

## **Peculiar People**

By Don Fortner

*“Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a PECULIAR PEOPLE, zealous of good works.” Titus 2:14*

The Holy Spirit declares that God’s elect, once they are called and converted by his sovereign grace, are made to be a 'peculiar people'. The word “peculiar” (v. 14) means “distinctively excellent, valuable, and honorable.” We are Christ’s portion, the lot of his inheritance the jewels of his crown, his fullness (Eph. 1:23), his peculiar people.

Grace has distinguished God’s elect from all others-They are a people loved by God with a peculiar love (Jer. 31:3), with a love which he does not have for the rest of Adam’s race. Let men talk all they wish about “universal benevolence,” “universal grace,” and “universal love,” -the Word of God declares plainly that God’s love for his own people is a peculiar, distinct love (Isa. 43:3-4; Rom. 9:13). It is the distinctiveness of God’s love for us, who deserve his wrath as fully as Satan himself, which forms the great motive for our consecration to our God and his glory (Rom. 12:1-2).

We are the objects of God’s peculiar delight-The Lord God has made us “accepted in the Beloved.” Being accepted in Christ, because of Christ, and for Christ’s sake, washed in his blood and robed in his righteousness, we are a people with whom God is well pleased, even delighted (Zeph. 3:17).

Being the objects of his love, chosen to eternal salvation and accepted in Christ, every believer has been blessed with all the peculiar blessings of God’s free, covenant grace from eternity (Eph. 1:3-4), and supplied with all the provisions of the Father’s house day by day and forever.

Every believer has been SEPARATED from the world by peculiar grace-Electing grace (2 Thess. 2:13-14), redeeming grace (1 Cor. 6:19-20), regenerating grace (Isa. 43:1-5), preserving grace (1 Pet. 1:5), and providential grace (Rom. 8:28-30), are the things which make us to differ from the rest of the world. The distinction is not the work of our will or of our obedience. It is the work of God’s grace alone.

"Zealous of Good Works"

Yet, Christ’s peculiar people are made by the grace of God to be zealous of good works. God the Father ordained that we should walk in good works (Eph. 2:10). God the Son redeemed us that we should walk in good works. And God the Holy Spirit effectually teaches every chosen, ransomed sinner to be zealous of good works.

**Today is July 14, 2024**

**Sovereign Grace**

**Missionary Baptist Church**

*“Where the Truths of God’s Word Have Been Taught  
for Sixty-Two Years” Since October 21, 1961*

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**“Our Prayer List”**

*“Pray without ceasing.” 1 Thess. 5:17*

Sister Zee Mink Fuller and Family, Her son’s Bryan Armstrong and Hunter Hackie, Johnnie Stephens, Alecia Stephens, and children, Frank & Sonya Trusty, Frank & Dawana Reigel, Diane & Smoke, Andrew Preston, Larry & Martha Mollette and Her Family Juanita her daughter, Lana Paul, Larry Mollette II & Family, Kerry Adcock, Kim Reich, Tyler Castle, Danny Mollette, Joshua Kidd, Ronnie and Sarah Henderson, Ricky Henderson and Family, James and Luann Reynolds, Timothy Fails, Jerry Hughes, Shirley King - Son David - and family, Little Cam Works, Sister Ann McSwain, Brother Justin Bookout and family, Little Weslynn McClelland, Adrienne Lavina, Pastor Nathan Hille and Sister Cassie and his family, Baby Titus Massey, Shane and Brook Sims, Ricky Bennett, Nick, Madison, and Baby Emory Patty, and Russell York, Brother Medic, Sister Mhalyn Lavina and children, Brother Jerry Dodson, Brother Gary and Sister White, Brother David and Sister Jevonna O’Neal, Sister Rebecca Sidders.

**“Pray For Our Church Supported Mission Works”**

*“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.” Acts 1:8*

Missionary Dan and Sunny Sullivan in Thailand, Elder Raul and the Printing work Romania, and the Berea Baptist Banner Mantachie, Ms.

## From Our Pastor

*“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof...” 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:2*

### *“God’s Warning to the World.”*

*Isaiah 1:4 “Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward.”*

From the time Adam eat of the forbidden fruit the world has been sinful and an abomination to God. No matter how much people believe they are morally good, God sees this entire world as wicked and every imagination of every human heart as evil continually. Gen. 6:5 *“And GOD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”* To the eyes of God, no human ever born (outside of Jesus) ever had one single second of goodness, not one single good deed about them. Every person was born speaking lies as soon as they were born, conceived in iniquity. Today, people are no different than they were before the flood, people are all born with evil and wicked hearts. They are born hating God; they love sin and drink it like water. Job 15:16 *“How much more abominable and filthy is man, which drinketh iniquity like water?”* and Job 34:7 *“What man is like Job, who drinketh up scorning like water?”* Not one place in the entire bible does God ever speak highly of any person except those that are His people, not one. However, it is not unusual for people to believe in their own mind that they are good in many ways, while failing to see it only took the sin of Adam to condemn us to eternal hell. Our nation, your nation, the entire world is just as bad as Judah was when Isaiah wrote this to them. God says of this entire world, *“...There is none righteous, no, not one.”* Rom. 3:10. It does not matter what we see in ourselves, it only matters to what God sees in us. He only see’s evil and wickedness. If we look into a mirror and see how beautiful we are, we can look into the mirror of the bible and see how wicked we are. Let us all look at Romans 3 and then determine wickedness as a person. The bible is a warning to us all, Israel ignored it, and the rest of the world ignores it. People will ignore the scriptures to justify their sins, allowing themselves to sin and believe it is ok. God said, *“For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,”* Hebrews 10:26 God sent His own Beloved Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to redeem us from our sin and wicked nature. God did not perform this act of mercy and grace as an excuse for sinfulness. People sometimes wonder why there is so much destruction in in our lives, we need to look and see if that destruction is God’s rebuke. The only happiness a redeemed sinner will ever have in life is if they are living godly.

## Pastor Johnson, Continued

*“If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them.”* John 13:17 But the Christian must separate themselves from the world because this evil, wicked, and sinful world will only drag you back into the miry pit of evil that God pulled you out of to begin with. The Psalmist wrote these words *“Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”* Psalms 19:11 As Christians our reward is not in this earth, it is not being rewarded by an evil and sinful people that is at enmity with the very Saviour who died at the wicked hands of this world to redeem us. God said, *“Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”* Psalms 19:11 The closer we walk in God’s word, the closer we walk in the book that was inspired by the Holy Spirit, the greater our reward will be in heaven. God warned us many times in His word about the evil in this world, how that there are NONE that seek Him, listen to Him, none that desires His leadership, why would any Christian ever want what evil souls have? Jesus warned us, *“But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.”* Mark 13:23 The question is, are we listening to our Lord? *“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches; To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.”* Revelation 2:7 Do you have a spiritual ear, do you hear the Holy Spirit through the scriptures, are you following God or the world? These are the questions we all need to ask ourselves.

## Church Information and Happenings

Our Bible Conference is coming, September 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> We have five Preachers confirmed to speak as of today.

**Pastor Ronnie Miller**, Divide Baptist Church, Sulphur Springs, Tx.

**Pastor Larry Wilson**, Northside Baptist Church, Oakdale, La.

**Pastor Robert Keller**, Grace Bible Baptist Church Denham Springs, La.

**Pastor Kelley Hinson**, Landmark Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Ft. Worth, Tx

**Pastor Joey Newell**, Sovereign Grace Baptist Church, Silsbee, Tx

**Please be in continual prayer for our upcoming Conference.**