



SBAOC Weekly Update

NEWS & PRAYER REQUESTS

- The SBAOC Semi-annual Meeting will be held at Rockport Baptist Church on Saturday, April 20, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting will be a combined in-person and livestream through Teams. Those participating via Teams should contact Terry Coker to register.
- First Baptist Church of Saint Francis, Kansas, is seeking a Preaching Elder. See page 3 for more details.

MAN OF SORROWS

Author: Frederick S. Leahy



Then Jesus went with them to a place called Gethsemane . . . And . . . he began to be sorrowful and troubled. (Matthew 26:36, 37)

The statement in Matthew 26:36, 37 is significant. Christ has known sorrow before this, but the assertion that in Gethsemane he began to be sorrowful and troubled indicates a sudden steep descent into the billows of distress. Now, as never before, all God’s waves and billows began to sweep over him (Psalm 42:7). What a contrast to the sweet calm and peace of the upper room! He and his disciples had just sung from that wondrous Passover hymn, the Hallel (Psalms 113-118) and Christ sang that hymn as it had never been sung before and as it never could be sung again, for he was about to fulfil it as he went to his cross...

After the feast Christ was suddenly plunged into an abyss of anguish so intense that he declared himself overwhelmed to the point of death. Calvin says, ‘Though God had already tried his Son by certain preparatory exercises, he now wounds him more sharply by a nearer prospect of death and strikes his mind with a terror to which he had not been accustomed’...

It is true that Christ in his sinless human nature recoiled from the prospect of death and shrank from it with horror, for death came with sin. It is also true that he sensed the approach of Satan who after the temptation in the wilderness ‘departed from him until an opportune time’ (Luke 4:13). It is also the case that he anticipated the approaching wrath of a holy God. But none of these facts can account for the distress and sorrow that were to prove too much for unaided human nature (albeit sinless) to bear. There must be something deeper and more actual to account for our Lord’s struggle in Gethsemane.

Gethsemane means ‘the oil press’. David could say, ‘I am like a green olive tree in the

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PURPOSE STATEMENT:

We unite as an association of Southern Baptist churches in order to manifest the glory of God above all. We purpose to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. We covenant to strengthen and support one another, motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture, by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

“If there is no church... should you not commence one?” C. H. Spurgeon

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house of God' (Psalm 52:8). Israel in her long history could say the same. But the suffering Saviour could say it best of all, for there in Gethsemane—the oil press—he was crushed and bruised without mercy.

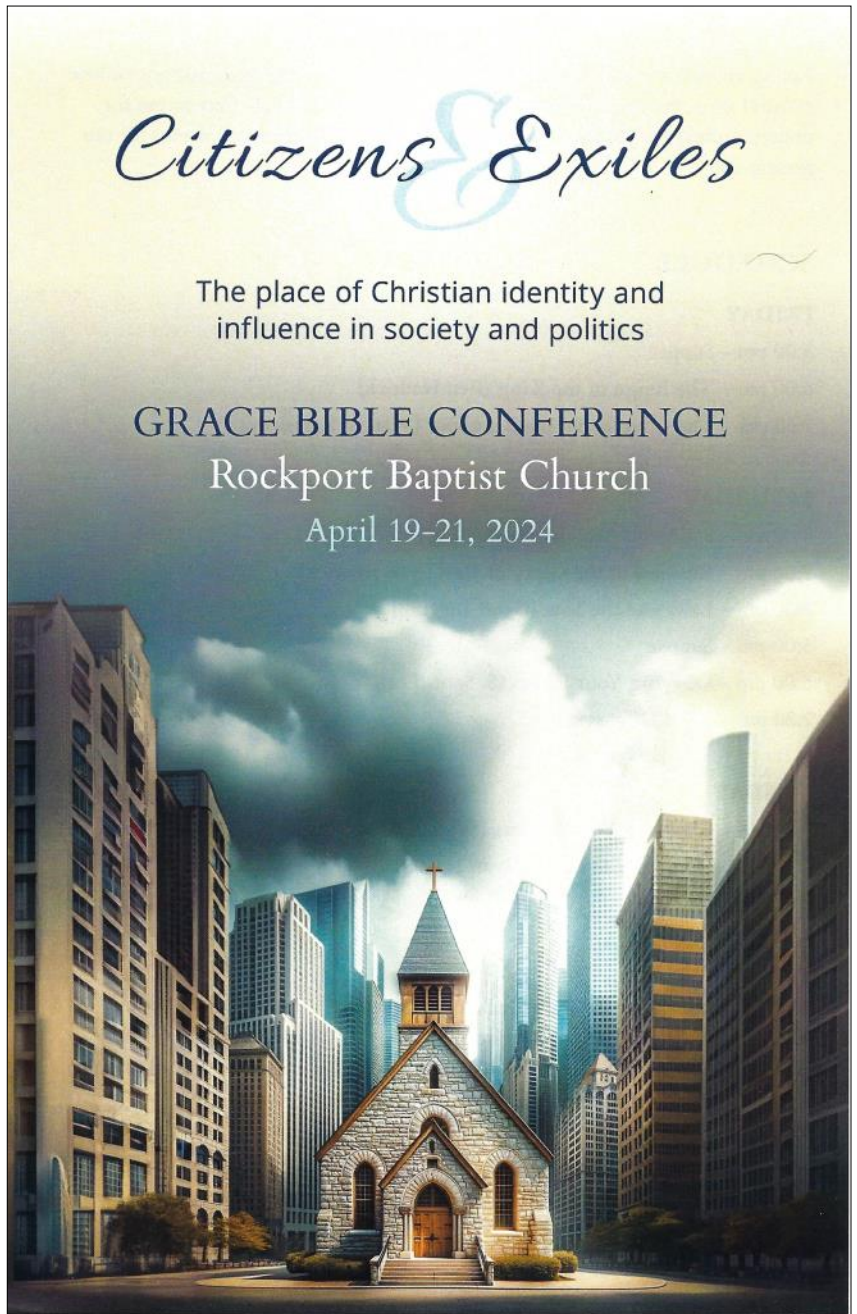
But how and why? How is the sudden and dramatic change of atmosphere between the upper room and Gethsemane to be explained, even in measure? Christ knew all along the death that awaited him. He had grappled with Satan and his legions more than once. He had repeatedly spoken of his death to his disciples, telling them what that death would accomplish. He had prayed with the utmost confidence in his high priestly prayer (John 17). Why, then is there this sudden plunge into such awful agony, why this shuddering horror? Why is this fruit of the olive tree so severely crushed? Why does the divine record say that in Gethsemane our Lord BEGAN to be sorrowful, sorrowful in a new and terrible way? Was it not because God began forsaking him then? How else is this sorrow unto death to be understood?

'Jesus wept', but never like this. No previous sorrow of his could match this. At the time of his arrest he declared, 'Shall I not drink the cup which the Father has given me?' (John 18:11). That cup was constantly in view as he prayed in Gethsemane. What cup? 'THIS CUP'—not some future cup. The cup that was symbolized in the feast (Matt. 26:27, 28) was now actual: God was placing it in the Saviour's hands and it carried the stench of hell. But stop!

Schilder¹ is right. 'Gethsemane is not a field of study for our intellect. It is a sanctuary of our faith'. Lord, forgive us for the times we have read about Gethsemane with dry eyes.

¹Dr. Klaas Schilder wrote a trilogy on the sufferings of Christ.

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Citizens & Exiles

The place of Christian identity and influence in society and politics

GRACE BIBLE CONFERENCE

Rockport Baptist Church

April 19-21, 2024

the Triune God in Missions and Evangelism
Conference
May 3-4, 2024 **FREE**

Dr. Glenn Butner
Asst. Professor of Theology and Christian Ministry
Sterling College

Lawson Harlow
Pastor
Meroy Hill Church
Olive Branch, MS

Dr. Caleb Lenard
Equipping Pastor
Grace Life Church
Ankeny, IA

Joshua Sommer
Pastor
Victory Baptist Church
Kansas City, MO

Hosted by:
TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH

trinitybaptist-wamego.org
16655 W Hwy 24
Wamego, KS 66547

UPCOMING EVENTS

Covenant Conference—March 14-16. LaGrange, KY. *Conquering and to Conquer.* Speakers: Voddie Baucham, Joel Beeke, Sam Waldron, John Miller. Covcon.org

Grace Bible Conference—April 19-21. Rockport Baptist Church, Arnold, MO.

Missions & Evangelism Conference — May 3-4. Trinity Baptist Church, Wamego, KS. This conference is free to attend, but please register for planning purposes at trinitybaptist-wamego.org.

Saved By Faith Youth Camp—June 17-21. Webster Conference Center, Salina, KS. For youth entering grade 7 through grade 12. Speaker: Dr. Jim Orrick. Theme: Philippians: Pressing On.

Theology Camp—July 8-12. Logan Valley Christian Retreat, Ellington, MO. For youth grades 7-12. Speaker: Dr. Jim Orrick. Theme: Philippians: Pressing On. Contact Terry Coker for more information at Terry.Coker@fbcfenton.com.

Leadership & Laity Conference—July 25-27. Hosted by Mount Zion Community Church, Arkansas City, KS.

If you have a conference or event that you would like listed here, please contact us by email: spurgeonassociation@gmail.com.

FBC ST. FRANCIS, KS, SEEKING PREACHING ELDER

The First Baptist Church of St. Francis, Kansas is a reformed SBC congregation. We are passionate about God's Glory, God's Word, Christ's Church, and the spread of the Gospel to all peoples. Our desire is that our church would help people grow in God's grace and the knowledge of Christ.

We are seeking a man to serve as the Preaching Elder of our church. The Pastor Search Committee prayerfully searches for the man God has chosen to be our serve as our pastor. The Preaching Elder will serve with the other elder in leading the Church. In addition to the normal duties of an elder in pastoral care, the primary duties of the Preaching Elder are to prepare and deliver expository sermons on Sunday Mornings and teach at the Sunday evening service. As a member of the church, he should participate in Church activities including AWANAS.

Our church willingly cooperates with the Southern Baptist Convention through our local association, the Kansas-Nebraska Convention of Southern Baptists, and The Spurgeon Association of Churches. In addition to holding to the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, the officers of the church practice good-faith subscription to the 2nd London Baptist Confession of Faith. All officers are to submit to and defend the doctrinal standards of the church.

We prefer a candidate with a seminary degree from a reputable, conservative seminary. However, we will consider all applicants. The successful candidate must be a man with a servant's heart that meets the qualifications set forth in 1 Tim 3:1-17, Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Peter 5:1-3, be able to rightly divide the Word of God and minister to the needs of the Church.

If you are interested, please submit each of the following:

- Cover letter- Introducing yourself and your interest in this position.
- Narrative of your salvation testimony- Outline how you came to faith in Jesus Christ.
- Resume - Your ministry experience, educational background, and at least three work related references and three personal references.
- Two sermons- including a sermon outline and a video or audio recording (a link to a host site if the files are too large).

Compensation package includes salary, an 1800 sq. ft. 4 bedroom parsonage with finished basement, a housing allowance, and other benefits. Health insurance, however, is not provided. The total compensation package equals approximately \$56,000 per year.

We desire to have the position filled as soon as God wills it. **All submissions should be sent to our Elder/Chairman of the search committee: Mr. Kelly Gienger at kpgienger@gmail.com.**

**SPURGEON
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
OF CHURCHES**

**PO Box 155
Wamego KS 66547**

(785) 456-3796
spurgeonassociation@gmail.com

Contact Us:

Administrative Council:

Terry Coker, Moderator
Terry.Coker@fbcfenton.com

Brandon Rhea, Vice Moderator
brandon.m.rhea@gmail.com

Tony Mattia
Corresponding Secretary
Phone: (785) 456-3796
spurgeonassociation@gmail.com

Eugene Jennings, Treasurer
pastor@fbconaga.org

Bill Ascol
billo615@att.net

David Atkins
david@redeemersgracewichita.com

Kelly Gienger
kpgienger@gmail.com

Kyle Carlson
pastorkyle234@gmail.com



WWW.SBAOC.ORG

MEN AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY

Kevin Berens
Colby, Kansas
Email: berens.kevin@gmail.com
Cell Phone: 785-332-7184

John Grove
Canton, Ohio
Email: trsjwg@gmail.com
Phone: 352-286-5494

Tim Lambert
Lindsborg, Kansas
Email: tlambert@smokyvalley.org
Phone: 785-614-3651

J.W. Glidewell
Colby, Kansas
Email: jwglidewell@gmail.com
Phone: 785-772-1176

Terry Coker
Fenton, Missouri
Terry.Coker@fbcfenton.com

Stephen Atkinson
CWI (N America) - www.cwina.org
Director of Ministry
Rogers, Arkansas
Email: sgt.atkinson@gmail.com
Phone: 479-225-4269

Bake Ottogy
St. Louis, Missouri
Email: bakeottogy@gmail.com
Phone: 636-467-7446

PRAYER MEETINGS FOR SPIRITUAL AWAKENING AND REVIVAL

- Fellowship Baptist Church in Onaga, Kansas—5:00 pm on Sundays
- Trinity Baptist Church in Wamego, Kansas—8:00 pm on Saturdays

The Spurgeon Baptist Association of Churches is an association of Southern Baptist Churches that are united to manifest the glory of God above all. We set out to do this by seeking spiritual awakening and revival by intense prayer and earnest obedience to Scripture. As an association of churches we are bound in mutual covenant to strengthen and support one another - motivated and guided by the authority and sufficiency of Scripture - by facilitating faithful preaching of the Word of God, proclaiming the gospel of the risen Lord Jesus Christ to all, making and gathering disciples, planting churches and coordinating unified missions efforts.

We are a non-geographic association seeking to include any like-minded body of believers so that together we might better fulfill the great commission of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Our intent is to lean on His instruction and not our imaginations so that He is honored in all that we do. We welcome churches who adhere to the confessions of faith accepted by Southern Baptists throughout their history, including, but not limited to, the Second London Confession (1689) and the Baptist Faith and Message.

