

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH - HARRISON, OHIO

# The Baptist Defence

ISSUE 4

JULY, 2006

P. O. Box 201 - Harrison, Ohio 45030 - (513) 367-6713 - Pastor Ronnie Wolfe

## Welcome To First Baptist Church

### Special points of interest:

- ***Trail of Blood*** on July 17 - 19, 2006, 7:00 PM. Bro. Ed Kittle
- ***Blue Grass Boys Reunion*** on August 19, 2006, 7:00 PM
- ***REVIVAL*** - Bro. Bob Jones, August 18 - 20, 2006.



You are invited to come to First Baptist Church for worship. We worship God the Father and his Son, Jesus Christ, in an old-fashioned way. We are not geared for changing with the time. We are set on the preaching of God's word and praise to the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

We sing the old-fashioned songs and have no loud, banging music. We love the meaning and the music of the old hymns.

The word of God is the most important part of our worship. We study the word in every service.

If you are tired of churches' trying to keep you in attendance with new-fangled entertainment and programs, then give us a try. Our church may or may not be for you, but you will not know until you have visited us for several times.

We would love having you as a visitor. You will find the people here very friendly and welcoming. Visit us soon!

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## Give Me Thine Heart *By Pastor Ronnie Wolfe*

Prov. 23:26 *My son, give me thine heart, and let thine eyes observe my ways.*

### I. THE CHARACTER OF THE HEART

What is the heart? It is that real part of us which is down deep inside, that part

of us that we sometimes call the conscience. We are, of course, not talking about the beating heart that is inside the chest. When God says in Prov. 23:26 "give me thine heart," he is telling us to give him the real self that dwells inside our bodies and minds.

But why would God want our hearts? Why would he want something that is so distantly removed from his holiness and righteousness? Notice what the Bible says in Jer 17:9 *The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked:*

*(Continued on page 2)*

YOUR HEART (Continued from page 1)

*who can know it?*

When Adam and Eve were first placed in the Garden of Eden, they were upright and innocent in the presence of God. They had wonderful communion with God every day. They loved that peaceful and grandiose existence, knowing that God's warm smile was on them as they lived in his human paradise. They no doubt walked along the banks of the rivers that came together in that beautiful land. They were no doubt refreshed by the dew that came up every morning to give the plants and animals drink. They enjoyed the perfect atmosphere. The air was not too

**THE DEVIL IS A LIAR FROM THE BEGINNING AND A MURDERER FROM THE BEGINNING.**

hot and not too cold. The wind was never too strong or too weak. There were no bug bites on the leaves, no dangerous animals in the woods and no heartaches to bring depression of disappointment. Can you imagine living in this type of situation? Their hearts were in perfect peace with God, their consciences were innocent and peaceful toward their Creator. They had no worries, no sicknesses, no challenges. All they had to do is just depend upon God and eat the delicious fruit of the Garden. What a place that was!

One day while Eve was walking through the Garden, she saw a serpent who could speak. Actually this was Satan incarnate. He had appeared as a beautiful serpent which took Eve's eye. He must have been a really wonderful creation of God, and Eve no doubt

was so thankful that she had met such a beautiful creature which God had made. She was unaware of any danger.

When Satan began to speak to her, Eve did not seem to be surprised. If a snake begins to speak to me, I want that side door for myself. I learned that the best thing to do about a snake is to get as far away from him as possible.

But Eve was intrigued by this serpent, and she listened to his words. They were deceiving words. The Devil is a liar from the beginning and a murderer from the beginning. He is the father of lies. He began to tell her that God's words to her were not correct and that God was trying to keep her from enjoying a super knowledge that she could have if she would just eat of the tree that God had forbidden Adam and Eve to eat. She believed the Devil, and she took of the fruit and ate. Then she gave to her husband, and he ate of the forbidden fruit, also.

When that happened, a dark shadow of doubt and despair came over the hearts of Adam and Eve, and they never again had that wonderful fellowship with God as they did before. Romans 1:21 says, *Because that, when they knew God, they glorified [him] not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened* Paul is not here speaking particularly of Adam and Eve, but it is the same principle. When Adam and Eve turned from their trust in God to do their own bidding, their foolish hearts were darkened, and the entire human race became guilty before God.

Again we read Jer 17:9 *The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it?* The

heart is now deceitful above all things. It is desperately wicked. This is the heart you were born with. This is the heart of every man, woman, boy and girl in this world who is born of a woman. You cannot trust your own heart. So, why would God want that heart?

Now notice Jer 17:10 *I the LORD search the heart, [I] try the reins, even to give every man according to his ways, [and] according to the fruit of his doings.* The Lord searches the heart, so he knows how wicked it is. He knows that our hearts are black and dirty with sin and cannot trust the Lord and love the Lord God on its own. So, why does he want our hearts?

## II. THE CRAVINGS OF THE HEART

With this depraved heart inside our being, this wicked heart is not right with God on its own. It has some very wicked cravings. In Matt. 15:8 the Lord said to the scribes and Pharisees *This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with [their] lips; but their heart is far from me.*

Many people think that the heart of man is searching God and must eventually find him before his heart will be eased. This cannot be true, because the Bible says that no one searches after God. That is because the heart is deceitful and desperately wicked. It is the nature of this depraved heart to be far from God.

Now let's read Matt 15:18-19 *But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries,*

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*fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:* Oh, that old dirty heart! Why would God want that heart, a heart that craves these wicked sins?

My heart is not worthy for the God of heaven to desire. Why would he want me to give him this heart of mine? I do not deserve such an invitation from God. His ideals are so far from me that I cannot even begin to comprehend or understand his ways. So, why would he ask me to give him my heart, a heart with cravings for murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, and blasphemies?

### III. THE CURE OF THE HEART

With this kind of disease of the heart, wouldn't it be nice if there were a cure? There is, you know, a balm in Gilead. There is a healing stream. There is a fountain filled with blood. There is river that flows from heaven above. There is a ransom. There is a cure!

Notice as we read Ac 16:14 *And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which*

*worshipped God, heard [us]: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.* When Lydia, who had a desperate and deceiving heart, heard the word of God, she was not receptive. She was like all of us. Her heart was far from God. But notice the miracle of this verse. It says "whose heart the Lord opened." While she was hearing the word of God, the Lord used the power of the Gospel to open her heart, and that heart was opened to the attention of the things which were spoken by Paul.

The cure for this old wicked heart is for the Gospel to be preached and for God to, by his wonderful grace, open the heart. The heart of Lydia was opened so that she could see the truth of the word of God as it was preached and could surrender her life to Jesus Christ and follow the doctrines of the apostles and love them and cherish them in her heart.

That's what happens when God touches our hearts. We are made to be new creatures in Christ, old things pass away, behold all things become new. The heart is turned from a cold, hard heart to a new heart of flesh which can be molded and made like the Lord wants it.

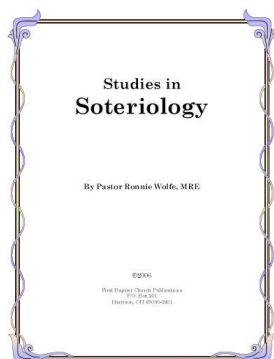
Every disease needs a cure, and

the heart is no exception to this. Every heart is diseased and broken, and it needs the power of Almighty God to make it new. We need a heart transplant, you might say. If you today can hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, his death, burial and resurrection, and know that it is the truth, then your heart will be turned into a new heart, and you can believe and trust Jesus Christ as personal Savior. He will be your friend, your surety, your Great Physician. You will have a new heart, and your cravings will no longer be toward the sins of the world but will be toward the Lord Jesus Christ, your Master and Lord. You will love him more than anything in the whole world. You will have a strong desire to please him, to love him and to serve him.

This is the cure for your heart. When it is cured and all sin has been taken from it, when old things are passed away and all things are become new, then God looks at your heart as a perfect heart, because he gives you through faith the very righteousness of Jesus Christ, and God sees no sin in your heart, no deceit in your heart, no wickedness in your heart. He sees only the righteousness of his Son,

Now do you suppose God wants your heart? Ω

## Book On Soteriology



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## BGB REUNION

### Aug. 19, 2006



*Ronnie Wolfe, Robert Carpenter, Bob Jones, 1964 or 1965*

You are invited to come to our second reunion of The Blue Grass Boys, including Bro. Robert Carpenter, Bro. Bob Jones, and Bro. Ronnie Wolfe.

We are planning to have some surprise visits from others who have had a part in this quartet throughout the years. Come and see if these men can be a part of this reunion. Here is the plan for services:

### REVIVAL

Friday - Sunday

August 18 - 20, 2006

7:00 PM

**Evangelist Bob Jones Preaching**

**Saturday night: Singing Only**

**COME BE WITH US**

## THE TRAIL OF BLOOD

The story of the history of Baptists from the time of Jesus Christ up to our own day. Bro. Ed Kittle will be teaching this very important subject. We will have the book "The Trail of Blood" available for purchase at a very reasonable price.

**JULY 17 - 19 7:00 PM - FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF HARRISON, OHIO**

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P. O. Box 201  
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