



Bigbee Baptist Association

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Brother Brad's Box...

Hi Friends!

It's so hard to believe that Autumn is upon us. The heat of this summer has been tough, to say the least. But, alas, that's nothing new to you. And that makes me wonder how many of you read these articles looking for something "new" from me. (That is scary!)

I sit down at the keyboard, wishing I was again typing on the electric typewriter on which I learned instead of resting my wrists across the touch pad of this laptop computer. Growing up, I managed to make good grades in school, but I struggled in nearly every class with reading comprehension problems. These same difficulties plague me at times even today. So for that reason, I find it much easier to write (or type) than to read.

However, our English language is a funny one. To write, I want to do it right. At the stop sign, I turn right or turn left. And after I've left, I have rode on down the road. No, of course not. I've ridden. I knew that grammar rule. It wasn't new to me. My words seem to repeat themselves. My tongue is in a knot, even when it is not.

Nonsense? Yes, I agree. But my point is, you read what I wrote. Do you concentrate that well on reading the Lord's Word? Sadly, too many times we don't read His Word any more carefully than we glance through the daily newspaper. We scan for the highlights, reading the headlines, and finally make sure our own name isn't listed in the obituaries. Then we toss the paper to the side and we're done till next time.

How do we expect to hear from Him if we don't read what He has to say to us? How can we ever understand His will for our lives if we never consult the rule book? How can we ever prepare for the world outside our church walls if we never ask His guidance for the task at hand?

Yes, studying His word requires reading. It means we must spend time concentrating on His Word, waiting as He responds.

As an association of churches here in West Alabama, I pray that we consult His Word for our work. Sometimes, understanding it does require more time and effort. But that doesn't give us an excuse not to read. It just reminds us that we must work harder at it.

As I work harder to read and understand His way for my life, I will do so with more determination to make a difference in this world. I hope and pray that you will make the same determination in your own lives as well.

Striving to somehow make a difference.
--Brad

This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success."

Joshua 1:8 (ESV)

Calendar of Events

- October 2** Pastors Conference, 10:30 am, BBA Office
- October 17** 166th Annual Meeting, 6:30 pm at Gainesville
- November 5** Daylight Saving Time Ends
- November 6** Pastors Conference, 10:30 am, BBA Office
- November 14-15** Alabama Baptist Convention, Whitesburg, Huntsville
- November 23** Thanksgiving Day



166th Annual Meeting

Tuesday, October 17
6:30 p.m.

Gainesville Baptist Church

Light meal will be provided by host church!

Church Clerks...

ACP (Annual Church Profiles) are due on September 29th!

Don't forget to elect messengers for the annual meeting.

Thanksgiving Day

Thanksgiving Day began with a feast, And a celebration of God's provision and His care. It was a time to come together with friends and neighbors, to give thanks and to offer a prayer.

On that first Thanksgiving Day, Indians and colonists celebrated, with a feast from God's bountiful store. They gave thanks that the long winter had passed, for the new harvest, and new friends, and God's blessing them with so much more.

On Thanksgiving Day we too bring our thanks for God's blessing and his provision and care. We join with our families and friends at tables laden with a feast, and offer our thanks to God in prayer.



Betty Butler, PoetrySoup.com