

** But if the watchman see the sword come and blow not the trumpet... blood will I require at the watchman's hand **

The Baptist WATCHMAN

INDEPENDENT *** DISTINCTIVELY MISSIONARY *** PREMILLENNIAL

Volume XXXI, Number 1

Terry Basham II, Editor

January 2014

A DORMANT SEASON

When we moved to Lawton, I came over and looked at some houses that were for sale. The one I bought had some trees out back and because it was still cold, they had no leaves. I hoped they were all alive...but as the weather warmed up, I saw that it was not to be! Two of the three were dead. I had hoped they were dormant, but whatever it was that had been afflicting them had finally won, and now they were dead. I was bummed!

As many of you are aware the Watchman has not been seen in a while. It did not die: it was just dormant. Sometimes a thing has to rest before it can go on, and I think that aptly describes what has happened here. In this new season of ministry we are active again! We will not be publishing as often, but it is our goal to offer you at least 4 in 2014. By God's good hand I think we will make it! We pray that these few words contained here will help and bless you in some way.

As you know, The Baptist Watchman was the creation of Pastor Forrest Keener, and for nearly 30 years, month after month, he and the people of Bethel pumped out a paper that held to conservative values, the doctrines of grace, missionary fervor, and the Authorized Version. (As many of you may know, Pastor Keener is now with the Lord.) We are happy to have such a sure foundation to build upon in this era of world history. Pastor Keener entered missionary work in 2003, and the church called Pastor Dean Robinson, who valiantly led the church, the paper and the tract ministry until the Fall of 2012. The congregation in Lawton began to seek a new pastor to take the oversight of the work, and in March of 2013 they called me, Terry Basham, II, to be the fourth pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church.

continued at: Seasons, page 3

What happened to those walls?

by Terry Basham II

Joshua 6

The conquest of Jericho is a fantastic event and in some ways it is the ultimate display of man's inability to resist the power of God. As a boy growing up I heard many sermons about the destruction of Jericho, one man went into great detail about how the steps of the people of the Israelites virtually broke apart the walls so severely that when time came to for the people to shout – all it took was a sound wave to knock down the wall...well, that is just nuts. The walk around Jericho did nothing at all, it had no effect on the walls. The walls were as stable and strong on day seven as they were on day one!

A Very Curious Event

Jericho was afraid of Israel, Rahab told them that, the people of Canaan had been afraid of the wilderness wanderers for FORTY years! And now their worst fear is realized, they've crossed Jordan and are here... they were doomed! So, they shut up the city and from what we've been able to find out, when Jericho battened down the hatches, they were impregnable and NO ONE, NO MAN, NO ARMY could get to them...

In this story, we see that GOD'S Plan is PREPOSTEROUS! His whole plan is for them to walk... No city had ever been sacked by walking around it, no enemy had been defeated by doing nothing! Preposterous.

But God had PROMISED - that he'd deliver Jericho to them (6.2), and he keeps his promises. But how can he do it? Well, he can do any-

continued at: Walls, page 5



The Baptist Watchman is an outreach ministry of

Bethel Baptist Church

1902 NW Columbia Ave
Lawton, OK 73507-5609
(580) 353-8014
<http://www.bbc-lawton.org>

The Birth of Bethesda

by Jared Smith

Jared Smith is a British-American dual national. He has been the pastor of Bethesda Baptist Church, Kensington Place, London, England, since 1999. He is one of the organizers of the Association of Historic Baptists (AHB), and seeks to promote the 'historic affirmations' set forth in the articles and objectives of the AHB. Please visit: www.baptists.net.

The Baptist Church on Kensington Place, London, England, was organized in the Spring of 1866. Founded upon the great truths of Strict Communion and Particular Redemption, she is one of a dozen churches in England that remains true to these historic values. The following account is recorded in brown ink on the opening pages of the church books dated 1866:

In the autumn of the year 1865, a few persons holding Strict Communion, and Particular Baptist principles, desiring the edification of their own minds, the spread of the truths and principles they prized and loved, and the salvation of precious souls, made arrangements with the Committee of the "Working Men's Association," then occupying the Large room in Stormont House, Bayswater Road, London, for its use on Sundays for Divine worship. One of these persons, having incidentally heard of Mr. D. Crumpton, a minister, who had for some years been pastor of the Particular Baptist Church at Salendine Nook, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, but had come to London intending to "rest awhile," (Mark 6:31) and only to minister occasionally, as the Lord should direct, wrote to him, inviting him to come and speak to them the word of the Lord, in Stormont House, the first Sabbath in November, 1865. The invitation was accepted, and week by week renewed, until it became evident, by the steady increase of the congregation, and the edification derived from his ministry, that the whole was of God; and eventually, after prayerful consideration, it was decided to form a Strict Communion, Particular Baptist Church, and to invite Mr. Crumpton to be the pastor; which was done on Wednesday, April 4th, 1866. Accordingly, special services were held in the "United Methodist Free Church", Queens Road, Bayswater. The order of these services were as follows:

At half past two O'clock in the afternoon, Bro. Kurtis of Hayes, gave out the well known hymn, "Kindred in Christ for His Dear Sake". These sweet words having been sung, Bro. Box of Woolwich, read the Word of God and earnestly implored the Divine aid and blessing. After again singing Bro. Hazelton of Chadwell Street Chapel, Pentonville, described in a very able and Scriptural manner "the nature and order of a Gospel church", and at the close of his address, asked "what had led them to wish to form a Christian church" and, "what principles they intended to adopt as the basis of their union". These questions being satisfactorily answered by two of the friends, he requested those persons wishing to form a church to stand up, and to give to each other the right hand of fellowship, which they did. Bro. Box then gave to each on behalf of the sister churches in London, the right hand of fellowship, wishing them, in a very hearty manner "God's special presence and blessing".

Another hymn having been sung, Bro. Higham of Great College Street Chapel of Camden Town described, "the deacon's office" as laid down in God's Holy Word, a portion of which he read, and then spoke very practically

Bible Institute of Correspondence



We are very excited to announce that the BIC program has been converted to MP3 format! Now it can be listened to on a digital player, PC or put on disk for playing in your car! This was a dream of Pastor Keener and we are very happy to be able to offer this to you in an up to date format.

The BIC program offers you 96 semester hours of Theology, Soteriology, Eschatology and Bible Survey. This course will put you on the cutting edge of Bible knowledge and put far ahead of many other programs.

Contact us at

(580) 353-8014 or

bethelbaptistlawton@gmail.com

for enrollment and pricing information.

and affectionately of its duties and after which, the church elected by ballot five brethren to that office, whose names he announced and asked them, "If they accepted the appointment?", to which they replied, "they did hoping for God's help." Bro. Dickerson of Little Alie Street Chapel, Whitechapel, then rose and after a very few suitable words, observed, "that they as a church had elected their deacons, but in the Bible we read of pastors as well as deacons, and that he had been requested to superintend that afternoon the election of their pastor." The church then unanimously and heartily expressed their wish for Bro. David Crumpton to be their pastor, and he having consented, and also given brief, but interesting accounts of his conversion to God, and call to the ministry, the ministers present "gave to him on their own, and their brethren's behalf, the right hand of fellowship, and a very cordial welcome among the pastors and churches in London, assuring him of their earnest desire that he, and the people of his charge may prosper, and be abundantly blessed of God."

This solemn service was then concluded by singing and prayer, and the friends adjourned to the school room where tea was provided. When they all had eaten and were satisfied, they reassembled in the chapel, at half past six o'clock in the evening, when Bro. Frith of New Bexley Kent gave out the hymns, and Bro. Kurtis read and prayed. Then Bro. Dickerson addressed the pastor, in a very affectionate manner expressing his conviction, "that it was the Gospel attended with the power of the Holy Spirit, that could alone benefit souls, and he believed his brother Crumpton would be content to preach 'Christ crucified' being persuaded that the 'old story' of the cross had still power to save." Bro. Hazelton then addressed the church on "its duties to itself, its pastor and the world," and in a very profitable way, entered into several weighty things. Another hymn having been sung, Bro. Higham spoke to the congregation on "the only way of salvation," affectionately assuring them "that there was no other name under heaven, given among men, whereby they must be saved, but the name Christ Jesus."

These interesting services were concluded by the pastor, administering the Lord's Supper to the infant church, to the members of the Strict Communion Baptist Churches, to the members of nearly 70 persons, uniting in this act of remembrance of the Saviour's dying love.

Thus closed the meetings of this solemn day. The attendance was good, and the spirit, tone, and subject matter of each address was all that could be desired. Evidently "God was in our midst." May His best blessings ever rest upon this church and upon all the churches in Christ Jesus throughout the world and in all ages. Amen and Amen."

In the spirit of Strict Communion, the church now observes a restricted Table opened only to the members of the fellowship; and the leadership is still comprised of a pastor exercising oversight, assisted by a group of deacons. The English translation used in the pulpit and the pew is the King James Version; and while the Gospel is openly preached, a high view of Sovereign Grace is maintained. All in all, the church rejects the newfangled doctrines and practices adopted by many modern Baptists, believing that churches should not be 'reforming' Strict Baptist values, but rather applying these biblical truths to the 21st century.



Seasons, continued from Page 1

As the Editor of this paper, I can promise you we will stay on the same path as Keener and Robinson. The paper may have a different air about it, and you may see names of people you have never heard of, but we will remain devoted to the same core values of the past.

A PLANTING SEASON...

On the home front in Lawton at this writing we still offer the tracts, booklets, tapes and full length books that we always have. I look forward to announcing in the future the dates of a Bible Conference and the publishing of some brand new materials for use in the Lord's churches.

The ministry in Lawton is doing well, we have undertaken a concentrated effort to evangelize our local area and are distributing large numbers of tracts, investing hundreds of man hours in the fields of our city. We pray the Lord will bless this with conversions, baptisms and new members. We've been taking the gospel to Fort Sill on a regular basis and we hope that many of the brave men and women there will be birthed into the kingdom of God.

We've developed two new brochures for use in our area and we are striving to use new ways to make the doctrine of free grace known.

continued on next page

Our building has begun to show signs of age and we've been busily renovating and bringing it up to speed. A new nursery has been developed, new lighting in the auditorium, an updated entry way and much needed improvements in the restrooms. We added a new sound system and now the people can really hear how bad the preaching is! lol We've been working on converting the BIC materials to a digital format with the help of Pastor Larry Banks in Springdale, Arkansas and we currently are able to provide CD's of all of our pulpit Sermons.

We are very excited about the Sunday School of Bethel Baptist Church—we have some fine workers in this ministry. The Lord has given us some very able teachers and we look forward to the materials they will produce in the years to come.

A GROWING SEASON...

We have been planting and now we wait for the Lord of Glory to bring forth the increase. We are staying busy in our fields while we wait. We hope that you will pray for us and as we do for you.

*Wishing you every blessing,
your co-laborer,
Pastor Terry Basham, II*

Bio of Pastor Terry Basham, II

by the numbers:

- 1978—Born in Mattoon, IL to Terry and Kathy Basham
- 1979—Officially a PK = Pastor's Kid
- 1993—Saved and Baptized at Calvary Baptist Church, Flora, IL, his Father was pastor.
- 1995—Finished School
- 1996—Surrendered to Preach, began training at Blessed Hope Baptist College, Benton, AR
- 1998—Married Valerie Courtney
- 1999—Graduated College and Ordained, had first child born, entered fulltime ministry in WV
- 2000-2003 Assistant Pastor in WV and AR
- 2003—Second child born
- 2003—2004 Layman in Kansas
- 2005—Third child born
- 2006—Fourth child born
- 2005—2008 Pastor Northside Baptist Church, Burnet, TX
- 2010—Fifth child born
- 2008—2013 Pastor Grace Baptist Church, Hope, AR
- 2013—Pastor Bethel Baptist Church, Lawton, OK

God Needs No Improvement

by Tim Green

Malachi trumpets the truth; “*For I am the LORD, I change not;...*” (Mal 3.6). We live in a day when personality trumps spirituality, carnality itself in a clerical closing and being respectable in the minds of our peers I more important than living right before God! We are ever seeking some new thing, program, promotion or what have you, to appear successful. Let me remind you that real spiritual success may not look like success to the sensual, secularized, soap-opera saints of the 21st century.

In light of the fact that God does not change we must conclude that God makes no progress either. He is not getting holier—He is holy! He is not growing more godly—He is GOD! He is not morphing into some One more mighty—He is almighty. He is not—well, you get the picture, He is God and he does not need to change, improve or renovate anything about Himself. His character, covenant and condescension are unchanging. He his absolute holiness, perfect in justice and longsuffering in mercy. God is good, truth, righteous and love. Nothing has changed with God, for He needs to make no progress, improvement or change in anyway.

One neophyte politician in this century promised “Hope and Change”. His hope has brought more hopelessness and his change has left us cursed, crushed and broke as a people. The change he has delivered has brought our once great nation to its knees but not to pray. He has tried to sanitize same sex marriage and demonize democracy. He has polluted politics and programmed our country in to defeat, unemployment, unrighteousness, handouts, and the mass murder of millions of the unborn. He has depleted our bank accounts and emptied the coffers of our country to the heathen of the world. May God be merciful, even though, His justice demands our demise!

This Machiavellian, mad move to change has permeated our pulpits also. We have innovators who are little more than ignoramuses spouting new ideas for church growth, financial schemes (scams), Sunday School enhancement, ad nauseam. Men have become mechanical and ceased to be spiritual. Organization has been substituted for a spiritual organism. God has not only been denied, but ignored and forgotten, in a mad dash for change.

If we are ever going to experience old fashion revival in our churches, homes and lives; we must go backward not forward. The route to take is reversal. Back to Bethel, back to the Bible (there is only one, King James Bible). Back to holiness, godliness, righteousness and truth. Back to the old paths of preaching, singing, shouting and sensible, sane personal soul-winning; with a life that backs up our lip!

The wise man said, "... *meddle not with them that are given to change:*" (Proverbs 24.21). Verse 22 (of the same chapter) proclaims in potent words that calamity will be the consequences for the changelings. Solomon's words from God perhaps were first learned at his father's knee, for David said, "That those that will live with God don't change even if their determination to not compromise or acquiesce seems to be detrimental to them. (See Psalm 15.1 and 4).

My brethren, change for changes sake is pure puffery and promotes a lack of faith that permeates from the pulpit to the pew! Our great God and Savior had this said about him; "*Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today and forever*" (Hebrews 13.8). Since He hasn't, isn't and won't change neither should we, as we are His, and His alone. May the dear Lord help us to be what He has **bought** us to be—Christian—in all the fullness of the meaning of that wondrous name.

Tim Green is a pastor's son who was saved as an Adult. He was called to preach soon after, and has been traveling this great land and the world preaching the gospel of grace. He is a missionary evangelist. He and his dear wife have three sons who have all taken up the faith and do their part in reaching the world with the gospel. Two sons are here in the states, and one is in Mexico. Tim is the author of several books and is the Editor of the Baptist Bread, a daily devotional booklet that is filled with edifying bits of manna for us in this wilderness.

See: www.timgreenministries.org

Are you visiting Lawton, Oklahoma?

*Visit **Bethel Baptist Church***

Service times:

Sunday

Sunday School..... 9:45 am

Worship Service 10:50 am

Afternoon Service.....2:00 pm

Wednesday

Mid-Week Service.....7:00 pm

Walls, continued from Page 1
thing. He could have decreed from his throne in heaven and the city would have erupted in flames! He could have simply *thought* and the city would have been buried. He could have done anything *but he chose to use means...* to accomplish his ends. God could have done anything but *He* required Israel to do **SOME-THING before** he knocked down the walls of Jericho.

God has his own purpose to fulfill in this world and why he chooses to do it, is a little PREPOSTEROUS but effective, because it is being done HIS way which means that he lends his POWER to it.

What's interesting to me, is that Israel had to do it His way and they had to PERSEVERE in His way! Victory was not on the first day—it was on the seventh day. AFTER they had compassed the city, 13 times—they had to KEEP doing it His way, if they wanted to see Victory!

~from the **Biblical Illustrator:**

from the section on Joshua 6

They went at it day after day quietly marching ahead. Here is a lesson of perseverance for us, we sometimes grow impatient. We see no good resulting from our own labors, and are disposed to murmur. (Charles Leach.)

Religious work often seems impracticable

[When we are in great religious moods, in sublime spiritual ecstasies, in immediate and vital touch with God, we are not afraid to adopt apparently impracticable measures in carrying out the purposes of righteousness and wisdom.]

What could be more ridiculous, from a purely military point of view, than the directions given for the capture and overthrow of Jericho? They had no relation to the event. The foolishness of God is wiser than the wisdom of men. We cannot always judge things by appearances. We ourselves are often startled by the want—apparent, at least—of adaptation of means to ends. The religious method may always be called impracticable. It is very slow; it does not seem to work with any immediate effect. What can be duller, slower, than what is generally understood as teaching? Yet it is by teaching that the kingdom of heaven is to be prepared for. It is a very slow method. One gleam from heaven's own midday would startle the world more surely. Why not this sudden outburst of
continued on next page

intolerable glory? Because there is no lasting in it, no power of duration and sustenance. Men cannot live upon such visions. Things that are not are employed to bring to nought things that are. Foolish things, little things, contemptible things, are used by **the hand almighty** to shake down towers and walls and temples and capitals, and bring them to nought before the throne of righteousness. Thus religion is not afraid of the impracticable—at least, of what may appear to be impracticable to those who look only upon the surface. Religion has never been afraid to claim prayer as one of its very pillars—the signature of its very power. What can, from the outside, be more futile and ridiculous than to be speaking into the vacant air—to exclude all living things upon the earth, and to speak to One we have never seen, and pour our heart's penitence, woe, hope, into an ear we cannot detect amid all the clouds which float through the heavens? Yet religion says, "Continue instant in prayer"; you have no other hope. Besides, processes may be long, and results may be brought about in startling suddenness. (J. Parker, DD)

Brothers and Sisters—the LORD works, through our works, even when they appear to be insignificant! (Little is much when God is in it.)

I Corinthians holds these words for us—

- I Co 1:22 For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom:
 I Co 1:23 But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness;
 I Co 1:24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God.
 I Co 1:25 Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.
 I Co 1:26 For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called:

Watchman Press

Bethel Baptist Church
 (580) 353-8014

1902 NW Columbia Ave
 Lawton, OK 73507

Title	Price
What Must I "Not Do" to Be Lost <i>A negative approach to the revelation of salvation.</i>	\$5/100
Because I Am Dying <i>What should I do with the rest of my life?</i>	\$8/100
Beyond the Pew and Over the Wall <i>Every Church should be reaching out.</i>	\$6/100
The Sabbath Question <i>Are believers under the Law to keep the Sabbath?</i>	\$6/100
The Book of Mormon: Divine or Deceptive? <i>Was the book of Mormon divinely revealed?</i>	\$5/100
Chronic Sunday Incapacitation <i>Sunday sicknesses are rampant among would-be church goers.</i>	\$5/100

See 80 more titles available at www.bbc-lawton.org

- I Co 1:27 But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;
 I Co 1:28 And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: (verse 29 tells us the reason He has done it this way)
 I Co 1:29 That no flesh should glory in his presence.
 I Co 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
 I Co 1:31 That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. (not in himself!)

A Personal Application

Now in our lives there are JERICO PEOPLE, hardened, unyielding, proud, evil—people we think will never get saved. But God can save anyone...there is none too abominable for Him to save and none too blinded by religion that He cannot give them life, cause them to cry out "I'm guilty" and confess that Christ is the resurrected Son of God, slain for their EVIL.

We have Jericho Situations, it looks impossible, it is impossible! and we go forward at his word and let him work through us. To be honest—seeing this church rise to new heights and becoming a vibrant soul seeking church, getting past the past, seems impossible! But—if

God will, it will! We cannot control or coerce the outcome, we could but it would cost us everything. What we must do, is what WE know that we've been commanded to do...the only person we can directly control is ourselves, so we do what God has commanded us and He will do what he wishes through our obedience...or disobedience.

A CONCLUSION

When Israel came to Jericho, they saw a mighty enemy and they saw an odd and an ill-advised plan to defeat it. They had to go forward in FAITH—depending on Jehovah's strong hand...to bring the walls down.

They obeyed the voice of God and were victorious. So too will we be, if we follow His plan.

✠✠✠✠✠✠

One day a farmer's donkey fell into an abandoned well. The animal cried piteously for hours as the farmer tried to figure out what to do. Finally, he decided the animal was old and the well needed to be covered up anyway; so it just wasn't worth it to him to try to retrieve the donkey.

He invited all his neighbors to come over and help him. They each grabbed a shovel and began to shovel dirt into the well. Realizing what was happening, the donkey at first cried and wailed horribly. Then, a few shovelfuls later, he quieted down completely. The farmer peered down into the well, and was astounded by what he saw. With every shovelful of dirt that hit his back, the donkey was doing something amazing. He would shake it off and take a step up on the new layer of dirt. As the farmer's neighbors continued to shovel dirt on top of the animal, he would shake it off and take a step up. Pretty soon, the donkey stepped up over the edge of the well and trotted off, to the shock and astonishment of all the neighbors!

Life is going to shovel dirt on you, all kinds of dirt. The trick to getting out of the well is to not let it bury you, but to shake it off and take a step up. Each of our troubles is a stepping stone. We can get out of the deepest wells just by not stopping, never giving up! Shake it off and take a step up!

*Troy Delano McGahan,
Missionary to Erin, TN*

The Country Preacher...

A Cat in the Church

by Pastor Darwin Robinson

Our rented church building in Tennessee was over 100 years old back in the early '60s. It was constructed by local people from local timber and by local pride. Church member, Brother Hargis, and I built a new front porch on the church. We also underpinned, or skirted, the building to keep the cold wind from freezing our feet in the winter months. The loose fitting windows let a lot of cold wind come in and there were holes in the floor. Here was our problem. Being a hardwood floor, it was almost impossible to just patch a hole or two. So we just kept putting it off.

Sure enough, One Sunday morning during one of my most eloquent messages, you could almost hear a pin drop. But not so. What we did hear was a loud tom cat scream "meoooooh!" His appearance was just two pews from the front. My sermon stopped dead in its tracks. How that cat got under the church building is still a mystery to me. Maybe we boxed him in when we skirted the building in the winter. But for some reason, he did not like my preaching, and he came up from beneath to let everyone know. Coming from that direction, I believe he was from 'you know where.'

By this time everyone was aware that we had an uninvited visitor in our midst. All eyes were searching the front area to get a glimpse of this creature from below. Mr. Tom entered the aisle, paused a moment with a puzzled look at me, then he ran full speed out the rear door. It was open, providing us with air-conditioning during the summer months. Now all eyes turned back around to me saying like, 'What do we do now? Dismiss?' My look and silent response was, "No way, Jose!" I still had an unfinished sermon to complete and I had just been given a 'live illustration.'

I began my sermon again by saying, 'Mr. Tom reminds me of a lot of people trying to run from God, His Word and His House.'

The next week I did patch that hole with a piece of plywood.

MORAL OF THE STORY: "You can't keep a good cat down, and every fat cat has his day."

The self-sufficient do not pray; the self-satisfied will not pray; the self-righteous cannot pray. No man is greater than his prayer life.

—copied

Straighten Out Or Get Out

Pastor Bruce Oyen

Fellowship Baptist Church Miles City, MT

“Do not ye judge them that are within?”

I Cor 5:12b

The Bible puts a great deal of emphasis on living right. Those who claim to be saved are expected to live better than those who are not saved. Romans 12 tells us, “and be not conformed to this world, but be ye transformed by the re-newing of your mind.”

Because of the Bible’s emphasis on godly living, Biblical churches hammer away on the subject. In fact, Biblical churches take holiness of life so seriously that they have a plain message for their members and for those non-members who regularly attend their services: “If you are living wrong, straighten out or get out!”

All Christians sin. This was taught by the apostle John in I John 1:8 when he wrote, “If

we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.”

But there is a difference between what I John 1:8 refers to and deliberate rebellion against Christian morality. In other words, some sins are so serious that those who commit them are to be told by their churches, “Straighten out, or get out!”

That is what the apostle Paul told the Corinthians in I Corinthians 5. Notice how frank he was about the matter in verse 11: “But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.” And the second sentence of verse 13 says, “Therefore, put away from among yourselves that wicked person.”

Now, if you are practicing any or all of the sins referred to in I Corinthians 5:11, you should either straighten out at once, or get out of your church until you do. And if you do not straighten out or get out on your own, may the Lord help your church to put you out until your life gets turned in the right direction. For remember, “A little leaven (sin) leaveneth the whole lump (the church).” I Cor 5:6.

THE ASSOCIATION *of* HISTORIC BAPTISTS

**Affirming the values of Strict
and Particular Baptists**

- **The Authorized Version (KJV)**
- **Sovereign Grace**
- **Restricted Communion**
- **Pastor/Deacon Governance**

www.baptists.net