

Bryan Station Baptist Church

INDEPENDENT

MISSIONARY

THE PIONEER BAPTIST

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"Preaching The Same Truth We Preached Before Kentucky Was A State"

In April, the Bryan Station Baptist Church will be observing its 200th anniversary as a church. On Sunday, April 13, Brother Homer Crain, missionary to Peru, will be speaking to our people. We have planned a revival meeting April 14 - April 20, with Brother Charles Lybrook, Grayson, Kentucky, as the evangelist. On April 19, we will have a full day of preaching with five speakers; and on Sunday afternoon, April 20, we will have two speakers. (A list of all the speakers is below.) Our church will serve meals on Saturday and Sunday.

We are looking forward to a great revival. Please consider this an invitation to come be with us.

Al Gormley, Pastor

SPEAKERS: Coy Cox, Alexandria, Kentucky
Bill DeRossitt, Georgetown, Kentucky
Lonnie Bennett, Frankfort, Kentucky
Dan Ferrell, Wilmington, Ohio
Bobby Lakes, Versailles, Kentucky
Ken Calia, Harrodsburg, Kentucky

JOHN 3:16

BY: C. D. Cole

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."

I suppose there are more people who can quote this verse than any other in the Bible. It expresses the most amazing news that has ever fallen upon human ears. To

the believer enjoying the assurance of God's love for him, it is the most humbling truth. He can see nothing in himself to merit God's love. God's love can never be truly appreciated until one comes to realize that he has not merited it. The man who thinks God ought to love him has a puny conception of God's holiness and his own sinfulness. Romans 5:6-8,

"For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

I. The objects of God's

love--the world. There is no wonder at His loving His Son; no wonder that He loves the holy angels; but the world lieth in the wicked one--in rebellion against Him--at enmity against Him--to think of His loving such a world is a wonder. There are few people who will appreciate the man of God going into the depths of this verse and bringing out the deep meaning of it. The average person thinks the world here means every human individual, and to take the care to examine the scriptural uses of the word world, would be like casting pearls before the swine. To show them that the word is used in several distinct senses is to talk into the air so far as any respectful hearing is concerned.

Read Spurgeon's notes on Particular Redemption. In studying this text, it should be observed that our Lord was talking with a Jewish Rabbi; and that he was opposing a commonly received notion of the Jews, that when the Messiah came, the Gentiles should have no benefit or blessings from Him. Nobody but the Jews would receive blessings; the Gentiles would be visited with the most dreadful and terrible judgments, calamities, and curses. One of their writers says of the Messiah: He is sharp and tender; sharp to the nations, and tender to Israel. Another says: "There is no mercy for Israel, but judgment for the rest of the nations." Another says: "In the time to come, the holy blessed God, will bring the nations of the world, and will cast them into the midst of hell under the Israelites." Still another says: "Woe to the nations of the world, who perish, and know not that they perish." Now, in opposition to such a notion, our Lord

addressed this Jew and said, "I tell you God loves the world, Gentiles as well as Jews, and gave His son that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." God is no respecter of persons in His love. He does not love a man because he is white or black, or because he is rich or poor. He did not love a man because he was a Jew or Gentile. That was not the determining cause of God's love. The world is the object of His love. Blessed is the individual who has the assurance that God loves him. That is enough to give any man joy and peace--the love of God is all that any man needs to assure him of everlasting bliss.

II. The manifestation of His love. He manifested His love. He gave unmistakable proof of His love. If some man here were to give his daughter or son, who had never given him a single moment of worry, to die to keep his enemy out of prison, would you doubt his love for that person. God did not take His love out in talk. His love acted in giving His Son, and it acts in giving everything with His Son. Romans 8:32, "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" If you have Jesus, all things are yours. His love was not displayed in singing about it. It was manifested in giving. This is the way all real love is manifested. To love is to give--to love much is to give much.

III. The results of His love. Believers are kept from perishing. They cannot perish because:

A. Nothing can separate them from that love. Romans 8:35-39, "Who shall separate us from the love of

Christ? shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

B. It is the love of the Almighty who can take care of us.

IV. Our response to God's love. I John 4:19, "We love him, because he first loved us."

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SUFFERING SAINTS

C. D. Cole

Suffering and trouble are common to the human race. Man is born to trouble as the sparks fly upward. Man born of woman is of few days and full of trouble.

The remote and indirect cause of all trouble and sorrow is sin. Had there been no sin there would be no sighs. In heaven when all sin has been put away, there will be no pain or tears or death.

Why do saints suffer? If God loves His people and cares for them and controls everything that affects them, why do they suffer? There are two Bible reasons why saints suffer and have trouble:

I. BECAUSE OF THEIR SIN. Our story is the sad sequel to David's sin. He was saint but he sinned. The story of his sin is familiar. Guilty of two terrible crimes, murder and adultery. For these sins God killed his baby. There are several lessons:

A. The innocent suffers for the guilty.

B. The sovereignty of God. God is the only person who can do whatever He pleases to do, and nobody has any right to question what He does. He struck David's baby so that it became sick and died. Terrible for a man to strike a baby, but not for God.

C. A lesson in prayer. David prayed for the child. He did not know what God's will was. He believed God could heal the baby, but he had no revelation that God would. He could only pray in

faith that God could. His prayer was not answered because he was praying against God's will.

D. A lesson in submission. When David saw what God's will was he ceased his weeping and fasting and praying and worshiped God.

II. Another cause for saints suffering is that THEY MAY BE TESTED to demonstrate their reality. All suffering of saints is not because of their sin. Job is a case in point. Job's sorrow was to test him. Satan told God he was not genuine. God tested him to prove that he was. There are some lessons here also.

A. God sends afflictions as well as good things.

B. Job was reconciled to God's will for his life.

The Art of Self-defense

A youth had approached an aged minister with the question: "Sir, do you think it would be wrong for me to learn the noble art of self-defense?" "Certainly not," answered the minister. "I learned it myself when I was a youth, and I have ever found it of great value to me." Indeed, sir! And what system did you learn?" "I learned the Solomon system—You will find it in the first verse of the fifteenth chapter of Proverbs: 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' It is the best system of self-defense I know."

"Never throw mud, you may miss your mark, but you will still have dirty hands."

I SHALL BE SATISFIED

"As for me...I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness." Psalm 17:15.

What brings satisfaction for the Christian? Satisfaction for the child of God is knowing that if he closes his eyes in sleep and opens them in the presence of the Lord, his sins are forgiven, and he can spend eternity in heaven.

On one occasion D.L. Moody was traveling by train to a meeting. It was hot and there was very little scenery. Most of the passengers were hot, dusty, and irritable, but there was one little boy who seemed to be very calmly and pleasantly taking the ride. Someone finally asked the boy, "Son, aren't you getting a little tired? It's so hot and sticky." The little boy answered, "Yes, I am, but my father went out West several months ago and he has been getting a place ready for me. He sent me a ticket a few weeks ago and said that it's time for me to come. I don't really mind the ride, because my daddy is going to be waiting for me when we get to the station."

You know, sometimes it does get a little tiresome down here, and we do get a little upset over some events, but there is a personal satisfaction in knowing that very soon it will all be over. Your Heavenly Father will be waiting at the station for you!

B. Taylor

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and
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THE PIONEER BAPTIST is a mission work of the Bryan Station Baptist Church and is free upon request or by the request of another. Send all mail to:

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