

Announcements and Church News

Our Sick

Penny Bevaqua— broken wrist; William McRoy— home from rehab; Regina Hunter— physical therapy on her knee; Alison Harris for cancer; Tim Adams trmt for bacteria in lungs; Teresa Broyles for cancer trmt; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Sandy Caldwell, Fran Barclay, and Nancy VanWinkle for health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

The Stewart's son Zachary/ health issues; Ranny Reeves— friend, Rachel/heart issues; Rick Mirra's co-woker Alyssa/cancer surgery; Bill Ingram's wife, Joy recovery of surgery; David Sain's wife Phyllis health issues; Steve Wilder healing from spine surgery; Mattie Simmons brother health issues; The VanWinkle's neighbor for dementia; The Broyles friend Bobbie Huckabee/liver issues; Ylka Bejo's—mother; Les Vasterling's— father/Hospice care; Kim Taylor's mother, Jayne also baby Willia; The Bernhardt's relative Dustin/colon issues; Dianne Stewart's brother, Bobby Goodfield; Van Stewart's aunt Linda Parsons/ health issues; The Stingles niece's baby; Paula Davis' niece for lupus; Carol Mitchell's mother, Mary; Darrell Broking— health issues.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Freeman Cooper former member; Debbie Methvin's co-workers father Vasilos; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousins Paula and Kevin; Ronnie Sommerville's dad, Ron; Kim Taylor's mother, Jayne; The Harris' daughter Kim; Mattie Simmons friend William; Sandy Caldwell's brother-in-law Larry; Kay Jessup's friend, Lou.

INMATES:

Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN:

Sam Wagner and cousin Mark Wagner (Navy)
Austin Reyes (Marine Corp)

Remember Our Shut-ins

At Home: Winston Sandlin

Activities

FSOP Lectureship—The 47th Annual Lectureship at the Florida School of Preaching in Lakeland, FL is from January 17th to the 20th. For more information pick up a flyer in the foyer.

Foyer Table—The Calendar and the Schedule of Those to Serve for January can be found on the table in the foyer.

Sympathy— Our deepest sympathy is extended to Ranny Reeves and family for the recent loss of his aunt, Joy Cantarino. Remember them in prayer as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

Reminder— Weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and livestream on Facebook Sundays at 10:30 & 5:00pm and Wednesdays at 7:00pm. If you need the Bulletin, Christian Service List, Calendar or Directory call the office at 727-446-4808.

Those Serving Today

Announcements—Joe Bonelli
Song Leaders—Matt Pryor/Joe Bonelli
Opening Prayer—Mark Bernhardt/Van Stewart
Lord's Table—Max Herman
Closing Prayer—John Benson/Bob Hadsock



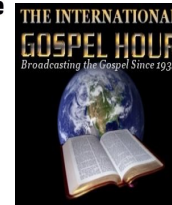
Birthdays This Week

Rick Mirra—December 30th
Mark Warady—December 31st
Mary Bonelli—January 1st



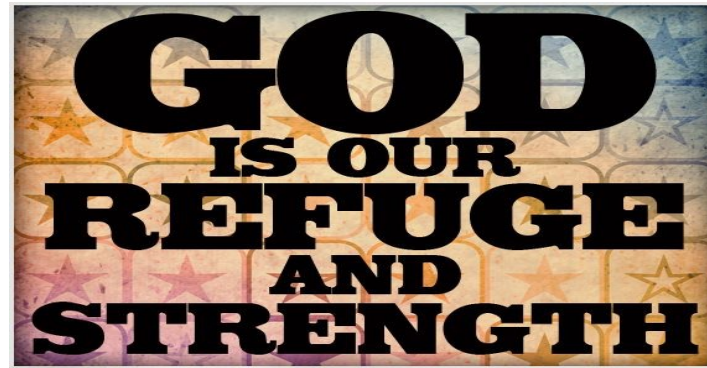
Gospel Broadcasting Network
<http://gbntv.org> YouTube

Bi-Monthly Publication



Now on YouTube
(24/7) to hear Jeff Archey as speaker.

TV Channel 44 (WTOG) at 7:30am Sunday watch & hear Phil Sanders - YouTube



Elders:
Joe Bonelli
Charles Broyles
James George

Deacons:
Max Herman
Van Stewart

Preacher: Charles Broyles
Office: 727-446-4808 Cell #: 423-240-9075

Sunday Bible Study—9:30AM

Charles Broyles

Major Prophets: Jeremiah

Sunday Worship—10:30AM

Charles Broyles

What's In It For Us

Luke 18:28-30

Sunday Worship—5:00 PM

Charles Broyles

God Will Stand By You

Psalm 3:1-2

Ladies Bible Study

Postponed

Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM

Charles Broyles

Types and Anti-Types

All of our services are available



on Facebook Live and



YouTube Live!



From the Preacher's Pen

BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND

David Sproule

Sometimes those who are followers do not realize that they are blind. They truly and honestly believe that those who are leading them and teaching them are solid, knowledgeable, trustworthy persons. For a variety of reasons, followers often follow without verifying what they are being told. Sometimes that's just easier. But, when it comes to our eternal salvation, do we want to put our trust in a man or in the God of heaven?

In Matthew 15, Jesus had one of His many encounters with the Pharisees—a Jewish sect who were revered for their (supposed) knowledge of and strict adherence to the Law of God. The Pharisees were the largest Jewish sect of Jesus' day, with many followers. However, what the Pharisees adhered themselves to was their own traditions, not the Law of God. (Read the parallel verses in Mark 7:1-4.) Jesus called them, "Blind leaders of the blind."

They were "blind leaders of the blind" because they would "break the commandment of God for the sake of [their] tradition" (15:3). Any group today who is more focused on their manmade traditions and doctrines than they are on carefully following the doctrine of Christ fall in this same category.

They were "blind leaders of the blind" because they changed the nature, focus and basis of "worship" of God (15:7-9). First of all, the focus of the worship was more on the outward than on the inward. "Their heart" was "far from" God, even though they looked, on the outside, like they were honoring Him. Second, the basis of their worship was "teaching as doctrines the commandments of men," which made their worship "vain." True worship is "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24). When either or both of these elements is absent or misrepresented, the worship is not acceptable to God.

They were "blind leaders of the blind" because they "were offended" at the teaching of Jesus and His truth, rather than being convicted by it (15:12). When individuals are not concerned with "the whole counsel of God" (Acts 20:27), but only focus on their own wishes and traditions, they will be offended when Jesus' truth is taught to them.

Look carefully at what Jesus said about those who are blind leaders and those who are their followers. "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted," and "both will fall into a ditch" (15:13-14). Many denominations, human doctrines and manmade practices have been "planted," which are "not according to Christ" (Col. 2:8). They may "seem right," but their "end is the way of death" (Prov. 14:12). May God help us to not be a blind leader or a blind follower! Let us open our eyes to His one truth!

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE KING JAMES BIBLE?

Denver Thomas

In recent years, more and more Christian people are moving away from that trusty old King James Version Bible (KJV). It's as if there is an immediate need for something new. Reports indicate that when a teacher or preacher enters a bookstore in search of a new Bible, the sales

personnel observe "You must be church of Christ" as so many come looking for the New King Version (NKJV) or perhaps the New American Standard Bible (NASB).

When asked for a reason for leaving the KJV, each seems to give a different explanation. One minister told me the King James Version (KJV) has errors in it and he wants a Bible that has been duly corrected. Another minister told me the KJV Bible is hard to understand with all its strange words that many people today simply do not understand and he wants a Bible that has common, ordinary words that he and those he addresses can easily comprehend. Yet another minister told me the KJV Bible is awkward with all its thee, thine, thou and such like and he wants a Bible with common usage words.

Starting somewhere around fifty to sixty years ago, new translations, versions, revisions, editions, etc. began to hit the open market. Time and space allow for just a sampling of possible reasons for those new books that flood the market today.

One obvious reason has to do with money since the KJV is not copyrightable. It is necessary to make changes in order to copyright, sell copies and thus make money.

Another obvious reason for a new book is to accommodate beliefs and practices that are foreign to the KJV. It is noted that sectarian councils have been responsible for the greater number of new bibles that have been created. The introduction of instrumental music in worship has been made scriptural by some modern day translations. Women participating in leadership roles in worship services have become common practice. Marriage, divorce and remarriage for unscriptural reasons has been eased to the point that civil authorities grant divorce for just about any reason; and, church oversight just does not take issue. Whereas the KJV uses fornication (Matt. 5:32; 19:9), various other terms such as sexual misconduct, sexual immorality and unchastity appear in the newer books. Whereas fornication is very specific, sexual misconduct, sexual immorality and unchastity might include petting, fondling and groping, none of which is fornication.

Today, there is little or no going into all the world to preach the Gospel, and the result is a weakening of the church as those who are departing this life are not being replaced by new converts. The located preacher phenomenon, as one preacher suggested to me recently, has left the lost to be lost without hope. Gospel meetings of three or four nights duration once or twice a year have little effect, if any, on church growth and yet that has become the norm.

If one is willing to accept the 1604 or 1901 King James Version Bible as God's Holy Word (and it surely is, to be sure), then it is quite simple to explain why preachers of the Gospel seventy and eighty years ago were so highly successful in their seeking and saving the lost of the world. Those old guys had no trouble with what the KJV said about any topic. It was theirs to go, to preach and to baptize in keeping with Matthew 28:18-20. In those days, two and three week Gospel meetings were commonplace and baptisms were numerous, almost daily. As a consequence, the Lord's church was fast growing and was recognized for its strong impact on the community affairs and especially so around election times.

So, what's wrong with the 1604/1901 King James Bible? Absolutely nothing, if one is interested in seeking and saving the lost, in seeing rapid church growth and in taking an active stand against the multitude of evils that have come to be in recent times.

When those who preach today decide to follow the example of those preachers of yore, the need for new books will disappear and church grow will once again resume.