

# GROW IN GRACE

NEWSLETTER

Volume 44b, No. 44, November 12, 2019 / Southside Baptist Church / 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; and 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 Savior JESUS CHRIST. To Him be glory both now and forever.***

## VETERANS DAY: The Problem of War and the Way of Peace!

BY THE TIME YOU RECEIVE THIS, another Veteran's Day will have passed! Nevertheless, it is A VERY GOOD THING to honor our veterans and those who serve today... all across the globe. Their labors help keep our nation free from harm. Moreover, it is a very good thing to PRAY FOR them and to give them THANKS— and...

**THE OCCASION also gives us good opportunity to DIG DEEPER as to WAR and PEACE!**

THE REALITY IS THIS: The history of our world is a history of war. Hatred, strife, violence, crime, domestic violence/divorce, war; and the anxiety, misery, suffering and death that result from these evils ravage homes, churches, communities, nations, and the world. **AS TO WAR among nations, many are the efforts and strategies to have or to keep peace— such efforts as:**

## 1. PEACE THROUGH MILITARY MIGHT:

President George Washington once said, "To be prepared for war is one of the most effective means of preserving peace..." Personally, I am for a 'strong military... but... there is a,

**\*\*\* PROBLEM:** the cost of maintaining armed forces to protect territory or to police the world eventually saps the strength of even the mightiest empires— witness Rome, Spain, France, Britain, and now, America. **DID YOU KNOW:** *"The **military of the United States is deployed** in [about] 150 countries around the world, with over 170,000 of its active-duty personnel serving outside the United States and its territories.<sup>[1]</sup> Outside of active combat, US personnel are typically deployed as part of several peacekeeping missions, *military attachés*, or are part of *embassy* and *consulate* security. Nearly 40,000 are assigned to classified missions in locations that the US government refuses to disclose.<sup>[2]</sup>*

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United\\_States\\_military\\_deployments](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_military_deployments)]

## 2. PEACE BY MEANS OF WAR:

Former Chinese leader Mao Tse Tung once stated, "war can only be abolished through war **to get rid of the gun you must take up the gun.**"

**\*\*\* PROBLEM:** History reminds us that World War I was to be the "war to end wars"— but it was followed by World War II— the war fought "to make the world safe for democracy." Wars continue and even measures of peace become more fragile and uncertain.

## 3. SOME PROMOTE THAT

**THE KEY TO PEACE is to BAN PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF GUNS.**

**\*\*\* PROBLEM:** “Legal” weapons in the hands of **GOVERNMENTS killed more than 170 million unarmed civilians** during the 20th century ([NewsMax.com](http://NewsMax.com), July 10, 2001). **\*\*\*** A different calculation: **262,000,000:** Just to give perspective on this incredible murder by government, if all these bodies were laid head to toe, with the average height being 5', **then they would circle the earth ten times.** Also, this democide murdered 6 times more people than died in combat in all the foreign and internal wars of the century.

[<https://www.hawaii.edu/powerkills/20TH.HTM>]

**4. OTHERS BELIEVE THAT PEACE WILL COME THROUGH negotiation and arbitration.** THUS, around the beginning of the twentieth century NATIONS established the International Court of Justice.

**\*\*\* PROBLEM:** This was followed by two World Wars and a multitude of other conflicts throughout the 20th century. The League of Nations and the United Nations were added and have also failed to prevent war or eliminate conflicts.

**5. RELIGIOUS LEADERS CAN BRING PEACE.** In August 2000, the Arizona Republic publication of 7/30/2000, reported that more than 1,000 religious leaders gathered in New York for the Millennium Peace Summit to talk about peace.

**\*\*\* PROBLEM:** The meeting was marked by boycotts and disputes among the participants.

**6. GET RID OF POVERTY, INEQUALITY and SOCIAL INJUSTICE!** TODAY, A LOT OF POLITICIANS and religious leaders BLAME WAR, HATRED, CONFLICT, RAPE, LAWLESSNESS AND ETC. ON poverty, inequality, and social injustice.

\*\*\* **PROBLEM:** Generally the poor masses are more peaceful than the rich and powerful. However, they are easily stirred up by politicians and religious leaders. ***There are exceptions, but the WARS OF NATIONS are by and large fought by the poor of one tribe or nation against the poor of another tribe or nation, at the command of the elite!*** They had no hatred against each other and would not be killing one another EXCEPT that they are pawns in the hands of Politicians, the Super Rich, and religious leaders— all of whom make big money from war.

### **SOME BOTTOM LINES:**

**1. It is safe to say, even as the Bible proclaims: Man does not know the way of peace!** "The way of peace they have not known" (Romans 3:17). "They have made themselves crooked paths; whoever takes that way shall not know peace" (Isaiah 59:8). When Jesus wept over Jerusalem, in part He said, "the things that make for your peace... they are hidden from your eyes" (Luke 19:42) — *SIN in human hearts hides from individuals and nations the way of peace!*

### **2. WHAT IS THE ROOT PROBLEM BEHIND ALL CONFLICT?**

"Where do wars and fights come from among you? Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members? You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you

may spend it on your pleasures.” (James 4:1-3) **JESUS SAID**, “For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within and defile a man.” (Mark 7:21-23)

### **3. WHAT IS THE WAY OF PEACE?**

GOD TOLD ANCIENT ISRAEL, "if you walk in my statutes and keep my commandments... I will give peace in the land" (Leviticus 26:3-6). "Great peace have those who love Your law" (Psalm 119:165). "My son, do not forget my law, but let your heart keep my commands; for length of days and long life and peace they will add to you" (Proverbs 3:1-2).

**\*\*\* DEEP PROBLEM: MAN NATURALLY HATES GOD AND HAS NO POWER OR DESIRE TO HEED GOD'S LAW:** "...the carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be" (Romans 8:7).

### **4. At the conclusion of World War II, General Douglas MacArthur made a profound observation in a radio broadcast to the American people:**

"Men since the beginning of time have sought peace. Various methods through the ages have attempted to devise an international process to prevent or settle disputes between nations... Military alliances, balances of power, leagues of nations,

all in turn have failed... We have had our last chance. If we do not devise some greater and more equitable system, Armageddon will be at our door.

**\*\*\*\* The problem is basically theological and involves a spiritual recrudescence [RENEWAL!] and improvement of human character... it must be of the spirit if we are to save the flesh"** (Reminiscences, p. 276).

## **5. IN THE MIDST OF A WORLD AT WAR— PEACE!**

**\*\*\* John 14:27** Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

**\*\*\* John 16:33** I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

**\*\*\* Philippians 4:6-7** do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**\*\*\* Romans 14:17-19** For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

\*\*\* **2 Corinthians 13:11** Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

\*\*\* **1 Peter 1:2** according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

\*\*\* **Romans 5:1** Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

\*\*\* **Mark 9:50** Salt is good, but if the salt has lost its saltiness, how will you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

\*\*\* **Numbers 6:25-26** The LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

\*\*\* **Isaiah 9:6** For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

\*\*\* **Romans 8:6** For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

\*\*\* **Colossians 3:15** And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful.

[A number of sources were used in the development of the above article...]

James Bell [www.southsidegallatin.org](http://www.southsidegallatin.org)

\*\*\*\* **SHARE the Preaching of the Word of God!**

[http://www.southsidegallatin.org/Listen\\_to\\_other\\_sermons\\_on\\_sermonaudio/](http://www.southsidegallatin.org/Listen_to_other_sermons_on_sermonaudio/)

## **SOUTHSIDE NEWS NOTES:**

**TUESDAYS:** Come and sing every Tuesday night at Gallatin Health Care Nursing Home. Meet at the front door at **5:15PM**.

**WEDNESDAYS:** → **6:30pm— Wednesday CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE**

→ Enter via **IRON STEPS, side door.**

**WEDNESDAYS:** → **6:30pm— Youth** Activities and Bible Study— enter, side double doors.

**WEDNESDAYS:** → **6:30pm— Young Family Prayer Time!** THIS IS a time of Bible study and prayer geared toward **families with children in the nursery and pre-K class**. Enter at double doors, under AWNING.

\*\*\* **LADIES BIBLE STUDY: NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY, 2020 @ 11:00am; Continuing in LUKE.** ENTER at the back of the church building, *[Under AWNING, open at 10:30am... re-locked at 11:10am]*

\*\*\* **MEN's Fellowship/Bible Study:** EVERY SATURDAY @ **8:00am: (STUDY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO JOHN!)** ENTER AT THE back of Church building... DOUBLE DOORS, under the drive-thru awning. **[DOORS OPEN FOR FELLOWSHIP, Juice, coffee, Hardee's biscuits, & Donuts at 7:30am!]**

**SUNDAY SERVICES, NOVEMBER 17, 24**

**9:30am— Sunday School Classes for All Ages**

**10:45am— Sunday Morning Worship Service**

**SPECIAL EVENTS ON THE FOLLOWING SUNDAYS:**

**\*\*\* November 17 — LORD'S SUPPER, at the end of the Morning Worship**

**HOME GROUPS... some at 5pm**

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**\*\*\*\* November 24, 25, 26, 27— at 6:00pm (Sunday-Wednesday)...**

***THE CREATION GUYS from Australia, (John Mackay and Joseph Hubbard),***

**will be speaking at SOUTHSIDE BAPTIST,**

**Gallatin, Tn / 1028 South Water Avenue.**

**(QUESTIONS... Leave voice mail at 615-452-5951)**

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**\* Sunday, 11/24 @ 6pm —  
Fear God, not man! The Real Homophobes! Gender and Creation!**

**\*\* Monday, 11/25 @ 6pm —  
CHRIST, Creator & Creation! Animal Rights and Human Wrongs!**

**\*\*\* Tuesday, 11/26 @ 6pm —  
CLIMATE WARNINGS: The Real ROLES of God, man and satan in the weather!**

**\*\*\*\* Wednesday, 11/27 @ 6pm —  
“THANK YOU for DESIGN! JESUS we THANK YOU!”**