor the Lord's churches. But, this verse speaks neither of national privileges nor of service. It speaks of an election unto salvation.

Second, there is the stubborn fact that God is absolutely sovereign in the bestowal of these blessings of salvation. There is the stubborn fact that God works all things after the counsel of his own will and that includes the salvation of his people. ***Ephesians 1:11 In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will.*** Will any reader deny that salvation is according to the will of God? Will any reader deny that God works all things after the counsel of his own will? It follows then that God is sovereign in this work of salvation

There is the stubborn fact that God has mercy on *whom* he will and whom he will he hardens. ***Exodus 33:19 And he said, I will make all my goodness pass before thee, and I will proclaim the name of the LORD before thee; and will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy. Romans 9:15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. Romans 9:18 Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.*** Ah, Dear Reader, see the awesome sovereignty declared in these verses. God will be gracious to whom he will be gracious. God will have mercy on whom he will have mercy. God will have compassion on whom he will have compassion. And, just as surely, God will harden whom he will harden.

Another stubborn fact about this salvation that is of the Lord is that it was given us in Christ before the world began and is absolutely not of works. ***2 Timothy 1:8-9 God . . . hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began.*** In the mind and purpose of God, the elect were saved before the foundation of the world. Salvation and the calling thereto were given us in Christ before the foundation of the world. It is true that experientially one is saved at the time of his regeneration and conversion. There is also a sense in which we are being saved as we grow in grace and knowledge and practical

sanctification grows in our lives as God works in us to will and to do of his good pleasure. There is also a sense in which we shall yet be saved when our bodies are glorified and our minds are perfectly conformed to the will of God. But, as set forth in this verse, we were saved and called with a holy calling in the mind and purpose of God before the foundation of the world. That salvation and calling were without and not according to works, but according to God's own sovereign purpose and grace.

The Essential New Birth Is Of The Lord

Still another stubborn biblical fact about this salvation that is of the Lord is that the new birth discussed earlier is of the Lord. I set before you the absolute necessity of the new birth; now I call your attention to the fact that the new birth is an act of God upon the dead sinner in which he gives him spiritual life. ***Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.*** It is abundantly evident from this passage and others that the sinner is passive in his regeneration. It is God who quickens into life, regenerating the sinner who was dead in trespasses and sins.

The words of Jesus to Nicodemus are in the passive voice, clearly indicating that the one being regenerated is not the actor but the one acted upon. ***John 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. John 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. "Be born again,"*** is clearly in the passive voice. If you have forgotten your English grammar remember that in the passive voice the subject of the verb is not the actor but is acted upon. "Joe was hit by John." The subject is "Joe" but John is the actor and Joe is acted upon. Joe is completely passive. ***"Ye must be born again."*** The verb ***"be born"*** is in the passive voice indicating that the one being born again is not acting but is being acted upon. And, we are told that this regeneration is ***"of God."***

The Apostle John sets forth in clear and unequivocal terms the fact that man does nothing to produce his regeneration, or new birth; it is of God. ***John 1:13 Which were born,***

not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. Regeneration is not because of our nationality; it does not run in the blood of certain people. The Jews thought that being the blood-relatives of Abraham made them exempt from the necessity of the new birth. Regardless of your bloodline, God must regenerate you; you must be born again.

John also tells us that regeneration is beyond the scope of the will of the flesh which is without any spiritual good. He further informs us that regeneration cannot and is not willed by man. Regeneration can only be produced by God himself.

James also established the stubborn fact that the new birth is a work of God, not man. **James 1:17-18 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.** These two verses show that regeneration is a gift that comes down from God. They show that the new birth is the product of God's own will, not the product of something man wills for himself. They show that the born-again person is a creature or creation of God.

What James, John, and Jesus say is also advanced by Paul. **Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.** We are the workmanship of God. He has created us in Christ Jesus. He has quickened us together with Christ. We were dead but he has made us alive.

Let us hear another testimony from John. John tells us again that the new birth is of God; its source is God. **1 John 3:9 Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God. 1 John 2:29 If ye know that he is righteous, ye know that every one that doeth righteousness is born of him. 1 John 5:1 Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that begat loveth him also that is begotten of him. 1 John 5:18 We**

know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not.

In all four of the verses above, the matter is stated in passive voice. The one, or ones, under consideration have been born of God, not works, not blood, not family, not one's own will, but the actor in each case is God. He regenerates. He quickens into life. We live because he has said, "Live!" **Ezekiel 16:6 And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live.**

Jesus affirms that regeneration is a work of the Trinity. **John 5:21 For as the Father raiseth up the dead, and quickeneth them; even so the Son quickeneth whom he will.** The stubborn biblical fact is that it is God who is to be praised for our being born again. **1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.**

It is out of pure mercy for hell-deserving sinners that God regenerates. Again we are brought face to face with the stubborn biblical fact that regeneration is the work of a merciful God. Even though the elect sinner is dead in sins, God lovingly and graciously regenerates him. **Ephesians 2:4-5 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, 5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;).**

Again and again, God's word lays before us this stubborn biblical fact that all the glory and credit for our regeneration must be laid at the feet of our loving, merciful, gracious God who alone, of his own will and by his own power freely regenerates whom he will.

The Repentance That Is Commanded By God Is Also Given by God

Again, there is the stubborn fact that the repentance that is commanded by God must come from God. God commands all men to repent but none will unless God grants them

repentance. **Acts 17:30** *And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent.* One of the marvels of the salvation that is of grace is that what God requires he also grants.

If the sinner repents of his sins, God must give him that grace. **Acts 5:31** *Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.* The stubborn biblical fact that repentance is a gift of God is accompanied by the stubborn biblical fact that God grants repentance when and to whom he wills. **2 Timothy 2:25** *In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth.* Repentance involves turning away from sin and the stubborn biblical fact is that if one turns from his sin it is because God has turned him. **Acts 3:26** *Unto you first God, having raised up his Son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquities.* When God began to visit the Gentiles to take out of them a people for his name, he granted them repentance. **Acts 11:18** *When they heard these things, they held their peace, and glorified God, saying, Then hath God also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life.*

The Faith That Is Necessary Is Also A Gift From God

Inseparably associated with the stubborn biblical fact that God must grant repentance is the stubborn biblical fact that he must give the faith to believe on his Son. I just recently heard a preacher make the argument that all men have faith; they just need to exercise it. The problem with his position is that it is just not so. Contrary to what some claim, all men do not have faith. **2 Thessalonians 3:2** *And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all men have not faith.*

If one does not have faith, how does he ever believe? Does he conjure up faith in Christ? Is he able just to make himself believe? Can he just make up his mind to believe?

The stubborn biblical fact is that if one is ever to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ faith must be given to him. **Philippians 1:29** *For unto you it*

is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake. Please note that there are two gifts given in behalf of Christ mentioned in this verse. The first is **“to believe on him.”** The second is **“to suffer for his sake.”** Our concern is with the first. It is given to the elect to believe on Jesus Christ. That is why Paul calls it **“the faith of God’s elect” (Titus 1.1).** No man can make himself believe on the Lord Jesus Christ; God alone can grant that kind of faith.

When Peter made a great confession of faith, he was reminded by Christ that this did not come from flesh and blood but from God. **Matthew 16:16-17** *And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.* This great faith in Christ that was expressed in Peter’s confession can only come from God. Flesh and blood cannot reveal Christ to man in such a powerful manor that he can lay hold of him. Only the Father in heaven can do this.

It is through the gracious working of God that men come to believe. **Acts 18:27** *And when he was disposed to pass into Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him: who, when he was come, helped them much which had believed through grace.* I pray that any who may be bent toward taking credit for their faith will consider carefully this verse. We who have believed to the saving of the soul have done so through grace. God has graciously implanted faith in our hearts in regeneration. He alone can do that.

Believing on Christ is synonymous with coming to Christ and no one can come to Christ, or believe on Christ, except through the drawing power of God. **John 6:44** *No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.* One must be taught of God before he can or will come to Christ. **John 6:45** *It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto*

me. Even more revealing is the Lord's own explanation of what he said in verse 44. **John 6:63-65** *It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life. 64 But there are some of you that believe not. For Jesus knew from the beginning who they were that believed not, and who should betray him. 65 And he said, Therefore said I unto you, that no man can come unto me, except it were given unto him of my Father.*

When Paul and Barnabas returned from their missionary journey they gave a report to the church in Antioch in which they declared that God had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. **Acts 14:27** *And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.* Note that the apostles gave God all the glory for what had happened; they rehearsed all that God had done with them. They also rehearsed how God had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles. When the gospel is preached the hearers will only believe it when the hand of the Lord is with them to grant faith. **Acts 11:20-21** *And some of them were men of Cyprus and Cyrene, which, when they were come to Antioch, spake unto the Grecians, preaching the Lord Jesus. 21 And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord.*

It is only when God's power accompanies the word and gives faith that men believe. **1 Corinthians 2:4-5** *And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: 5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.*

Much more could be said and more Scriptures set forth showing the stubborn biblical fact that faith comes from God.

THE POWER OF MAN'S FREE-WILL

A man's free will cannot cure him even of the toothache, or a sore finger; and yet he madly thinks it is in its power to cure his soul - Augustus Toplady

(GREETINGS Continued From Page 1) supper. While we were tired we were very relieved that that long trip was over for this time in Thailand. Before we left the immigration parking lot here in Chiang Mai we prayed that God would give us a successful trip and that we would get a 90 day extension. On the way home we were thanking him for making it successful.



AFTER LAST DAY OF CLASSES

This year's school term is going very quickly. It is hard to believe that there are only four weeks of school left. We are consistently having from 10 to 13 students in class. Several days we have had 13. I can say, I believe that this is a hard-working group of students. Some of them excel above others but considering that they have very little background of Bible knowledge except in the last few years I think they are doing well. In fact only two or three of our students have been here before the last two years. Couple that with the fact that we have to depend on Brother Anond translating theological language correctly when their language, especially La Hu, also does not have words to fit what we're talking about. Moreover there is hardly a day that goes by that we do not run into at least one or two Scriptures that are not even a good paraphrase of the original Greek or Hebrew or even the King James English. It can be very frustrating at times. But, we do know that they are learning some things and without the school they would not be getting these things.

As I told you in the last report, Brother Paul Brown and his wife Susan went home December 8, 2010. I continued teaching five hours per day until December 31, 2010. We then took a break from school while Brother Lee

and Dr. Bryan Darling were here to do medicine. We only lost four days of school that we would normally have had and much good was done for the churches in Thailand and in Burma while they were here. In addition, in nearly all cases Brother Lee brought a message at the churches where they did medicine.

Last Sunday we went to Pa Sak and I preached there. After I finished one of the men of the church, who is also the new leader of the village (sorta like Mayor), asked to speak. He was rather animated in his speech and he kept turning around and pointing at me. I was not sure exactly what he was doing. I asked Brother Anond, "what is going on?"

Brother Anond said, "He preaching your sermon." Needless to say I was relieved. I had preached on the subject ***Jesus Christ Is All We Need***. I pointed out that Jesus is all we need as a ***Redeemer***, as a ***Substitute***, and as a ***Mediator***. The brother was apparently reiterating what I'd said and I think he was more animated than I was while I was preaching.

I had never had this exact thing happen before except once in the prison. There, the Buddhist guard that looked after us while we were in the prison asked to speak after I finished. He told the 200 or so prisoners who were present, "I am a Buddhist. But I can tell you that you had better listen to what this man has preached to you."

This Sunday we will attend services at Bethany Baptist Church. Brother Holladay will speak. I always look forward to being with this church for services.

We are enjoying working with the Holladays in the school. Sister Holladay helps Ruth in English each morning while I teach the advanced English class. I then teach Bible until noon for a total of three hours teaching each morning. After lunch Brother Holladay teaches. He is reviewing the book of Acts. In the morning classes after English I teach Typology on Tuesday and Wednesday. On Thursday and Friday I teach from the book of John. This past Thursday and Friday I diverted from the study of John and taught a lesson on controlling the tongue. I also plan to teach a lesson on separation from those who do not hold true doctrine. There are problems with one pastor

who has departed from the faith. He invites Pentecostals and women to preach in his services. He has visited in the villages where some other churches are located has tried to convince them that he is right. Even though he is totally unqualified for such an endeavor, he has tried to stop some of the students from coming to school by telling them that he is going to start a Bible school. He is about as qualified to start a Bible school as I am to fly the spaceship Discovery to the space station and back. Thus far he has not stopped one student from coming to school nor has he persuaded any of the churches to start having Pentecostals or women preach. He tried to get the church to which we're going Sunday to have his daughter come and preach for them. They flat refused and because their pastor wanted to do it they removed him from the pulpit. They have a new pastor who is a faithful student in school.

This problem is nothing new among the Lord's churches. Paul warned the brethren from Ephesus about such people. ***Acts 20:29-30 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. (30) Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them.***



SHE BA ASSOCIATES DEGREE IN THEOLOGY
She ba pictured on previous also received an award
for perfect attendance

In the lesson that I'm going to teach I want to warn our students of this problem. I want to warn them of this false brother who has gone into heresy. I plan also to teach them how God's people are to respond to those who teach heresy. I have prepared a special lesson for this. I took out time from my study of the book of John to teach about controlling the tongue. As soon as I finish the current lesson in Typology I will teach the lesson on false teachers. I should be ready to start it a week from Tuesday. I ask your prayers as I do this. I will take whatever amount of time is needed to lay this out thoroughly for the students. Some are already pastors. Others feel God has called them to that work. They vitally need this information.

We are well and are enjoying the school work as we always do. Thank you for your support and prayers.



PREACHING AT SCHOOL CLOSING
 TEACHING ON GLORY OF CHRIST REVEALED-JOHN 6



Thailand Missions Report

"The churches of Asia salute you..." I Corinthians 16:19

By Bill Lee

In Psalms 92:1, the Psalmist wrote, **"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord"**. Thanksgiving unto God should be constantly upon our lips for the many blessings which proceed from our God. The Lord continues to bless His work in Thailand, and we continue to be thankful. Our prayer is that He will cause all involved in this work to continue to be faithful, even as we are thankful. For faithfulness is surely the key to continued blessings. We have absolutely no reason to expect a holy God to bless unfaithfulness, and every reason to expect Him to bless faithfulness.

As the month of February has drawn to a close, even so has the school term for the pastors and other students at the Bible school. Bro. Wayne Camp, Bro. Billy Holladay, along with Bro. Paul Brown, who was there during the first term of school, all report that this seemed to be the best year we have had at the school since its beginning. And for this we are truly thankful. These three men, along with all who support this work, have put a lot of effort and expense into this school year. Our prayer is that our God will continue to bless their labors and that what they have taught the students will enable them to better teach the village churches from whence they have come. Our goal, from the very start of this school has been to follow the instructions the Apostle Paul did give unto Timothy; **"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also"**, II Timothy 2:2. None of us know how much longer we will be able to make these trips to Thailand. Our goal is to preach and to teach all we can now, in order that when we are no longer there, the Lord's work will continue to the following generations.

We ask for your prayers concerning the work of this simple Bible school and those who go with us to teach the pastors in Thailand.

The Lord's work among the churches continues as the churches seem to be maturing and growing in grace and in knowledge of our



DR. DARLING & BRO. LEE DOING MEDICINE

Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. What a blessing it is to see these young churches remain faithful to the Lord and His word, and to see this faithfulness grow stronger and stronger as time goes by. As I mentioned in my last report, there is one pastor who has apostatized and has sought to enlist other pastors and churches to follow him in his errors. It is again with thanksgiving that I can report he has been met with absolutely no success in his endeavors. The other pastors and churches remain firm in their stand for truth and gospel order in the churches. The failure of this pastor does not mean he has ceased from his efforts to draw away disciples after himself, for he seems to be relentless in his efforts. But it does mean that our God has granted grace unto the other pastors and churches to remain faithful to God's word. Please continue to pray that the failure of this apostate pastor will continue. We should also pray that the Lord will reveal unto him the error of his ways and bring him back into fellowship with the Lord and the other pastors and churches.

There seems to constantly be villages where we have not yet been getting in touch with Bro. Anond and asking him to come and to preach to them. We are thankful for these opportunities and the Lord willing we will get the gospel to them. But this is not always as easy as it might sound. There are several factors which make going farther and farther into the mountains difficult. Time is one major factor. Bro. Anond is one man, who for most of the year works alone.

Although some of the pastors do accompany him on some of his trips to these "new" villages, the fact remains that he must go. His work load already is tremendous and just finding the time to go to distant villages is very difficult. Another factor in his difficulties is the cost factor. It is one thing to say we will go to these places, it is quite another to actually have the money to fill his truck with fuel in order for him to make these additional trips. The price of fuel in Thailand has been over \$4 per gallon for some time now and it continues to rise there as it does in other parts of the world. This, coupled with the fact we operate on a very limited budget, makes it very difficult for him to go to many places he would like to go. But we still trust in the Lord and know if it is His will for us to go to these distant villages, He will provide the means for us to do so.

The children at the children's center continue to do well, both at home and at school. This does not mean there are not problems from time to time, for with around 35 children, there will always be occasional problems. One thing I have noticed as I have traveled to different parts of the world is that people are people and children are children anywhere you find them. We have no reason to think the children at our children's center are any different from children anywhere else. But we are very thankful we are able to give these children, who for the most part are orphaned, a Christian environment in which to grow and mature. Many of them have experienced love and care for the first time in their lives at the children's center.

I will also mention, as I did concerning Bro. Anond's travel expense, the cost factor has a great effect upon the operations of the children's center. Food prices there have increased tremendously in the last year or so. And it is not only the price of food, but also the cost of clothing for the children, along with other personal needs. We must not only provide adequate, everyday clothing for the children, but they are required to wear uniforms while attending school. The cost of these clothes and uniforms continues to increase with each school term and as another school term is about to start, this particular expense is looming in our near future.

**ANNUAL BIBLE CONFERENCE
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH**

Claremore, OK 74018

April 28-April 30, 2011

Conference theme: "Pure Religion and Undefined"

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Wayne Camp
Dan Cozart
Mikal Smith
Laurence Justice
Bill Lee
James McDowell
Steve Raines
Dean Robinson
Royce Smith

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We have every reason to be thankful for all of the Lord's blessings in every aspect of the Thailand work. Our God has opened a unique door of opportunity for us to carry the gospel to so many. He has gone before us in preparing the way for us and preparing hearts and minds to be receptive to the gospel of His dear Son. And while we are always first and foremost thankful to our God, we are also thankful to each of you whom He uses to help us in this great work.



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