
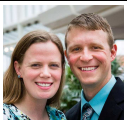




Grace Baptist Church is   
*A Great Place To Grow in Christ*  
*For the Entire Family*

<b>Sunday March 20, 2016</b>	
<b>This Weeks Events</b>	
<b>Today:</b> 10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Life of Jesus</i> —Pastor 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>A Special Price</i> —Pastor 6:00PM: (Grange)— <i>Advanced Bible: FAITH</i> —Pastor	
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	
<b>March 27, 2016:</b> 10:00AM: (Grange) — <i>EASTER BREAKFAST</i> —Dee Coale/Mark Poe	
<b>April 3, 2016:</b> 2:00PM: (Firlane) — <i>Shut in Saints</i> —Brother Matt Coale/Charles Wasilausky	
<b>April 10, 2016:</b> 10:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Missionary to Panama</i> —Brent Hoffman Family 11:00AM: (Grange)— <i>Missionary to Panama</i> —Brent Hoffman Family NOON: (Grange)— <i>Meet the Missionary POTLUCK</i> —	
<b>September 11-14, 2016: EVANGELISTIC MEETINGS—SAM GIPP</b>	

## ***STEPHANIE SALOUM NEEDS HELP***

*“Bear ye one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.” (Gal. 6:2).*

Pastor Saloum needs some help. I think our church should stand behind our own. God said that the greatest thing we can do is to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Pastor Saloum is very sick. The doctors are trying to get his MS under control. At the same time, Stephanie is sick as well. She has been burdened with, health issues, home schooling, taking care of Rich, Dr. Saloum, and Florence, and is facing a family move into town. She is having a hard time cooking meals for the family. They need help in two ways:

***○Brethren who would be willing to bring some dinner meals to them for the next two weeks?***

***○Help moving into town.***

If you are willing to help, please call the Saloum’s for times and dates at: 360-427-3572 or 360-556-9111.

## ***How does God decide which people to delude in order to deny them salvation?***

By Rev. Ron Coale, Pastor



I enjoy reading things that people come up with in order to attempt to discredit God's word or character. To me it is quite amusing, and even exasperating at times to hear what desperate attempts people go through to steer away from God. They work really hard at it, sometimes so hard that it makes me think, "Wow! If you just put one tenth of the effort in getting saved that you put into trying to run from God, you could be the best Christian warrior there was."

In his book, *101 Questions Christians Hope You Never ask*, D. C. Cullen asks, "How does God decide which people to delude in order to deny them salvation (2 Thessalonians 2:11-12)?" He is referring to where it says, "*And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.*" This is one of the many questions that he claims will upset a child of God; one that will cause them to stammer and stutter as they search their minds for an answer. He is telling the secular world to use this question in or-

der to shut a Christian up!

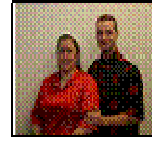
The funny thing is that the answer to his question is contained in the question itself. **God will send strong delusion to those who have already made their choice to believe "not the truth" and has "pleasure in unrighteousness"**. If you choose to follow Satan (verse 9) and forsake the truth for the power of lies and wonders (verse 9 & 10), then God will send you strong delusion. The delusion comes **after** they already make their choice.

This is a classic case of taking verses of Scripture out of context. In fact, this is the strategy in most cases. They will grab a verse out of context and hope that the person they are using it on is ignorant and frightened, and just doesn't want to talk religion or "offend" anyone. They prey on Christians who don't use the Bible as their standard of morality. These things don't happen to Bible Believers.

The instant someone does something like this to a Bible believer, the believer will say, "Lets look at the context to see what God is really talking about." This is the scariest thing that can happen to the Bible critic. Why? Because the Bible not only defends itself, it also clari-

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# The Johnsons



## Missionaries to the "Children of the Dragon" in Mainland China

Internet access has been down due to meetings in BJG recently and we've had no email either. It is working today for the first time in a while so I wanted to get a quick note out in case it stops working again before I can do more.

We arrived safely despite getting stuck in South Korea an extra day due to heavy fog. All of our luggage arrived at the same time we did, too, which is always a blessing. Thank you for thinking about us.

Thank you so much for all the thoughts and support while we were in the US for medical concerns. We still owe just under \$2000, but we were able to take care of some major concerns. I'm on some medication to try to help with the ear pain again. If this doesn't work, it looks like I'm just stuck with the pain. But, I understand more of what is going on now. The doctor this time told me that the only other thing I could try is going to a specialist at Vanderbilt. I was able to bring back a pillow that doesn't hurt to sleep on, so I can use a pillow again which makes sleeping a little easier. I've never been so thankful for a pillow.

I've had some trouble with my thumb and learned that it is tendonitis. Unfortunately, the cortisone shot did not help with that and resting it...well, have you ever tried not using your thumb?

I wasn't able to get my blood sugar tested again in the US, but I have learned that I can get an H1aC test here so I'll be scheduling that soon.

Carolyn had better results with doctors. She was able to see a rheumatologist who confirmed the fibromyalgia diagnosis. So, she can continue being treated for that here. Also, he approved a magnesium/melatonin combo to help her sleep and she's been sleeping all night some which has made her feel much better. He also said that the swelling and inflammation in her hands is simply due to the fibromyalgia. At this time, there is no autoimmune disease, but if she continues to have episcleritis (eye inflammation) or chest pain, she has to be re-tested for rheumatoid arthritis. However, her episcleritis has not returned with the gluten-free diet and the chest pain has not returned.

Carolyn just got back from seeing the dentist here for the first time. She has three teeth she's going to need root canals on and multiple cavities to be filled. Our dentist in the US thinks that may be due to the high lead exposure here. She asked about getting them pulled, but because the roots are still good, they can't just pull them. They would have to be surgically removed and the cost would be the same as the root canal. For now, she's just getting them drilled and filled to help with the pain while we save up for the root canals. But, she

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says she really likes this dentist. They speak some English and she's picking up the necessary dental vocabulary along the way to make for pretty good communication.

The ladies were glad to see us again and have been enjoying the studies. My schedule changes each semester and it always amazes me that each time, the right day is left free so that I can teach and they can come.

We also have one bit of news that we could really use some thinking on. The school is checking to see if we might be able to get green cards. This would mean that we would not have to get visas done each year. The green cards would be for ten years at a time. It would cost \$500 USD to apply for the green cards (\$250 each) and, if approved, another \$100 for the actual cards. Plus, it would be another \$100 for the necessary medical exams required by the application. But, we currently pay about \$150 each year for our visas. So, this would still be a huge savings in both time and money if approved.

The school is researching these now and the application process takes about 6 months, so we are not going to know anything very quickly. However, we are very excited about the possibility.

Well, I better send this before the Internet goes offline again. Thank you so much for thinking about us.

Sincerely,

Daniel and Carolyn Johnson

## ***The “Pew” Potato***



*“Eli sat upon a seat by the wayside watching.”—1 Samuel 4:13*

We are all familiar with the term “couch potato.” it originated in 1976. The Merriam-Webster Dictionary defines a couch-potato as “a person disinclined to activity or exertion, esp. one who spends a great deal of time watching television.”

When I mention “couch potato” you may visualize someone who epitomizes that word. It is probably an image of someone who sits regularly in front of a TV with a remote in one hand and a beverage or snack in the other... probably overweight... and having a blank expression on his/her face.

I recently heard about a “Pew Potato.” Like a “couch potato,” this is a Christian who sits regularly in church wanting to be entertained while snacking on his or her religion. They sit gazing with a blank look on their face. And like the “couch potato,” the “pew potato” is dis-

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fies itself with a fidelity unknown to any other book in the history of man. Anyone attempting to mess with the book will soon see the futility of their efforts.

God always defines what He says and He does it with His word. There is little need to go to other sources to find out what God means when He says something. He doesn't just make bold proclamations and then watches on with amazement to see if we can put the puzzle together. He gave us His word so that we could know Him: Who He is: what He likes and dislikes, etc. (1 John 2:3-4; 5:20). The Bible is not only a "rule book" for life. It is more than that: It is our roadmap to understanding God.

One other favorite tactic that the Bible critic will use is to cross dispensations and try to make a text that applied to people in a different time or place to us as well. For example: God told Noah to build an ark and he would be saved. God does not tell us to build an ark today. He tells us to "...Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved..." (Acts 16:30-31).

No matter how much a person would try to deny it, there are clear divisions in the Bible. They are called dispensations. This is why the Child of God is commanded to "*Study to shew*

*thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.*" (2 Tim. 2:15). God tells us to "rightly" divide the word because He knows there will be those whom wrongly divide it.

So, the critic will think he has a good argument; one that will put any Christian to shame when he asks things like, "If you were commanded to kill a sheep in the Old Testament to be right with God, why do not Christians do the same thing today?" Here you immediately see a division: The OLD TESTAMENT. We live in the NEW TESTAMENT. There are no Christians in the OLD TESTAMENT. The first mention of the word "Christian" is in Acts 11:26 where the name is attached to Followers of Christ in Antioch. So, Christians do Christian things. Jews do Jewish things.

This mishandling of the word of God is common amongst people who have not enough respect for it to read it objectively. If they have already made their choice to not believe in God no matter what, they will never get to see it's truths. Why? Because they have a deluded mind, and God sent it to them.~



## 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.
796.	Regina	Strength for God's will in her life.
803.	Dee P.	Improved church attendance for her family.
822.	Regina	Personal Health.
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.
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.
979.	Colleen	Salvation of Darci Togensen's daughter Katey
989.	Regina	Son (Richard) to let God be his all in all.
991.	Pastor	Rylander family come back to GBC.
992.	Pastor	Roger Crowe healing from cancer of spine & bladder.
993.	Mark H.	Grand-daughter overcoming depression.
994.	Pastor	God's will on buying the Grange Hall
997.	Pastor	Successful and full recovery of use of foot.
998.	Regina	Friend (Diane) comfort and recovery from lung cancer.
999.	Pastor	Roy Turk recovery from hip surgery.
1000.	Pastor	Pastor Saloum CAT scan and possible concussion

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inclined to any spiritual involvement or exertion. I've seen these "pew potatoes" all too often as I've stood behind the pulpit and looked over the congregation. They're easy to spot by the blank expressions on their face.

Christianity is not a spectator sport. I'm reminded of a cartoon I saw in a church bulletin. A husband and wife are walking out church after a morning service. The husband has a very disgruntled look on his face. His wife says to him, "What did you expect for only a dollar?" To get the most of your church, you need to be involved and invested in it. You'll only get out of it what you put into it.

Don't be a "pew potato." God didn't save you to sit—He saved you to serve!~

Taken from: Daily Devotion, Biblepticcares.com, 03/18/2016, *The Pew Potato*, Al Hughes

