



Grace Baptist Church is 
A Great Place To Grow in Christ
For the Entire Family

Sunday April 12, 2015
This Weeks Events
Today: 10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Bible 101</i> —Pastor Coale 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Why Revival Is Needed</i> —Pastor Coale 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Jr. Church</i> —Pastor Saloum 6:00PM: (Grange)— <i>Advanced Bible (How to Pray)</i> —Pastor Coale
Upcoming Events
May 3, 2015: 2:00PM: (Fir Lane)— <i>SHUT IN SAINTS</i> —Matthew Coale
May 6, 2015: 7:00PM: (Pastors House)— <i>Discovery Group</i> —Pastor
July 5, 2015: NOON: (Grange)— <i>CHURCH PICNIC</i> —
August 17-19, 2015: 9:00AM-NOON: (Grange)— <i>VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL</i> —
October 18, 2015: http://russells2mexico.com 10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Missionary to Mexico</i> —Adam Russell Family 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Missionary to Mexico</i> —Adam Russell Family NOON: (Grange)— <i>Meet the Missionary POTLUCK</i> —
September 11-14, 2016: EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS— <i>SAM GIPP</i>

Wisdom

- *The general rule of human nature is me first, you last.*
- *A man can do anything he wants to do if he wants to do it bad enough.*
- *The world will never know peace even when it rests at the bottom at the lake of fire.*
- *Your best friends in the world are your family.*

Is God Dead?

By Rev. Ron Coale, Pastor

There is much to read on the subject which asks the question "Is God Dead?" In 1966, Easter Edition, Time Magazine ran that famous article proclaiming God Is Dead. Since then, liberal artists have used it as their fight slogan, while Christians have reeled in preparation for yet another of many useless debates to get them sidetracked from doing what God told them to do. No doubt the Devil used the German poet and philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche (Who is most famous for making this statement) to get Christians "spinning their wheels" again.

Real Bible believing Christians acknowledge that Jesus is God. They must, otherwise they are not Christians at all (John 1:1-3, 14; Rom. 10:13-14; Col. 1:14-17; Titus 2:13-14). They are just misguided and uninformed people who have been given a false hope, and are living their lives tumbling along in religiousness. Jesus is God! Since He is God, and He can raise Himself from the dead, then there is absolutely no possible way that God could ever be dead.

Still, many today are capitulating and joining the ranks of Atheism. They have not gotten anything out of their religious involvement that touches them in a way

that connects with them. Although not voicing the "God is dead" catch phrase, they wonder within the deep recesses of their mind if God is really dead or not; Is God real? The Devil carefully nurtures that little seed along as it begins to grow into a full fledged doubt in God. This is made possible by never understanding that Jesus is God in the first place.

Since Jesus cannot be killed, what then is meant when people say "God is dead?" They mean if God is dead:

There are no moral absolutes and no universal standard to conform to. All men, everywhere have moral absolutes. No matter what they believe, think, feel or say, they all live to a certain standard. The absence of morality is an immoral state. All men believe it is wrong to wrongfully kill, lie, cheat or steal. Rape, incest or pornography rank low on every societies moral thermometer. Man cannot live without morals. God has initiated and placed His moral standards into His creation. Therefore, a proclamation of "God is dead" is a proclamation of rebellion from God's moral standards. To rebel from God's moral standards is to rebel from God. It

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

is not to rebel from morality in general, because nobody is truly immoral. Even thieves have a certain code amongst themselves.

There is no purpose or rational order in life. The antithesis of this would be that there is nothing but chaos, but this is not true. There is always some kind of structure, even amongst the animals. There are always leaders and followers, thinkers and doers. With this statement in place, you would never know if anything was getting better or worse. Again, the carefully crafted statement is not that there is no purpose or rational order, it is that they are rebelling from God's purpose and rational order of things. Even though they reject God, because they are designed by God (as all things are), they can never escape man's inner desire for purpose and order.

Any design seen in the universe is projected by men who are desperate to find meaning in life. With this statement, the "God is dead" people acknowledge God as a designer. You cannot have a design without a designer. It is grasping at straws to say that any design seen in the universe is a desperate attempt to find meaning in life. There is certainly a design in the universe. The ancient Inca's and

Aztecs even knew this. There are constellations, galaxies, and systems too vast to categorize, but the ones that we know of determine times and seasons by which all of the world operates today. It is rebellion to God as a designer to deny His obvious design. Therein lies the problem. Once again man seeks to rebel from God. He feels that if he proclaims that God is dead, then he can live independently from God's design. He cannot, because man himself is a design.

Man is independent and totally free to create his own values. God has much to say about the independence of man. From the very beginning, man has sought independence from God. If he is independent of God, then he can create his own morality. But, who is to say which man has the morality that everyone should live by? Nietzsche? Darwin? Engels? Freud? Plato? Holyoake? Which values should man succumb to? Man will always be accountable to some sort of values because that is the way that God designed man. Even in the fall of man, there are values to be accountable to. Cain asked God for protection because he knew that the people of his day would kill him for killing his brother. It is only the misguided mind that thinks he can be independent of God, free to make his own set of val-

(Continued on page 6)

The Johnsons



Missionaries to the “Children of the Dragon” in Mainland China

Dear Folks,

We spent a few weeks in the US to get some much needed health checkups. Most went well, although I was told I was a borderline diabetic which could be controlled by diet.

My ears continue to be as painful as ever. I have been told to try several decongestants and antihistamines to try to relieve the pressure. Unfortunately, I need to take them for several months before seeing any improvement. The doctors told me that I’m stuck with these ears and this problem will probably be recurring. Well, the good news is that God is still good and still watching out for us.

In other news, the little boy from China we are trying to adopt (whom we plan to name Nathan) has recently turned four years old. He had surgery on his eye, but all went well—Praise the Lord! We have until May to finish the home study process, pay the next set of fees, and get our dossier ready to go. We have to wait until Chinese New Year is over (beginning of March) to complete part of the process. We have to make it through three separate approval processes in order to adopt Nathan. We knew when we started the process that adoption was impossible for us without God’s help and we are still trusting that this is part of His will. Sometimes it’s hard to be patient when we know there is a little guy out there that needs a family to love him.

I have been meeting with a student on campus for weekly Bible studies. He was a Christian before I met him but had little knowledge of the Bible. He is growing and is excited about serving the Lord. He will graduate in June and return to his hometown.

We continue to hold weekly Bible studies with the ladies. Please pray that in spite of all of our schedules (two of the ladies teach at the university), we will find time available for study. Carolyn has been building relationships with several ladies she knows through the university by doing crafts with them. Pray God will continue to open this door and give her opportunities to witness. Also, pray that we will be able to continue building relationships with other teachers through the preschool classes; and that in our daily lives, we might be a witness to all those around us.

Prayer Requests: (1) for Susan’s mom’s health as she is in the last stages of cancer, (2) for M’s & B’s baby and for them to have the strength they need. The baby has Down syndrome and Chinese people are not used to children with special needs of any kind. (3) for my ears, (4) for our adoption of Nathan, and (5) for open doors of opportunity.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

In His hands,

Daniel and Carolyn Johnson

(Continued from page 4)

ues. What that man wants is to be free from God's values and morality. He is rebelling from his creator.

The "real" world (as opposed to a heaven and hell) is man's only concern. Eat, drink and be merry! (Luke 12:19) Live for today! Forget about the past and don't think of the future. If they truly believed this, then you would see all men living without any ambition at all. There would be no struggle to climb the corporate ladder, because that would be the future. You would see no desire to work harder to earn more money, because that would be the future. There would be no progress, technology or growth. There would be no lessons learned from the past. No reflections on their childhood. All you would have is a bunch of mindless, numb drones. God did not create man to be this way. He gave man a job, a past and a future. He built in to His creation ambition and ethics. He designed man with goals because goals give hope. If man's only concern was the "real" world, then man would be rebelling from God because he would be rebelling from the way he was designed.

These five premises of the "God is dead" crowd are completely absurd and make no sense unless you see that the underlying move

is to rebel from God. It is not the absence of morality they seek, but the absence of God's morality as revealed in the Bible. They do not really want the absence of morality. They want to live independently from God so they don't have to answer to Him. They are trying to reason their way into living a life unaccountable to God. Like so many ostriches sticking their heads in the sand, they think if they ignore God, He will go away. He will not.

To these people I have only one thing to say, "You are going to die some day. You can't ignore it. Your life on this earth will end just like every one else. What next? Can you avoid death because you simply proclaim 'Death is dead?'" It doesn't work that way. Even us simple minded folk know better.

God is not dead! Even if you proclaim so, that doesn't make it so. It just means that you want to rebel from your creator and live a hopeless life of living for the moment. You will still be accountable to your designer? Just because you have knowledge of good and evil doesn't mean you know how to use such knowledge wisely. I implore you to look at the fallacy of your morality and use your knowledge to come to God.~

PRAYER REQUESTS

607.	Pastor	Souls saved in Shelton.
629.	Matt	Gregson Family Finances.
680.	Matt	Savings Account (Building fund) to reach —(\$10,000).
685.	Dee P.	Dee's brother Duane (a proud atheist) salvation.
755.	Regina	Grace Baptist Church to grow in membership.
763.	Sally	Brother Nathan called to preach. Strength & direction.
775.	Sally	Mom (Charity) strength to finish nursing program.
782.	Judy C.	Daughter Erin to find a good godly man to marry.
796.	Regina	Strength for God's will in her life.
803.	Dee P.	Improved church attendance for her family.
822.	Regina	Personal Health.
845.	Regina	John Berger (93) health/strength to continue preaching.
849.	Sally	Jonny seeks God's will in making decisions for future.
865.	Dee P.	Son Joseph's health problems & depression.
867.	Dee P.	Family members to read KJB daily.
918.	Rich	Church finances
955.	Lori S.	Son (Phil Gosline) has lymphoma
971.	Sally	Robyn (Co-worker) having marriage problems.
972.	Jeanine	Protection from Ebola for family workers in the health field.
973.	Dee	Protection for Stephanie working as a nurse.
975.	Dee P.	Brother-in-law George stage 4 terminal lung cancer
976.	Dee P.	Our Christian men to grow as spiritual leaders in our homes, churches and communities.

What the Bible says about LOVE

- *Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.*
- *Col 3:19 Husbands, love your wives, and be not bitter against them.*
- *Titus 2:4 That they may teach the young women to be sober, to love their husbands, to love their children,*

