



SBAOC Weekly Update

NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

- Please be praying for me. I am leaving November 11th to preach in Veracruz until November 23rd. I will be teaching on family relationships with the focus on leaders. Paul Walker

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

SOME THOUGHTS ON THANKSGIVING

By David Seamands (1922-2006)

Thanksgiving is an unusual day of national observance. Next to Christmas, there is more family participation than any other holiday. Our nation pauses from its business to remember and give thanks.

We trace the Thanksgiving observance back to our Pilgrim Fathers. They came here in 1620 knowing they were protected by God's guiding hand. His grace had sustained them through the passage. The first winter was very difficult for them; only 50 of the 102 passengers on the Mayflower survived. With assistance from their native acquaintances, they celebrated harvest, and this celebration became the forerunner to our holiday. As a nation, we pause and acknowledge the Providence of God in their lives and in ours.

Did you ever stop to think about how different this is as a national holiday? It doesn't celebrate any birthday of a famous person, or a great battle or victory, or a political revolution, or a pagan holiday. It is simply a time set apart to concentrate on the most common things of life. It is a family day with home, children, laughter, games, feasting, football, and enjoying time together. It is primarily a day of remembrance, worship, and thanksgiving to God. It is truly a unique holiday.

If July 4th celebrates our independence, Thanksgiving celebrates our dependence on God. It reminds us of all the daily things we are so blessed with that should not be taken for granted. There are two types of people in

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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

UPCOMING EVENTS

2022 National Founders Conference—January 20-23, 2022. McGregor Baptist Church, Fort Myers, FL. Theme: *Militant & Triumphant: The Doctrine of the Church*. Speakers: Tom Ascol, Jared Longshore, Voddie Baucham, Conrad Mbewe, & James Coates. Early registration is open at founders.org/2022conference.

True Church Conference—February 17-20, 2022. Grace Life Church of the Shoals, Florence, AL. Registration will open October 1, 2021. Theme: "Healthy Body Life in the Local Church: Biblical Church Discipline, Biblical Counseling, Biblical Conflict Resolution / Protecting the Sheep from Savage Wolves." Speakers Richard Caldwell, Darrell Harrison, Barry King, David Miller, Jeff Noblit, Jonathan Sims, & Virgil Walker. www.anchoredintruth.org/true-church-conference

Founders Midwest Conference - February 22-23. First Baptist Church of Fenton, MO. Speakers: Phil Johnson & Dr. Tom Schreiner. "Gospel Downgrade: Keeping the Main Thing the Main Thing". www.sbfcmw.com.

Grace Bible Conference—April 8-10, 2022. Rockport Baptist Church, Arnold, MO. Speakers: Don Currin (HeartCry) and Mack Tomlinson. Further details will be available at a later date.

If you have a conference or event that you would like listed here, please contact Tony Mattia by email at: spurgeonassociation@gmail.com.

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the world - those who take things for granted, and those who take things with gratitude. Thanksgiving is a time when we push away our American spirit of independence to remind ourselves that the world is God's and we are debtors to his generosity. Someone has said that an atheist is a person who, when he feels grateful, has no one to thank. Psalm 116:12 says, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" This is our national holiday of dependence.

Let's think of the things we take for granted: Our national blessings, our church blessings, our individual blessings, how God has brought us through hard times. But most of all, as the Psalmist answers his own question in Psalm 116:13, "I will take the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord." We must remember and give thanks for the price that He paid on the cross for sinners.

This Thanksgiving, remember the gospel: Jesus, who is 100% God and 100% man, came to this earth, lived a perfect sinless life, and is the only one who qualifies to save (rescue, deliver) us from sin and hell. Jesus took upon Himself our sins, as on the cross God poured out His anger and wrath toward sin upon Jesus, His son and our substitute. Seventy times in the New Testament, Jesus called God "Father"; only once did He call Him God. The one time was on the cross when He received the full measure of the wrath of God for our sin. This is why Jesus cried out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken (abandoned) me". At this moment, God the Father turned His face away and could not look on Jesus. That's why 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "He who knew no sin became sin for us, that we might be made right with God." He died, and three days later He rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, where He daily makes intercession for us.

So this Thanksgiving, how should we celebrate? Let's go back to Psalm 116:12-13, "What shall I give to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will take the cup of salvation." This means putting my full trust in Christ alone, confessing my sin, repenting of my sin, trusting in Christ alone for my salvation, and acknowledging Him as my Lord. Would you this day cry out to Him?

Finally let us remember to be thankful. We should follow the advice of Matthew Henry, a nonconformist minister who, in 1706, was robbed along the highway and responded in these words, "Let me be thankful first because I was never robbed before; second, although they took my purse they did not take my life; third, although they took my all it was not much; and fourth, because it was I who was robbed and not I who robbed."

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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