



**GROW
IN
GRACE**
NEWSLETTER

AFTER the important article below, on the last page-- please read the information from Dr. Peter McCullough

Volume 46, No. 31, August 3, 2021 / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. ***"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!"***

THE IMPORTANCE OF KNOWING AND CONFESSING OUR TRUE IDENTITY IN CHRIST!

REMEMBER... the great tool of satanic forces is **DECEPTION! GOD'S SOLUTION IS TRUTH!** Jesus modeled this in Matthew 4:1-10! A great need for every Christian is to **RENOUNCE** the confessions of who we were **BEFORE KNOWING JESUS CHRIST**; and **NOW** confess the **TRUTH** about who we are in Christ! ***"CONFESSING, reaffirming my identity IN CHRIST is absolutely essential to my success at living a Christ-like life!"*** **CONFESSION EXAMPLES**, all the following are drawn from Scripture:

I am NOT rejected, unloved, dirty, or shameful! INSTEAD, I AM ACCEPTED IN CHRIST! INDEED, by GOD'S AMAZING GRACE,

I am God's child. I have been justified. I have been bought with a price and I belong to God. I am a member of Christ's body. I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child. I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. I am complete in Christ. I have direct access to the throne of grace through Jesus Christ.

I AM NOT ALONE or ABANDONED because **IN CHRIST I am SECURE! IN OTHER WORDS**, I am free from condemnation. I am assured that God works for **HIS GLORY** and my good in all circumstances. I am free from all condemnation brought against me and I cannot be separated from the love of God. I have been established, anointed, and sealed by God. I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me. I am a citizen of heaven. I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind.

I am NOT worthless, inadequate, helpless, or hopeless because IN CHRIST I have significance! Indeed, I have been chosen and appointed to bear fruit. My body is CHRIST'S TEMPLE. I am a minister of reconciliation. I am seated with Christ in the heavenly realm. I am God's workmanship. **REALITY: *The more we affirm and reaffirm who we are in Christ, the more our behavior will begin to reflect our true identity!*** (Above thoughts are grounded in Scripture; and parts edited from Neil Anderson)

IDENTITY DISORDER! (Edited from Shon Bruellman)

In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god.

*Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, **youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans.***

*The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king.
(Daniel 1:1-5)*

The book of Daniel isn't simply a story of one man named Daniel, but relates the account of four young Hebrew men from Jerusalem named Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah who were appointed to service in the Babylonian government after Jerusalem was overthrown. In chapter 3, we see that God protected the young men from a fiery furnace and in chapter 6 we see Daniel being protected from the wrath of the lions, **but God was also working from the first verse of chapter 1, protecting them all from the influences of an idolatrous culture.**

Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego.(Daniel 1:6-7)

What is VERY interesting is that the first thing the Babylonians did was to change the names of these young men! Why do you think they did this? I suggest to you that it was ONE OF MANY THINGS they did in order to convert them to their Babylonian ways and make them forget about the true and living God.

1. Daniel means "God is my judge," and his name was changed to "Bel (a god of the Babylonians) *Protect the King.*" **2. Hananiah means "The Lord is gracious,"** and his name was changed to Shadrach, which means "*Command of Aku,*" (another Babylonian god). **3. Mishael means "Who is Like the Lord?"** and was changed to Meshach, which means: "*Who Is What Aku Is?*" **4. Azariah, which means "The Lord is my helper"** became Abednego, which means "*Servant of Nebo.*" (Nebo was a god of vegetation.)

AGAIN, THE NAME CHANGING was designed for IDENTITY CHANGE— a way to distance these young men from their historic identity and draw them toward their NEW IDENTITY of becoming BABYLONIANS!

THEIR NEW NAMES, EDUCATION, FOOD, ETC... were to the end purpose of developing LOYALTY TO BABYLON! They would have a NEW IDENTITY! This was and is an ancient and 'tried and true' method that has worked time and again! **And it is alive and well today. (IDENTITY CHANGING is happening on many fronts. In this article, we will focus on only one primary area)**

We live in a culture that SEEKS to take a follower of JESUS, tries to strip him of his identity in Christ; and replaces it with labels like "victim," "schizophrenic," "chemical disorder," "obsessive compulsive," "bipolar," or, the most prevalent one that has crept into so many churches - "addict."

Though the Bible says that believers are "filled with all the fullness of God," "sealed with the Holy Spirit," "heirs of the kingdom of heaven" and "beloved children of the Lord," psychiatrists of all persuasions scoff at these things **and, instead, inform people that they have an illness, disorder, or other problems; and that medication and secular counseling are the only solutions.**

My fear is that UNLIKE these four Hebrew young men, who knew who they were regardless of the names or identities they were given, many believers are buying into these types of labels and see themselves not as God does, but as man would.

"But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself." (Daniel 1:8)

Daniel resolved not to defile himself with those things which were offered to idols; and we, too, must have that same resolve when the temptation is there to take our eyes off the Lord, our source for help, and turn to the world and the "experts."

One of the first things the world will do is to begin to chip away at our faith and trust in God, and try to make Him appear SMALL and weak; but, the reality is that God is anything BUT small, weak, and/or in need of the wisdom or power of man to "help" Him.

"To whom then will you compare me that I should be like him? says the Holy One. Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength. Even youths shall faint and be weary, and young men shall fall exhausted; but they who wait for the

LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles; they shall run and not be weary; they shall walk and not faint.”(Isaiah 40:25-31)

SHON: “There was a time in my life that I thought God was not enough for me and that His Son was insufficient to help me with the mess in which I was trapped. Like some of you, I turned to the world’s ways of dealing with issues of the heart and I went to the experts in the world, who supposedly knew how to help deal with my struggles and the depression that was crushing me.

At the age of 16, I found myself in a psychiatrist’s office listening to the counselor blame my parents for my problems and then I walked out with a couple of bottles of pills to help me with my "clinical depression" and also to help me sleep.

I was so afraid of death and hell that I would force myself to stay awake at night for fear that someone would come and kill me. I continued to take various types of pills and to talk to therapists on and off for nearly half my life trying to "get healed," only to grow more discouraged and depressed, as a result.

But then something happened that changed everything. God came to me in my sin and drew me to the cross of His Son, where I saw the consequences of my sin and realized that, without Christ taking the penalty of that sin, I would spend an eternity in hell.

I could no longer make excuses and claim the reason I sinned was because I was suffering from "clinical depression" or "bipolar disorder." I now realized I was suffering because of the SIN in my

life and my total lack of faith in the Lord to not only save me from hell, but also save me from the lies that I once believed.

It is when I went to the cross, repented of my sin and began to look for Jesus within the pages of Scripture that I no longer saw myself as a habitual sinner, but a saint, made so by God's sovereign grace."

"Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down, but a good word makes him glad. (Proverbs 12:25)

SHON: "It was when I stopped looking at myself, my will power, my self-esteem and, instead, opened up the "Good Word" and saw Christ, that **GLADNESS** swooped into my heart. I realized I was not someone with any sort of mental illness, but someone whom God created just as He wanted me to be made.

I did not see myself as someone suffering from bipolar disorder, but someone who was chosen from before the foundation of the world to be a recipient of the grace and mercy of God, and as one forgiven through the cross of Jesus Christ."

*"But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" **So you are no longer a slave, but a son**, and if a son, then an heir through God. (Galatians 4:4-7)*

"No longer a slave, but a son!" Do you see it?

No longer a debtor or an "addict," **no longer** spiritually bankrupt, **no longer** someone who was perpetually walking any

set of steps or in a continuing state of "recovery;" **no longer** someone suffering from any number of "mental illnesses," **and no longer** an object of God's wrath, **but now an adopted child of God, an HEIR.**

"I love those who love me, and those who seek me diligently find me. Riches and honor are with me, enduring wealth and righteousness. My fruit is better than gold, even fine gold, and my yield than choice silver. I walk in the way of righteousness, in the paths of justice, granting an inheritance to those who love me, and filling their treasuries."(Proverbs 8:17-21)

God fills our treasuries according to what He is able to provide but, keep in mind that God is a jealous God Who will not share His glory with another, Isaiah 48:11.

If you think you can take a little bit of God, add a little bit of will power, a little bit of pop psychology, a few drugs, and have it equal "freedom," then you are in for a rude awakening because you will never find freedom in this way. The blessing you believe you seek will end up being a curse.

"Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land."

(Jeremiah 17:5-6)

If we trust in something other than God to help us, it is a waste of time and an abomination to God - as much of a stench to Him as our "addiction" is.

*As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams.(Daniel 1:17) **The Bible says their skill and wisdom increased** and it was because GOD was where they turned for guidance and counsel, and nowhere else. **And so it is with us.***

Friend, are you one who has been labeled by the world? Is your "identity" now in question, and are you confused about where to turn for help? May I encourage you to look only to the Creator of all life, the One Who has promised to never leave you or forsake you, to Jesus Christ the Redeemer, Who has promised to forgive all your sin?

Since He was willing to pay such a tremendous price through His death to save you from God's wrath, He does not need the strength of man to help save you from any perceived "disorders" you may be facing. *"Behold, I am the LORD, the God of all flesh. Is anything too hard for me?" (Jeremiah 32:27)* Freed by grace, Shon Bruellman

NOTE and FYI: "Whenever I am dealing with someone who is taking psychotropic drugs— I HAVE ZERO condemnation for them; but if there is an open door, I will encourage them to 'fight their battles' on all fronts— to start feeding faith. I never tell anyone to stop taking the drugs. That is not my place. I focus on encouraging them to start FEEDING FAITH by the Word of God and by fellowship with solid Christians. Sadly, too often I find them already in a 'zombie' state— waiting for the next drug, hoping that one will be found that will work for them; and I find them fully indoctrinated to their NEW PSYCHO IDENTITY!" — James Bell

Dangerous to start and Dangerous to stop! Most psychiatric drugs can cause withdrawal reactions, sometimes including life-threatening emotional and physical withdrawal problems. **In short, it is not only dangerous to**

start taking psychiatric drugs; it can also be dangerous to stop them. Withdrawal from psychiatric drugs should be done carefully under experienced clinical supervision. Methods for safely withdrawing from psychiatric drugs are discussed in Dr. Peter Breggin's books, *Brain-Disabling Treatments in Psychiatry: Drugs, Electroshock and the Psychopharmaceutical Complex* (New York: Springer Publishing Company, 2008) and *Medication Madness: The Role of Psychiatric Drugs in Cases of Violence, Suicide and Crime* (New York: St. Martin's Press, 2008) GO HERE: <https://breggin.com/>

GRACE TO ALL! James Bell www.southsidegallatin.org

NEWS NOTES:

EVERY Saturday, * 8:00 AM, 8/7/21 — Men's Bible Study: THE BOOK OF JOB, Chapter 3!** (Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!)

***** Ladies Bible Study! NEXT STUDY, AUGUST 17 @ 11:00 AM**

SUNDAY SERVICES, AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29:

***** Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes. ***** WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

SPECIAL EVENTS:

**** August 8 @ 5:00 PM, FAITHFUL MEN, 1689 Confession of Faith**

***** August 15... LORD'S SUPPER at the end of the Morning Worship service; HOME GROUPS @ various times**

****** AUGUST 22, 5:00pm-** Church Wide WORSHIP SERVICE in the auditorium! A variety of singing/praise... FOLLOWED BY THE PREACHING OF THE WORD OF GOD!

******* AUGUST 28, SATURDAY @ 9:30 AM— DE-CLUTTER THE CHURCH BUILDING DAY!**

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE: 6:30pm— Come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning!

**** Adult Prayer Service ** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service**

HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are presently in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!]

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... WE do not require; we WILL NOT provide such. WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM... as to 'social distancing'— ... give sensitivity and respect one to another.

3. In addition to carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM... I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber.

4. LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene. IF you use the restrooms— please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.

5. PLEASE CHECK THIS OUT: "Perhaps one of the greatest crimes in this whole pandemic is the refusal by reigning health authorities to issue early treatment guidance. **Instead, they've done everything possible to suppress remedies shown to work**, whether it be corticosteroids, hydroxychloroquine (HCQ) with zinc, ivermectin, vitamin D, or NAC. **According to Dr. Peter McCullough**, 85% of COVID deaths could have been prevented had early treatment protocols been widely implemented rather than censored:" **CLICK HERE:**

[Peter McCullough - What You Need to Know About Early At-Home COVID Treatment](#)

TO RECEIVE LIVE STREAMING FOR AUGUST 8th,

GO TO: www.southsidegallatin.org

***** LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING: SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) —**

MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066

OR, you may choose to GIVE, via ONLINE GIVING:

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>