



# *the* *Calvary Caller*

Volume 43

September 2020

Number 7

## Welcome Home

September is a great month. Neil Diamond thinks so, he sings a song called, "September Morn." For those who are familiar with that song know that it is a love song. God loves us so! September is a month with a lot of expectation. So what are some of the things we can anticipate from God's hand of mercy and love? Well, first and foremost, we know that God loves us because of the supreme sacrifice of His "Only Begotten Son" and because God has willed for His Church to have all that is needed to do the work of redemption. We can expect Him to make every provision for "all our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." So what is God up to? What is He doing at Calvary Baptist Church? We are at the very beginning stage of rebuilding the Youth Group. The youth group has historically been a challenge with many ups and downs. And just so you know, that is very common. Young people are the hope of all parents and grandparents. That's why we want every young person to set their goals and ambitions in a direction that will always be driven by their love for God and walking in obedience to His Word. For that to happen, every parent and grandparent must be "all hands on deck" for a godly influence. Coupled with that is the training that will take place at the church. Let's be clear when we talk about direction. Mom, Dad, our children are being raised in Babylon. The secularization of a Darwinian philosophy and the false worship of enlightened minds have led to many thousands and maybe millions of young people acting like animals. They have been taught that this is where they come from and they are living it out.

The Church is called to make disciples, followers of the Lord Jesus, that will not bend the knee to this godless, sensual, perverted age. And for that to happen, every young person will need to

be trained in what God has said because He is still saying it, He does not change! Yes, the youth group is small, but don't trip over that. This is the month of new beginnings. God is sending us one of His choice servants to teach, "reprove, rebuke, exhort" to train our young people in His Word. God is doing something wonderful in our midst. With all the chaos and fear that is in the land, fresh courage we take because the youth group is being built up with God's provision and leadership.

The Scripture tells us in Zachariah 4:10 about the rebuilding of the temple. And it looked like it would never happen even though God said it would. Discouragement had settled in on the people and they got busy building their homes and the care for their own lives, while the temple was neglected. Could it ever be rebuilt? And the answer to that is a resounding yes! When the Lord's hand is guiding His people, nothing is too difficult! What appeared to be something that would never change, took a drastic turn when God's man showed up with a plumb line in his hand, and was ready to go to work. Now listen to verse 10 in the context of the impossible. Realizing that there is nothing more frustrating or demoralizing than God's people who have been overtaken by apathy and settled in their minds that this is the way it is! Listen to verse 10, "For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth." And with that, how thankful we are to welcome our new Youth Pastor and his precious wife. Christain (yes I spelled his name correctly) and Sisa are God's gift to Calvary Baptist Church! There is a plumb line in his hand as the youth group is being rebuilt upon God's Word. Let us join together and believe God for a new chapter. Let us



(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

join together and believe God for a new chapter. Let us welcome them to their new home in Erwin as we labor together in hope for this young generation to be a witness of our Faithful, unchanging God. Jesus is Lord!

Welcome Home Christain & Sisa!

*Pastor David*



## A Word from Christain

Greetings to the motherland from the Hoosier land!

I first want to thank the church for giving me overwhelming support to become the next student pastor at Calvary Baptist Church. My wife and I are very excited about the move, and we're looking forward to worshiping our Lord Jesus Christ together and working with everyone in the church to proclaim the gospel and the Christian worldview to the people of Erwin and the surrounding areas.

One of the fields I like to study is called Biblical Theology. Its aim is to reveal the Bible as one, united, purposeful whole. The Bible isn't a disconnected jumble of laws, stories, prophecies, poems, and proverbs. I'll admit this was my impression until I read a book in college called *According To Plan* by Graeme Goldsworthy. While I don't agree with him on everything (do any two people ever agree on everything?), his book was a game changer for me. I learned from Goldsworthy that the Bible has an overarching storyline and connecting themes that stitch the patterns together.

One theme that often gets overlooked is conquest. When I use that word, you probably think of Joshua and the conquest of Canaan, and your instincts would be right. That's probably the dominant example of conquest in the OT. But I would argue that conquest is so pervasive a theme in the Scriptures that we often overlook it. Like a man searching for tools in his garage, it's often the most common object that is the easiest to overlook! Throughout the Scriptures there are examples of holy and unholy conquests over creation, sin, and peoples.

Let me give you a few early examples of this. In Genesis 1, God takes holy conquest over the formlessness, the void, the darkness, and the waters of creation. In Genesis 1 and 2, Adam and Eve take holy conquest over creation and spread the borders of the garden of Eden. In Genesis 3, the crafty serpent takes unholy conquest over Adam and Eve and leads them into sin. In Genesis 4, Cain and Abel take holy conquest over the sheep and the fruit of the ground, but Cain fails to take holy conquest over his sin, which results in the unholy

conquest over his brother Abel through murder. In Genesis 6-8, God takes holy conquest over corrupt mankind by annihilating them with the flood, while Noah takes holy conquest over the waters by building an ark and caring for endangered animals. In Genesis 11, mankind attempts unholy conquest over God by building a tower into the skies, so God takes holy conquest over mankind by confusing their language and dispersing them across the earth. We're only a few chapters in the Bible, and we've already got several examples of both holy and unholy conquests. This theme is so pervasive that it's hidden in plain sight.

At this point, I'd like to make some connections between the conquests of Joshua and Acts. In both cases, we have a divine ruler issuing the orders. In Joshua, it's YHWH. In Acts, it's the risen Lord Jesus. In both cases, we have predominant human leadership. In Joshua, it's Joshua and the officers. In Acts, it's the apostles - with an emphasis on Peter and Paul. In both cases, we have a targeted land. In Joshua, it's Canaan. In Acts, it's Judea, Samaria, and the end of the earth. But there are also important differences. Israel was commanded to take the land by force. Christians are commanded to take the land by persuasion. Israel aimed to kill their enemies. Christians aim to convert our enemies. Israel was an army of soldiers. Christians are an army of witnesses. One final note here. There's a sense in which Christians are still God's spies. We're committing espionage against the demonic principalities of the air and the human kingdoms of the earth. And we do that one teaching at a time, one conversion at a time, and one transformation at a time. And our tools of warfare are the gospel and the Christian worldview.

Now let me provide the ultimate example of conquest. Our ascended King Jesus will return to earth in the clouds with His angels and resurrected believers. He will defeat the man of lawlessness. He will put down the rebellion of sinners on the earth. He will judge the wicked to hell and the righteous to eternal life. He will cast Satan and all other demons into the lake of fire. And He will remake the world to be a place without sin and without death forever. Our God is a conqueror. Victory was already declared with the resurrection of Jesus.

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2)

We're just waiting for it to be fully manifested at Christ's return. This also means that we Christians are conquerors in Jesus. So let's not adopt a pessimistic and defeatist mentality on this earth. Instead, let's adopt a realistic and victorious mentality. And

let's continue to take conquest over fallen creation, over our sinful natures, and over sinful peoples with the gospel and the Christian worldview.

Christain

FROM  
CURTIS

A bible professor with a Th.D. at the end of his name once told his class, "before you study scripture get very familiar with the passage. Read it 30 days or more before you try to analyze it. Keep your exegesis as literal as possible." This advice has mentored my study of Revelation for over 30 years. Finally, I am getting very familiar with the book. My slow progress is best explained on a need-to-know basis. I needed...needed to know portions of scripture from Genesis, Psalms, Ecclesiastes, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Zechariah, Matthew 24-25, Luke 21, Romans 9, 10, 11, and 1 Corinthians 15., 1 Thessalonians 4, 5, and 2 Thessalonians 2, 2 Peter 3. Then I could study Revelation. Here is a nugget for you.

The Tribulation is a 7 year period followed by the Second coming of Messiah. Let's focus on the mid point where "the abomination of desolation" is spoken of by Daniel the prophet (this is the passage of which Jesus is speaking in Matthew 24:15-22). Jesus is giving snapshots of Jewish society. He is envisioning the elderly, the working class, the youth and families with children; He is portraying a cross section of Jewish society that will be fleeing Jerusalem. The calamity will be so severe that

verse 22 says, "unless those days were shortened, no flesh would be saved; but for the chosen's sake those days will be shortened." Why does flesh need to be saved? Who are the chosen?

Zechariah 13:8 tells us the two thirds of the Jewish people will perish in the Tribulation. This will allow one third of the population to survive in their mortal bodies. These chosen include the 144,000 sealed on their foreheads in Revelation chapter 7 but are separate from the multitude described in verse 9. How? The people of verse 9 are already in heaven. However, the 144,000 are part of the one third remnant spoken of in Revelation 12:6, "Then the woman (Israel) fled into the wilderness where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there 1260 days." These are they who are survivors, in their mortal bodies, of the great wrath of God on this creation. They and other survivors will now face the "sheep and goat" judgement of Matthew 25:31-34. The sheep will be passing into their promised Kingdom for 1,000 years of the rule and reign of Messiah (Isaiah 9:6-7). One more thing, we are the Bride of Christ (Matthew 22:4-14) and will be assisting in Messiah's government until the Consummation.

Curtis



# Happy Birthday



1 Patricia Coffman, Jim Long, 3 Sheldon Roark, Fran Isabelle, 4 Fain Bennett, Loretta Buchanan, 5 Ted Rice, 6 Nick Banks, Betty Gillis, 8 Billie Peterson, Clara Curtis, 9 Cody Caudle, Gwanda Runion, 10 William Manfull, Dominick Gibbs, Edd Bolton, 14 Lee Williams, Gertrude Street, 17 Tina Roark, Elizabeth Crutchfield, 19 Mike Caudle, 20 Larry Pate, 23 Lynne Stanford, 24 Ralph Sparks, Roland Banks, Jr., 26 Mellissa Bryant, 30 Anna Crutchfield



*Thanks for the Wonderful meal that was cooked for us. It was a wonderful gift and greatly appreciated. Thank you for your prayers and thoughts.*

*Warm wishes,*

*Connie, David & Kayla Grubb*

*Sam, Kelly, Christopher, Andrew utt Grubb*



## Memorials & Honorariums

### IN MEMORY OF

**Bruce Grubb**

*Gene & Betty Frye  
Robert & Jeanette Wyrick  
Dewey & Janet Edwards  
June Padgett  
Suzy Hughes  
to Christian Life Center  
Dorcas Sunday School Class  
to Consolidated Missions*

the following to the Van Fund

*Dr. Karl & Lori Coke  
DM Services, LLC  
Dianne Davison  
Jim & Diana Griffith  
Carolyn Laughrun  
Jean Thompson  
Regular Fellows Sunday School Class  
Diana Davis*

**Bruce Shawver**

*Shirley & Allen Rogers*

### IN HONOR OF

**Curtis Engle & Alicia Smith**  
*by Carolyn White  
to Our Jerusalem*



The Sunday a.m. service is broadcast on Facebook

#### Connect with us online

Website - <https://calvaryerwin.org>  
Email - [calvaryerwin@gmail.com](mailto:calvaryerwin@gmail.com)

 Calvary Baptist Church of Erwin Tn  
Sun. Service is live on Facebook 10 am

 Calvary Baptist of Erwin Tn

 @CalvryErwin



Service times at

*Calvary*

**SUNDAY**

9:00 a.m.  
10:00 a.m.  
6:00 p.m.

Sunday School  
Morning Worship  
Evening Worship

**WEDNESDAY**

6:00 p.m.  
6:00 P.M.

Children & Youth  
Bible Study

THE CALVARY CALLER published monthly (except July and December)

*The Printed Ministry of Calvary Baptist Church*

540 Adams St., Erwin, TN 37650 Phone: (423) 743-4926 Fax: (423) 743-4926

David Crutchfield, Senior Pastor  
Gary Amos, Music Director

Michael Huggins - Office Administrator

Terri Graham, Director, Children's Ministry  
Christian Watkins, Youth Pastor