

# A New *Pastor* in Tredegar

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give their support and add their voices in saying, “Amen” to the call of Christian.

Pastor Paul Jones took the service and offered a challenge to the new pastor, who is also his brother. It was a tremendous service filled with energy and excitement. What an encouragement this service was for Christian and his wife, Melissa, as they come to serve at Central Baptist Chapel. Paul said, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; . . . For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth” (I Timothy 2:1, 3-4).

Pray for this young man who has stepped up to accept the call of God to pastor. He and his young family will need your prayers as they reach out into the community of Tredegar to seek and to save the lost. 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿

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## ***The Gospel Preacher***

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Pwllgwaun says . . .**



**For the past few years at Bethany, we have held an annual Bible Conference. The purpose of this meeting is to see souls saved and to edify the saints. September was initially chosen to refocus our hearts to the Lord’s work and will after summer breaks and before the rush of Christmas. Through God’s grace, the Bible Conference has always fulfilled its purpose.**

**This year’s meeting will be held from . . .  
Saturday, 15 September—Tuesday, 18 September at 7 PM  
(with the exception of Sunday at 6 PM).  
Our speaker this year is Dr. Ed Moore.**

**I can assure that you will be blessed by his ministry and benefit from his experience of 40 years serving as a pastor.**

**We invite you and your congregation to attend and would be blessed to fellowship with you. Refreshments will be served following the service on Saturday.**



# 8 Eight Hours

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plans for her also. We know that to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord. It behooves us to be ready at any moment to meet our Maker. An old country song said, “Everybody wants to go to Heaven, but no one wants to die,” and so it is.

Eight hours is not a long time. If you do shift work, it is a shift. If you work in an office, it is a day’s work. If

you are at work, it can seem like an eternity. If you are enjoying some recreation, it can pass quickly. What does eight hours mean to you? If we knew that in eight hours we would be in eternity, what would we do?

The point I want to make is this: savour each moment of life as the nectar from the honeycomb. Treat it as a special gift from God, for it is just that. Live it in expectation of seeing our Saviour face to face the next moment. It could happen just that way. Life is good—Heaven is “gooder.” 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿



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## The Sin of Low Expectations

At times, when listening to people talk, I feel that God is on hospice care! Christians remind me of the children of Israel while in the wilderness—absolutely nothing is right. It is easy to diagnose problems but more difficult to prescribe a remedy. The remedy always begins and ends with God! If Moses had a problem with the children of Israel, he would turn to God. Sometimes the remedy was sweet. At other times, it was horrible, but the remedy always accomplished its purpose.

If God gave us choices concerning victories, how bold would we be? God gave Joash a chance to determine how many victories he would have over Syria. The story is found in II Kings 13:15-20. I want to dwell for just a moment on II Kings 13:18-19, “And he said, Take the arrows. And he took them. And he said unto the king of Israel, Smite upon the ground. And he smote thrice, and stayed. And the man of God was wroth with him, and said, Thou shouldest have smitten five or six times; then hadst thou smitten Syria till thou hadst consumed it: whereas now thou shalt smite Syria but thrice.”

If we applied these actions to today, I wonder what the results would be. If our efforts for the advancement of the Gospel were dependant on our striking, how many times would we strike? Some in their efforts try once, and if there is not instant success, they walk away defeated and despondent.

John Gill says of Joash, “He might think this action trifling, and beneath him, only was willing to please the prophet, but did not do it with a good will, and therefore smote no more; though this was an emblem of his smiting the Syrians, which he might not understand.”

That about describes the situation today. Joash went through the motions without any enthusiasm or expectation that his actions had any value at all. There had to be some awareness that this action had something to do with the battle for the prophet had just said, “The arrow of the LORD’S deliverance, and the arrow of deliverance from Syria: for thou shalt smite the Syrians in Aphek till thou hast consumed them” (verse 17). Aphek was a city in the land of Israel where the Syrians were routed in Ahab’s time. The Bible says that



by **Dr. Edwin G. Moore**  
European Director for the GPA

100,000 were slain near Aphek on one day, and 27,000 were killed by the fall of the wall of Aphek, (I Kings 20:26-30). Hence some read the words here to mean “as in Aphek.”

The lessons here are very simple.

(1) How big are our expectations? Are we looking for three strikes then out? How many times would we strike the ground, one time or ten times? Does it ever bother you to hear Christians talk about what cannot be done in our day as opposed to what great opportunities we have?

(2) Are we satisfied living in defeat? I can tell you some are! Their fellowship is around defeat rather than victory. If some had victory, they would not even recognise it.

(3) On whom do we blame our defeats? According to the prophet there could have been many victories, but three were given. I am sure, knowing the history of Israel, that God would be blamed for their future defeats when all the time THE SIN OF LOW EXPECTATIONS was the real reason.

My dear reader, WHAT DO YOU EXPECT? 🏴󠁧󠁢󠁥󠁮󠁧󠁿





# 8 Eight Hours

by Dr. Edwin G. Moore, Jr.

*So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.*  
(Psalm 90:12)

*As for man, his days are as grass: as a flower of the field, so he flourisheth. For the wind passeth over it, and it is gone; and the place thereof shall know it no more.* (Psalm 103:15-16)

**E**ight hours does not seem very long. We may think of it as a work day. We are told we require eight hours of sleep to be at our best. Eight according to Bible numerology is a new beginning. I really never thought much about eight hours until recently. How important can eight hours be? If we are working eight hours, it can seem like forever. If we are relaxing or playing sports and enjoying ourselves, eight hours seems so short. Time is mentioned some six hundred and twenty-eight times in Scripture. Ecclesiastes lists twenty-eight things for which there is a time with the

conclusion being that there is a time for everything under the sun.

This importance of time was recently indelibly impressed upon my mind by an event that happened in Central Baptist Church, Abingdon, Virginia, USA. On a recent Sunday morning, a lady named Donna attended the morning service. She was known to the congregation because at one time she attended regularly. Whatever the reasons might have been for her drifting away from the Lord and being out of church makes no difference. She was there on this particular Sunday. When the invitation was given, she came

forward and renewed her commitment to the Lord. One of the ladies who dealt with her reported her conviction and agony in repentance. When she received assurance of her renewed relationship with the Lord, she testified to that fact. If that was the end of the story, one may well say that event was repeated in hundreds of congregations that same morning. However, that is not the entire story. Paul Harvey would say, "Now for the rest of the story!"

Donna went home after church a happy pilgrim. I am sure she spent time with her family and experienced a good day. She attended the evening service and gave witness to her joy in having renewed her fellowship with the Lord. After the service, she was on her way to get petrol for her car and had a fatal accident. It was just eight short hours from the time of her repentance until her home going. What a story, and it is a true story without embellishment. That is what really happened.

This story about Donna is an apt illustration of the Scripture recorded in Proverbs 27:1, *Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.* This story brings our attention to the fact we are to be prepared at all times to meet the Lord Jesus.

No doubt Donna had many plans for her future; however, our Lord had

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## A New Pastor in Tredegar

by Rev. Christopher Bluto



Rev. Christian Jones (left), Rev. Paul Jones (right)

**"Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (I Timothy 4:12)**

**A**ccepting a call to preach is no small matter. Paul said, "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust. And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry" (I Timothy 1:11-12). The Lord personally called Paul and put him into the ministry to preach the wondrous Gospel of Christ to a lost and dying world. "To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me" (Acts 26:18).

Every preacher who has been called by the Lord to take up the ministry of preaching the glorious truths of Christ is challenged to do the same as Paul. Christ has enabled them and placed them in the ministry. As a young man, not long after he was saved, Christian Jones accepted God's call to preach the Good News of the Gospel.

He enrolled in The Gospel Preacher Association Institute, where

he took courses to gain knowledge and confidence in the Word of God. There he learned how to study and develop sermons, and how to preach the Good News. Christian developed his own style of preaching and took to heart the admonition of Paul to "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity." He maintained his testimony and witness through the years and grew by leaps and bounds as a preacher. He accepted the call to become the Associate Pastor of Bethany Baptist Church in Ynyshir. Christian was ordained and began serving in his home church where the people loved him. He soon began standing in for the pastor and taking on other responsibilities in the church. Any member would echo the fact that Christian was a tremendous blessing.

Christian continued to fill pulpits as opportunities arose and continued

to grow as a preacher and minister. He began preaching at Central Baptist Chapel in Tredegar several years ago. He built a close rapport with the people in the chapel and began taking their special meetings at Easter and Christmas. The people were eventually led to offer a call to Christian as pastor of Central Baptist Chapel.

After much fervent prayer and seeking advice from many godly, trusted friends, Christian accepted the call.

We met together at Central Baptist Chapel on 22 April, 2012, to induct Pastor Christian Jones.

Many were there to help support this special occasion. People were there from several of the chapels where he had filled the pulpits. His instructors from the GPA Institute were also there to encourage and pray for him. His pastor, Paul Jones, was there, along with most of the people from Bethany Baptist Church, Ynyshir, to

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### Cwm Rhondda Bible College



## Evangelism

22, 26, 29 September; 3, 6 October, 2012

**Lecturer: Dr. Tolbert Moore**  
The Gospel Preacher Association, President

Venue: Bethany Baptist, Ynyshir  
To enroll, contact Rev. Paul Jones at 01443 688158

Dr. Moore has been in evangelism for 40+ years.  
The course will be informative, instructive, and interesting.

All are invited to attend.  
You must be enrolled for course credits.