

# SBAOC Weekly Update

## NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

If you have any news, prayer requests, or events that you would like to have included in this update, please email the information to Tony Mattia at [spurgeonassociation@gmail.com](mailto:spurgeonassociation@gmail.com) or call us at 785-456-8513.

### THE DESERT TIMES

Day by day the manna fell;  
O to learn this lesson well!  
Still by constant mercy fed,  
Give me, Lord, my daily bread.

"Day by day" the promise reads;  
Daily strength for daily needs:  
Cast foreboding fears away,  
Take the manna of to-day.

Lord, my times are in Thy hand;  
All my sanguine hopes have planned  
To Thy wisdom I resign,  
And would make Thy purpose mine.

Thou my daily task shalt give;  
Day by day to Thee I live;  
So shall added years fulfil,  
Not my own, my Father's will.

Josiah Conder (1789-1755)

*"He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye."*

*Deuteronomy 32:10*

#### The Desert Times

Oh, how lovely are those rich green pastures. Sometimes, however, the Lord leads His servants into the desert with its harsh conditions and testing times. Sometimes the way is like a howling wilderness but it is for instruction by the Lord to the apple of His eye. Sometimes the will of our gracious and merciful God for us is some desert training. Many of God's choice servants experienced such schooling. For example: Moses was taken from the royal household of Egypt and removed to the backside of the desert caring for a flock but he would not have met Jehovah on the holy ground near the burning bush without his desert experience (Ex. 3:1 ff.); John

*(Continued on page 2)*



#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

The Desert Times .....	2
Comments on Our Purpose Statement .....	2
Contact Us .....	3
Pulpit Supply .....	3
Prayer Meetings.....	3

#### PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

*"If there is no church... should you not commence one?" C. H. Spurgeon*

## COMMENTS ON OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

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*“Our sorrow and grief for sin, must not spring merely from a fear of wrath; for if we have no other ground but that, it proceeds from self-love, and not from any love to God; and if love to God is not the chief motive of your repentance, your repentance is in vain, and not to be esteemed true.”*

*George Whitefield*

*(Continued from page 1)*

the Baptist had a desert experience and as a result he made straight the way of the Lord, the Word of God came to him there and he fulfilled prophecy (John 1:23; Isa. 40:3; Luke 3:2). John the Baptist gloried in the fact that his great God allowed him to be “the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias.” Oh, what a privilege to be a voice for our great Triune God in this world at this time of wilderness conditions.

The Lord’s servants need to be reminded that the Lord’s people did not eat manna in Egypt, but they did eat manna in the desert. Jesus’ reminder was, “Our fathers did eat manna in the desert; as it is written, He gave them bread from heaven to eat” (John 6:31). Yes, the bread from heaven or manna came while in the desert. It is easy to complain about the desert conditions and forget about the sanctified food that originates for us there by Divine disposal—bread from the oven of heaven is the perfect food provided for the Lord’s own. When the Lord takes His children through deserts the ultimate purpose is His glory and the good of His children.

The manna in the desert was a mere foretaste, “Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Moses gave you not that bread from heaven; but my Father giveth you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is He which cometh down from heaven, and giveth life unto the world” (John 6:32-33). Jesus Christ the Son of God is the Bread of God come down from heaven giving life eternal to those trusting in Him alone. How did those on that occasion respond? They were in the presence of Jesus? “Lord, evermore give us this bread” (v. 34). Jesus answered them, “I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst” (v. 35).

The Lord gives a glorious reminder through His servant Isaiah, “The wilderness and the solitary place shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing; ... they shall see the glory of the LORD, and the excellency of our God” (Isa. 35:1, 2). Jehovah has a way of accommodating deserts and wildernesses to His glory and our good. This is true in the ultimate latter day glory! By Divine acts “in the wilderness shall waters break out, and streams in the desert. And the parched ground shall become a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water” (Isa. 35:6-7).

How do you view your desert times? Are you looking for manna? As the Lord’s servants let us not tempt God in the desert (Ps. 106:14). Truly God’s providence is unerring even when bringing us into the midst of the desert. Are you looking for His fountain!

*Charles H. Spurgeon (1834-1892) spoke of the manna, “Think of the care that God had over them, over each one of them, for each man had his own omer of manna. No woman, no child, was forgotten. Every morning, there was the sufficient quantity for every man, according to his eating for that day. There was no more; and there was never any less; so carefully did God watch over each individual. The individuality of the divine love is a great part of the sweetness of it. God thinks of every separate child of his as much as if he had only that one. The multiplicity of his elect does not divide the loaf of his affection. He has an infinite affection for each one, and he will take care of the details of each chosen life.... He will give you all you can possibly require; but he will give you nothing that you can lay by to minister to your pride.”*

*A Lord’s Day Snippet!, Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Pastor Ron Rumburg, SBSS, 101*

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## PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

*The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.*

*We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.*



Baptist Association of Churches