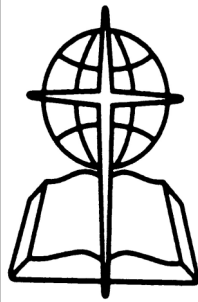


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Thursday, July 12, 2018
 Local Edition of the Alabama Baptist



BIBB BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

"I have the daily burden of how the churches are getting along."

2 Cor. 11: 28b

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While it is Day

John 9:1- 11 mentions the work of the Father Who sent Jesus to this world. God's work is not always as tangible as the restoration of sight to a blind man. Let's notice some truths about the work of God from this passage.

First notice that a need provides God an opportunity to work. In the passage there is a man who needed his sight. The disciples wanted to debate theological issues. Jesus indicated clearly that He wanted to fill the man's need. After Jesus restored the man's sight, He filled the man's greatest need. (Read John 9:35-39)

We need to discover the needs of those around us and discover how those needs provide us with the opportunity for God to work in, for and through us. For example, people need to be saved from the penalty of their sin, the power of sin and the presence of sin. People need to be trained in God's word, and see Jesus' vision of this world as presented in the Scripture. Parents need to be all that God wants them to be. We need a safe and secure world. Way too many people need food, shelter, and clothes.

Second notice that our LORD speaks of a partnership ("We must do the work". (v.4). Jesus associates us with Himself in the work of God the Father. He desires our assistance, the use of our time, talents and treasures. Our highest privilege is the joy of working with Jesus Christ.

One of the LORD's main jobs is bringing Light to those in darkness. Jesus declared 9:5 "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." He also said "I have come into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." He declared that those who follow Him would not walk in darkness but would have the light of life. Being Jesus' partners indicates we must be available to assist Him in helping others to put their faith in Him; bringing them to the LIGHT.

Also, notice that our LORD speaks of a divine mission. Jesus had a fixed purpose for life. He felt Himself under a binding obligation to do the will of the Father. We are invited to be a part of that mission. Jesus was aware of the divine mission at the age of 12. (See Luke 2:49) On the cross, He cried out that His work was finished. (John 19: 30) The work goes on today. The followers of Christ constitute the body through which He works in the world today. (Read Mark 10:45 and Luke 19:10) Christ Jesus has a continuing ministry for us. The church is to concentrate on presenting Christ as the Savior from sin. The Church is to concentrate on nourishing and building up the family of God. The Church is to concentrate on worshipping the True and Living God. We have a part in the divine mission of God which continues till today.

Finally notice that our LORD speaks of a specific time for work. ("While it is day"). We can recognize the limited nature of time. We should also recognize and respond to the infinite value of time. The day is that period of time in which we have life and opportunity. The day is that time in which others have life and opportunity. The night comes for us, but the night also comes for others.

Jesus speaks of the passing of opportunity. The night means the end of the opportunity for living and doing. There is something absolute and final about the night. When the night comes, the day is gone and we will never have that day again. Death will come to each of us. No longer will we be able to sing, to teach, to witness, to give, to preach, and to minister. Death will come for the unsaved as well. We are commissioned to witness to them. We are encouraged to win them. Night means eternal banishment from God, which is eternal hopelessness, helplessness, and lostness for the unsaved. The night comes, the day wanes, opportunity passes, eternity hastens for us all.

In John 9 Christ opens our eyes to the wonder of our partnership and to the significance of our mission. He emphasizes that we have a specific time in which to work. We face the fact the opportunity is passing. Let's work with the Savior while it is day!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- July 11-13: VBS @ Six Mile Baptist Church from 5:30-8pm
- July 19-21: Alabama Church Plants Basics, Tuscaloosa Baptist Assoc.
- July 20-21: Youth Conference, "Speak" Tell Your Story @ Eastmont Baptist Church, Montgomery
- July 24: Clerk Training @ ALSBOM 9:30-3pm
- July 27-28: Equip Leadership Training of Alabama WMU, Shocco Springs



DON'T FORGET TO SEND IN YOUR VBS REPORT!

A form is on our website under Links, if needed.

www.bibbbaptist.com

MONDAYS FOR THE MASTER HAYSOP BAPTIST CHURCH

July 16- Guest Speaker: Josh Reed, Calvary Baptist
 Guest Singer: Donna Weaver

July 23- Guest Speaker: Brad Lowery, New Prospect Baptist Church

Guest Singers From: New Prospect Baptist

July 30- Guest Speaker: Ted Sessoms, Evangelist
 Guest Singer: Terrel Nelson

A fellowship meal will be offered each night at 6:00pm, Everyone is invited to attend and stay for the preaching and special music hour that starts at 7:00pm

		2017-2018
<u>Church Contributions</u>	<u>June</u>	<u>Yearly Total</u>
Antioch	99.80	1,266.60
Ashby		4,531.95
Bethel	100.00	1000.00
Bethlehem	97.77	1,065.48
Bibbville	206.20	2,307.19
Blocton Third	50.00	550.00
Brent	679.00	6,963.51
Cahaba Valley		212.43
Calvary		600.00
Camp Branch		
Centreville	1,016.67	11,713.75
Community	188.24	431.26
Enon		
Eoline		400.00
Faith		175.00
FBC Woodstock	947.21	9,588.99
Four Points	1,000.44	4,600.44
Haysop		2,996.92
Johntown	126.45	1,353.25
Lowerytown	863.40	2,929.77
Lucile	97.00	1,441.00
Marvel		
Mt. Carmel		21.00
Mt. Moriah		253.32
Mt. Zion		
New Hebron	159.70	1,328.80
Old Union		100.00
Pineview	364.00	5,123.22
Pondville	179.50	2,108.55
Randolph	707.78	7,187.35
Rehobeth		1,063.21
Schultz Creek	370.61	4,683.96
Shady Grove	468.00	2,774.00
Shady Grove 2		
Six Mile	263.43	2,526.31
Smith Hill	75.00	750.00
Thomas Mill	154.68	1,485.99
West Blocton 1st	400.00	1,000.00
Anonymous	120.00	1,330.00
Totals	\$ 9,034.88	\$ 85,863.25
ALSBOM		4,264.52
OTHER		629.00
TOTAL	\$ 9,757.04	\$ 90,756.77