



**GROW
IN
GRACE**
NEWSLETTER

Volume 40, No. 48, December 2 , 2014 / Southside Baptist Church & Christian School / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / The Grow in Grace Newsletter is **a weekly Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church. It is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD and Saviour JESUS CHRIST. To Him be glory both now and forever. Amen."***

BAD NEWS, DEADLY DANGER— MANY ARE TRYING TO GET RID OF SIN!

That is a strange, even heretical-sounding title in view of the following Scripture: ... behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, **and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins.**" (Matthew 1:20-21, NKJV)

JESUS: 1. Tempted in all points as we— He did not sin! **2.** On the cross, Jesus paid the sinner's sin debt so as to be the sinner's sin bearer, the sinner's substitute, and the sinner's Saviour! **3.** Thus, the redeemed sinner is SAVED FROM sin's penalty, sin's dominating power, and one day even from the possibility of sinning! **PRAISE GOD— JESUS GETS RID OF SIN!**

HOWEVER, beware! A variety of folks and groups are working 'over-time' **to get rid of sin by denying the reality of sin!** Frankly, as a result of their efforts there are many who no longer believe they have a serious sin problem!

I. BEWARE: Popular preachers are denying, minimizing, and/or hiding the problem of sin! Larry King: "You don't call them (those to whom he preaches) sinners?" Joel Osteen: **"I don't."** Larry King: **"Is that a word you don't use?"** Joel Osteen: **"I don't use it. I never thought**

about it. But I probably don't... I don't go down the road of condemning." (Joel Osteen, "Larry King live." Aired June 20, 2005)

CONTRAST: "And she [Mary] shall bring forth a son and thou shalt call His name JESUS, **for He shall save His people from their sin.**" (Matthew 1:21) "And ye know that He [JESUS] was manifested (appeared in human form) **to take away our sins.**" (1 John 3:5) "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ JESUS **came into the world to save SINNERS;** of whom I am chief." (1 Timothy 1:15)

BEWARE: According to Joel Osteen and others— the Bible, the Angel of the LORD, JESUS, and the Apostle Paul **ALL GO DOWN THE ROAD OF CONDEMNING!** **BEWARE:** Popular preachers are deceiving millions!

BIBLICAL TRUTH: The Christian's message is not condemnation, **but the way out of** ALREADY being under HOLY AND JUST condemnation. In John 3:18, **Jesus says:** "He that believeth on him is not condemned: **but he that believeth not is condemned already,** because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God."

II. BEWARE: *Many in modern psychology DENY the reality of sin.* In what way do they deny the reality of sin? Many **BEHAVIORS**, (which are clearly defined by the Holy Spirit in the Bible as being sin), **are NO LONGER SIN. They are now** have many new names, under the broad heading of **MENTAL ILLNESSES or MENTAL DISORDERS**. When faced with serious, deeply ingrained BEHAVIOUR PROBLEMS— multitudes, in and out of church, are seeking medication. They no longer have a sin problem; they no longer lack self-control; they are no longer responsible for their bad behavior— **INSTEAD**, they are Bipolar or ADHD, etc. **QUESTION: Can psychotropic drugs** change feelings, emotions, various body chemical levels, and give RELIEF? **YES! Sometimes, helpfully.** However, many are worsened and/or becoming addicted to prescription drugs.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you or someone you know is having 'positive relief' from a drug being taken **to help with behaviors like those listed in Galatians 5:19-21**— I am glad.

HOWEVER: BY ALL MEANS simultaneously FLEE to Christ and his cross! Hide God's Word in your heart! Put on the whole Armor of God!

BE WISE: DO RESEARCH on both the possible benefits and on the possible DANGERS from psychiatric drugs you are taking. Many

antidepressants are proven to be suicide-inducing and/or can cause brain dysfunctions.

Obtain, ***Brain-Disabling Treatments in Psychiatry*** by Peter Breggin; ***Pharmageddon***, by David Healy; ***Saving Normal***, by Allen Frances. (These are highly trained and respected psychiatrists.)

HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE ‘DSM’?? Many so called ‘Mental disorders’ or ‘mental illnesses’ (which USED TO BE and in God’s sight are still BEHAVIORAL SINS), are set forth in a book called the **Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, (DSM)**. The *DSM-I*, from 1952, listed 106; DISORDERS. The *DSM-III*, from 1980, listed 265. The *DSM-IV* has 297. The total number of disorders in the new *DSM-5*, as I understand it, also has 297 disorders. It has 15 new disorders; but some of the previous disorders are now ‘subtypes’ of other disorders.

HOW DO ‘BEHAVIORS’ GET LISTED IN THE DSM? **1. Behaviors are observed; 2. Discussed; 3. Described; 4 Given a name; 5. VOTED ON; 6. The behaviors with enough votes get placed in the latest DSM; 7. The drug companies provide the ‘MEDICATION’ solutions. [REALITY: About 70 percent of *DSM-5* task-force members have financial ties to the pharmaceutical industry.]**

IN THE LOCAL DOCTOR’S OFFICE: Typically, (1) The patient is asked questions, (2) Behavior may be observed; (3) A diagnosis is given; (4) Drugs prescribed based on matching up with the DSM and/or from literature provided to doctors by the drug company. [**Primary care Physicians** are the major providers of psychiatric/mental health— they routinely prescribe psychiatric drugs and/or refer patients to a Psychologist who does.] **But regardless of who is doing the prescribing—** the average patient is totally trusting in their doctor and is woefully uneducated about **benefits or warnings** of prescribed meds.

***** HOWEVER, top Psychiatrists** are now warning of “out-of-control psychiatric diagnosis, DSM-5, big pharma, and the medicalization of ordinary life.” ***

a. “There are no objective tests in psychiatry - no X-ray, laboratory, or exam finding that says definitively that someone does or does not have a mental disorder.” “There is no definition of a mental disorder.” — *Allen Frances, Psychiatrist and former DSM-IV Task Force Chairman*

b. “Despite more than two hundred years of intensive research, **no commonly diagnosed psychiatric disorders have proven to be** either genetic or biological in origin, including schizophrenia, major depression, manic-depressive disorder, the various anxiety disorders, and

childhood disorders such as attention-deficit hyperactivity. At present there are no known biochemical imbalances in the brain of typical psychiatric patients— until they are given psychiatric drugs. **“Psychiatry has never been driven by science.** They have no biological or genetic basis for these illnesses... There is a great deal of scientific evidence that stimulants cause brain damage with long-term use, yet there is no evidence that these mental illnesses, such as ADHD, exist.” — *Peter Breggin, Psychiatrist*

c. While “there has been no shortage of alleged biochemical explanations for psychiatric conditions— **not one has been proven.** Quite the contrary. In every instance where such an imbalance was thought to have been found, it was later proven false.” — *Dr. Joseph Glenmullen, Harvard Medical School psychiatrist.*

d. “We do not have an independent, valid test for ADHD, and there are no data to indicate ADHD is due to a brain malfunction.” — *Final statement of the panel from the National Institutes of Health Consensus Conference on ADHD*

e. **“The way things get into the DSM is not** based on blood test or brain scan or physical findings. **It’s based on descriptions of behavior.** And that’s what the whole psychiatry system is.” — *Dr Colin Ross, Psychiatrist*

f. “In short, **the whole business of creating psychiatric categories of ‘disease,’** formalizing them with consensus, and subsequently ascribing diagnostic codes to them, which in turn leads to their use for insurance billing, **is nothing but an extended racket furnishing psychiatry a pseudo-scientific aura.**”— *Dr. Thomas Dorman, internist and member of the Royal College of Physicians of the UK*

URGENT: Withdrawal from psychiatric drugs should be done carefully under experienced clinical supervision. Methods for safely withdrawing from psychiatric drugs are discussed in Dr. Breggin's books, **[Brain-Disabling Treatments in Psychiatry: Drugs, Electroshock and the Psychopharmaceutical Complex](#)** (New York: Springer Publishing Company, 2008) and **[Medication Madness: The Role of Psychiatric Drugs in Cases of Violence, Suicide and Crime](#)** (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2008). [Click here: PETERBREGGIN.COM http://www.peterbreggin.com/](http://www.peterbreggin.com/)

Kelly Patricia O’Meara, *an award-winning investigative reporter, author has written that,* “A recent Journal for the American Medical Association’s Psychiatry study [JAMA] revealed that between 2009 and 2011, there were an estimated **267,000 emergency room visits** because of

adverse drug events from psychiatric drugs such as overdose, excessive sleepiness and head injuries. Over 19% of these emergency room visits resulted in patient hospitalization. **The lead author of the JAMA study suggested the need for caution, increased surveillance, and reduced use of psychiatric drugs, and even encouraged alternative treatments.** The JAMA report, showed that nearly 78,000 of the emergency room visits were due just to sedatives/anxiolytics, antidepressants and antipsychotics. Other drugs causing such reactions included lithium salts and stimulants.

****** In 2013, more than ONE MILLION AMERICAN CHILDREN between the ages of 0 and 5 were prescribed psychiatric drugs.**

For all ages, more than **ten million** Americans took ADHD drugs, **41 million** took antidepressants, more than **six and a half million** took antipsychotics and **36 million** took anti-anxiety drugs.

Seventy-nine million Americans, one-in-four, are currently prescribed psychiatric drugs.

BOTTOM LINE: Much of the Psychological Industry is all about a blatant DENIAL OF SIN and the consequences of sin. **MILLIONS are being deceived.** The lives and eternity of multitudes are being endangered.

III. BEWARE: *The theory of evolution is also all about the denial of God and sin.* (Further info on this, will have to be for another time)

IV. BEWARE: CLOSE TO HOME FOR ALL OF US— “HOW MANY spoken or unspoken LAME excuses did I make this past week... all seeking to deny my sin and my responsibility for my sin?

How many Smoke-screens did I send out; how much ‘blame-shifting’ did I do— RATHER THAN take FULL RESPONSIBILITY for my attitudes, words and actions?”

****** The above four reasons are why multitudes no longer really and truly believe they have a SIN problem! BEWARE of anyone or anything that would move you away from OWNING UP TO THE ROOT PROBLEMS OF SIN! ******

V. THE POWER AND DEADLINESS OF SIN! BECAUSE OF SIN— human relationships tend toward strife, greed, selfishness, LUSTS, and/or hate. BECAUSE OF SIN, EVERY PERSON'S RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD HAS BEEN BROKEN! Sin has left every human under the just and holy wrath of God. It is SIN that BRINGS WORLDWIDE CHAOS. IT IS SIN THAT DESTROYS HOMES AND EVEN CHURCHES. The Bible says, "The wages of sin is death."

WE SHOULD BE exceedingly grateful that GOD SENT JESUS TO EARTH TO deal with THE SIN PROBLEM! WHEN WE look at the birth of Christ— we must understand that **at the heart of the BIRTH OF CHRIST is OPEN EXPOSURE of the ugliness of sin!** **These things being true: Why** do we love sin? **Why** do we JOKE about sin? **Why** do we joke about others who have been slain by sin? **GOD DOES NOT LAUGH AT SIN!** **GOD'S WORD DOES NOT HIDE THE UGLINESS THAT BROUGHT JESUS TO EARTH!** If we are going to REJOICE in the birth of Christ we cannot hide the UGLINESS of sin!

If we hide or deny the reality of and the ugliness of sin— we will not VALUE Jesus Christ and the price He paid and the POWER He provides to deal with sin.

Sin is the incurable leprosy of the soul: It can NOT be legislated out; philosophized out; psychologized out; wished out; pushed out by self-effort; nor can IT BE CURED BY RELIGION! **Only JESUS Christ can cure sin.**

MOREOVER, SIN IS HARD WORK: Jeremiah 9:5, "They weary themselves committing iniquity." Prov. 13:15, "**THE WAY OF THE TRANSGRESSOR IS HARD!**" The REALITY of sin is that it is a GRINDING, BINDING, BLINDING SLAVERY!

ARE YOU DRIVEN BY LUST, PORN, ANGER, BITTERNESS, GREED, GLUTTONY, DRUGS, SELFISHNESS, PRIDE, FEAR/ANXIETY, OR SOME OTHER ADDICTIVE HABIT?

MANY ARE DRIVEN FOR STUFF AND BLINDED TO NEED OF THEIR SOUL: Matt. 24:37-39. It happened in Noah's day; and it is common today.

**** ARE WE ADDICTING OURSELVES AND OUR FAMILIES TO STUFF?? ****

LET US BE REMINDED that sin is hated by God: God does not resist a man because he's poor... OR rich or educated. God does not resist PEOPLE

because they are ignorant or crippled or ill or despised by the world or limited in ability or because they seem to have little to offer.

There's only one thing that alienates a person from God and that is sin. WHY? HERE'S WHY: "God is holy; and the sinner is sinful! THEREFORE, how can God and a sinner be brought together in fellowship, in the same family? 1. Only when sin is eliminated. 2. Sin's penalty must be paid. 3. Sin's power must be broken. And that is done by the work of Jesus Christ who came to save sinners.

Sin makes a person an object of God's wrath. (Ephesians 2:3) - Sin makes humans the heirs of God's wrath. In Revelation chapter 20 it says in the end at the Great White Throne Judgment, the Lord will gather all the unbelieving and cast them into the lake of fire that burns forever.

Spurgeon said, "**Man is hanging over the mouth of hell by a solitary plank and the plank is rotten.**" And that is the ULTIMATE UGLINESS OF SIN!

VI. Yes, the sinner is a SLAVE. People think that they're free. We say they're free spirits. **HERE'S REALITY:** The only free person is one who has had his sin covered BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST; and is free AND EMPOWERED BY THE INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT to do what is right.

A LOST sinner is not free. He is under the total domination of sin and the control of Satan. Ephesians 2:2— the Holy Spirit reveals that the sinner walks in his daily conduct according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit working in the children of disobedience. Satan is at work. He is in control. **Only, if JESUS makes you free are you free. THUS,**

VII. The beauty of THE BIRTH OF CHRIST is that Christ came into the world to save sinners. NO ONE can understand or experience the beauty of CHRIST'S BIRTH without seeing, and owning the ugliness of SIN! The beauty of Christ's birth is that Christ came to break the power of SIN.

Unless you understand the ugliness of your own sin YOU WILL NEVER embrace Jesus Christ who alone by His death and resurrection can save you from that sin. JESUS CAME TO BE A SAVIOR OF SINNERS. THE JOY OF THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN IS: "**This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.**" (1 Timothy 1:15)

DO YOU NEED TO FLEE TO CHRIST! "O GOD, I AM A SINNER!"

"BE MERCIFUL TO ME A SINNER... HERE ARE ALL THE KEYS TO MY HEART... INCLUDING EVERY CLOSET!" **"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."**

You may be a Christian and LIKE KING DAVID OF OLD— there is some REPENTING to do! JESUS comes once to save, but daily He keeps us clean: Psalm 52; 32.

OR YOU MAY BE AS JOB: His troubles were NOT because of his sin.

You may be walking in fellowship with CHRIST and in 'fellowship' with troubles, trials, tribulations, and/or persecutions. You are tempted to be weary, to faint. **START HERE:** 1. PRAISE the LORD! 3. PUT ON THE WHOLE ARMOUR OF GOD!

{Some of the concepts of this message are drawn from a message I read many years ago by John MacArthur, on the UGLINESS OF SIN.}

Grace to all in Christ! James Bell

www.southsidegallatin.org

SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES!

TUESDAYS: Come and sing every Tuesday night at Gallatin Health Care nursing home. Meet at the front door at 5:30PM. Questions call Bradley Pennington at 615-804-3054.

**** WEDNESDAYS:** PRAYER SERVICE at 7:00PM; **IN THE CHURCH AUDITORIUM!**

**** NOTE:** Jody Allen is ministering to **young Children**, up to about age 10 during Prayer Service. Older children, but not old enough for the Youth Group... will be with their parents in the Prayer Service. **YOUTH GROUP:** Wednesdays 6-8pm... led by Byron Smith

➔ LADIES BIBLE STUDY— Resumes January 8, 11:00am, New Study: The Life of David! Cindy Bell, teaching

*** SATURDAY MORNINGS @ 8am: Men's Fellowship/Bible Study!**

UPCOMING December Sundays:

***** 12/7— Regular Schedule**

- 1. 9:30am-** Sunday School Bible Study/Small Group Fellowship
- 2. 10:45am-** Morning Worship / Children's Church
- 3. NOON FELLOWSHIP MEAL**
- 4. 1:00pm-** Early Afternoon Service

***** 12/14 — 9:30am: Sunday School; 10:45am: a ***SPECIAL WORSHIP SERVICE REJOICING IN CHRIST'S BIRTH;*** followed with covered dish Lunch; extended fellowship**

***** 12/21— Annual Fellowship BRUNCH @ 9:30am; followed by 10:45am Morning Worship; concluding at the LORD'S SUPPER. [No lunch]**

NOTE; [12/21 Evening Home Groups... The group at the ALLENS will meet!]

***** 12/28— Sunday School and Worship Service, only!**