

## DECEMBER 2018

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Gerald B.  
Collingsworth,  
Pastor

## CHRISTMAS

**Introduction:** How many times have you heard the Christmas story, but have overlooked one of the main characters? Think with me! You know his name, but have never truly realized his awesome responsibility. He, Joseph, was to be the earthly father of the Son of God. He was to be The Guardian of Christmas. What kind of man did God choose to be The Guardian of the Christ of Christmas?

**FIRST: THE GUARDIAN OF CHRISTMAS WAS A CARPENTER. MATT. 13:53-56**

***"Is not this the carpenter's son? Is not his mother called Mary?"***

Would not God choose someone that was wealthy so that his earthly Son would never have a need?

Would not God choose someone that was popular so that his Son would be born well known?

Would not God choose someone known for his great mind and intellect so his Son could have all knowledge?

No! God chose a man who was a builder. A man who had rough hands and a brow exhausted by the heat of the sun. He chose a carpenter.

**SECOND: THE GUARDIAN OF CHRISTMAS WAS MORALLY CLEAN. MATT. 1:18**

***"When his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together ..."***

What does this mean? The betrothal period of the Jewish families was a time of testing. It was also time for the groom to prepare a home for his bride. During the time of betrothal there was absolutely no improper touching, and absolutely no sexual contact at all.

Joseph, just like Mary, was a clean young man who wanted to spend his life with one woman: Mary.

Immorality is wicked. It was wicked 2,000 years ago and, in my opinion, more wicked today. Why? Because of what we know.

**James 4:17, "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin."**

Shacking up may be a normal thing for the people you know, but it is a wicked sin to God.

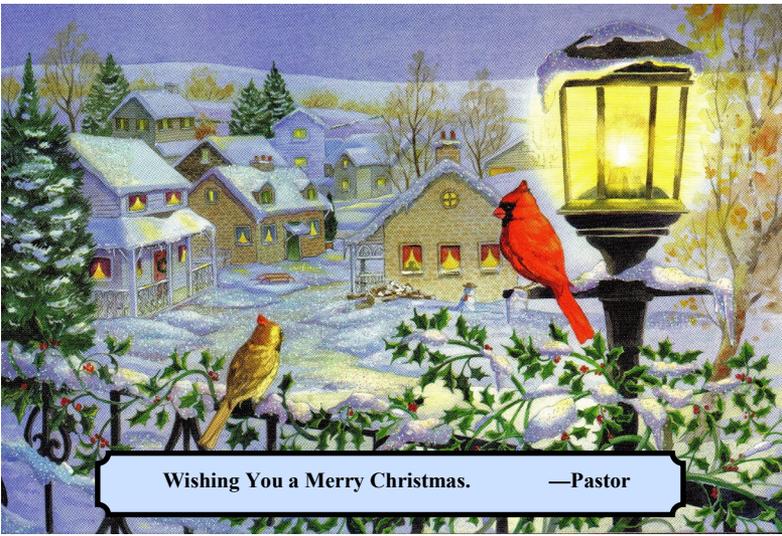
**Hebrews 13:4, "Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge."**

**THIRD: THE GUARDIAN OF CHRISTMAS WAS CONSUMED BY COMPASSION. MATT. 1:19**

***"... not willing to make her a public example ..."***

How would you react if you knew that you had never had relationships with your future partner, and you discovered she was having a child?

In Deuteronomy 22:23-24 it was the death penalty for Mary if she was put to a public



**Wishing You a Merry Christmas. —Pastor**



**What I Saw At Heritage**

I'm on my flight home, and I just wanted to take a moment to tell you how impressed and thrilled I was with Heritage Baptist Church. It's been almost 10 years since I left for school. Things are a little different each time I come home. Improvements are made and growth is noticeable, but this time especially I noticed so many fruits of the ministry. My friends who were teenagers when I left are now the young people of the church, carrying on what they've been taught. I saw a generation coming up that's giving their lives to the Lord. I saw them raise their hands in class and tell about the souls they'd led to the Lord. I saw Evelyn carrying Charlotte the way I used to carry Evelyn! I went soulwinning with Christie and she told me about her soulwinning experiences so far this year. I saw teens serving where their parents had served when I was growing up. Girls who were babies or hadn't been born when I left are now in the Highlanders class, being trained to get to the next step.

I watched and listened to choir members sing who had been singing in that same choir since before I was born, and alongside those members were members who are still new Christians, serving with the joy of the Lord on their faces! I saw new faces in the congregation and new cars in a FULL parking lot. Not only is the church quickly becoming a THIRD generation church, but new members are being added and visitors are still coming, and souls are still being saved! What an accomplishment.

I'm so thrilled and grateful that you and Mrs. Collingsworth have stayed faithful to the Lord, the church, and the ministry through these years.

I love you and Mrs. C so very much.  
In Christ, Libby

***THIS HOLIDAY SEASON, IN LIEU OF GIFTS, I'VE DECIDED TO GIVE EVERYONE MY OPINION.***

**Lest We Forget**



*Lt. D. B. Ryan*

**The Argonne**

I have been under terrific shell fire and one night was hit - along with several men who accompanied me. A piece of steel missed my spinal cord on my neck by an inch - just a small splinter which the surgeon pulled out 2 hours later. I spent the night at the aid post and returned to duty at daylight. The spot healed in two weeks & four days later we were treated to a night of gas. We worked wisely and well and had no casualties. But I was suffering with the grippe and a cold in the head at the time. We were relieved from that sector a short time later. I stopped and rested and cured the grippe and then caught the troops with a motorcycle to learn that I was not wanted as adjutant by the new Battalion Commander. I then took men into the line to clean up a little piece of woods filled with machine guns. A corporal was shot through the head. A sergeant through the arm, a lieutenant in the leg, my orderly was hit in the temple, a bullet grazed my knee and only made a bruise but another took just a tiny bit from my lip - there is not even a scar to show it.

I was there and have no idea how I survived. Only Heaven knows.

example.

Joseph could have exploded in anger at the situation, yet because his heart was filled with love and compassion for Mary, he wanted no harm to come to her.

**FOURTH: THE GUARDIAN OF CHRISTMAS WAS OBEDIENT TO GOD'S COMMANDS. MATT. 1:20-25**

*"Then Joseph, being raised from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him."*

The Lord spoke to Joseph several times and in each case he obeyed.

1. **"Take with thee Mary thy wife." Matthew 1:20**
2. **"Flee into Egypt." Matthew 2:13**
3. **"Arise ... go into the land of Israel ..." Matthew 2:20**
4. **"... being warned of God in a dream ... he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth." Matthew 2:22-23**

Joseph was totally obedient to the commands of God even if he did not understand the circumstances. That's real faith. You see, faith is believing God's Word to the degree that you will do what it says.

**Conclusion:** The Guardian of Christmas had a close relationship with the One that makes Christmas so very special. His life is a perfect portrait of the walk we should have with the Christ of Christmas.

Would you take the challenge as you read this article? Would you be willing to be a guardian of Christmas by making sure that Jesus is still the reason for the season?

Would you consider praying the following prayer?

**Prayer of Salvation**

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?  
If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

*"Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour. Thank you for saving me. Amen." (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)*



**Prayer of Service**

*'Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?'* (Acts 9:6)

**Heritage Highlanders December 2018 Schedule**



**Saturday December 1**

Lesson on Giving

**Saturday December 8**

Christmas Craft

***II Cor. 9:7***

***Pr. 31:13***

**Saturday December 15**

Christmas Cookies

**Saturday December 22**

Christmas Caroling

**Saturday December 29**

Soulwinning

***Genesis 18:6***

***Psalms 100:2***

***Romans 6:23***

**The Slow Of Heart**



John R. Rice

"O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken."—Luke 24:25.

The Bible is infallibly correct. It is correct in science. It is accurate in history and in every other matter discussed.

Bob Ingersoll talked about, "the mistakes of Moses," and I have heard even friends of the Bible say, "The Bible is not book of science." But infidels and timid Christians are both wrong in this matter. The Bible is a book of science. It plainly deals with many scientific matters. And wherever the Bible mentions matters of science, it does it with the absolute authority of the infallible Word of God. God made the world, and God made the Bible. So when God speaks in the Bible about the world which He made, He tells the exact truth. In fact, the Bible is the only absolutely scientific book in the world. All other books of science eventually are outgrown and found out of date and inaccurate. Now century after century finds the Bible still infallibly correct.

When Jesus rose from the dead, He walked on the road to Emmaus, unrecognized by the two sorrowing disciples who did not believe He had risen. Hear these words of our Saviour:

***"Then he said unto them, O fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken: ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory! And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself." Luke 24:25-27.***

Jesus says that one is a fool even to hesitate about believing all the Bible, all that the prophets have spoken! And He speaks here of all of the Old Testament, beginning with the writings of Moses, that is, beginning with Genesis. Of course, what He said here is equally true about the New Testament. However, most of the enemies of the Bible attack first the Old Testament. But Jesus says that any man is a fool who is slow to believe the Bible.

# Something to 'CROW' about!

1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last thirteen (13) years in a row! Wow!
2. The buses are still rolling!
3. For our "Old-Time Religion" Conference.
4. A Clear Title—We have paid off our church property!

## From Our Church Prayer List

1. Judy Kurpan
2. Ed Hosey
3. Paul Snyder
4. Anita Miller
5. Michelle Lemons
6. Kevin McClain
7. Harold Cooper
8. John Grindel



## Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Just For The Ladies  
 Friday, July 26th, 2019  
 7:00 PM  
 All Ladies Event with  
 Mrs. Francie Taylor



## Our Church Ministries

1. Fishermens' Club
2. Phoster Club
3. Bus Ministry
4. Sunday School
5. Welcome Wagon
6. Bookstore
7. Music Ministry
8. Counseling Ministry
9. Grounds and Maintenance
10. Heritage Baptist Academy
11. Nursery
12. Boys Bible Club
13. Girls Highlander Club
14. Cleaning Ministry
15. Teen Club
16. Junior Church
17. Ladies' WMS Ministry
18. Ushers
19. Altar Workers
20. Greeters

## Christmas Greetings from Friends and Missionaries



Dr. Tom Neal



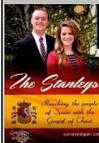
Dr. Terry Sellars



Dr. Bob Gray



Dr. Greg Neal



Jason  
and  
Jessica  
Stanley



Mike  
and  
Beth  
Payton



**ACUPUNCTURE IS A  
 JAB WELL DONE.**

## From our Pastor's Wife... Mrs. Vida Collingsworth An Old-Fashioned Christmas



I'm so glad to be called old-fashioned. I believe in a one and only old-fashioned Saviour (Jesus Christ). I believe in the old-fashioned Bible, the old King James Bible. I believe in an old-fashioned independent, fundamental Bible-believing Baptist Church. I believe in old-fashioned dress standards and behavior; where ladies still dress like ladies and men still dress like men.

Where ladies are still gracious, honorable and submissive in their spirit and where men are leaders in the home and in society. I believe in an old-fashioned family with one mom and one dad. I believe in an old-fashioned Christmas where Jesus is still the reason for the season, where Christ is not crossed out of the word Christmas. Where the Word of God is opened first on Christmas morning as Dad reads the story of Jesus' birth and then the family prays and gives thanks to Jesus, for He is still the one that makes it possible for us to enjoy all the presents and food we share as we celebrate His birthday! I am so glad to be called old-fashioned. I am so glad for an old-fashioned Christmas!!!

### The Fellowship Of Prayer



Fanny Crosby, that dear blind Gospel hymn writer, expressed the joy of communing with God when she wrote these words:

*O the pure delight of a single hour  
That before Thy throne I spend,  
When I kneel in prayer, and with Thee, my God  
I commune as friend with friend!*

Dr. Tom Neal I have a Friend that sticketh closer than a brother. I do not need to call a friend on the telephone; I have One waiting on me. I have an audience with Him everyday. My Friend is the wisest One. He never has a discouraging word for me. He never tells me what His problems are. He just listens to my heart.

The joy of His fellowship made Fanny Crosby pen many songs. She cried out for even a closer fellowship, even to be at the Saviour's side as she wrote these words:

*Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord,  
To the cross where Thou hast died.  
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,  
To Thy precious, bleeding side.*

### The Flag

"We have room for but one flag, the American flag ... We have room for but one language here, and that is the English language ... and we have room for but one sole loyalty and that is a loyalty to the American people."

Theodore Roosevelt, 1907

Do the multi-millionaire players of the NFL not understand that this American flag, the one I served under and one they pretend to honor by dishonoring, is the same ensign that kept units alive at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, from Normandy and Anzio to Monte Casino and Bastogne, from the 101st Airborne to the Tuskegee Airmen? Do they not understand that men and women have willingly gone to the grave for ideals embodied in that precious flag-which today makes possible both their pay and play?

So here is truth: We are an ever aspiring nation, always trying to do our best, an inspired collection of imperfect humans. Our inspiration comes from those who went before, timeless lessons patently taught. It resides in symbols of their sacrifice for us, none more sobering than the American flag. That flag-all it stands for-is worthy of love, not disrespect.

That is why, when the national anthem is sung-when we are collectively brought to pause and taught to remember, forced to recount blessings—I stand.

By Robert Charles, Intelligence Officer, U.S. Navy

**My wife sure has a strange way of starting conversations. She always begins by saying, "Hey, are you even listening?"**

### Advice Not To Follow



Mrs. Francie Taylor

Here's a common piece of incorrect advice: "Follow your heart."

You may have heard or read this somewhere along the way; but while it has a ring of intellect, it is really poor counsel. The Bible tells us something very revealing about the heart: "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?"

(Jeremiah 17:9). telling the truth, how safe is it to follow our hearts? And if we have friends who aren't walking with the Lord and who have little to no regard for His Word, how can they be our guides and counselors?

Are you spending lots of time in the presence of a foolish person? If so, don't expect to hear wisdom pouring from his lips. Sometimes adults have low standards for their own personal relationships while insisting on the highest of standards for their children's friendships.

To develop into a solid, prudent, wise Christian, we need to steep ourselves in God's Word, immerse ourselves in the preaching and teaching of it, and spend time with godly friends who care more about what God thinks than about what is popular.

The people we allow into our close inner circle of friendship will have our ears, and whoever has our ears has a gateway to our hearts. Are you close buddies with someone who would advise you to do something contrary to Scripture?

Rethink that. The close-up friendship zone should be reserved for those who love the Lord and want to live in a way that magnifies Him. If someone ever tells you to "follow your heart," he really just told you that he lacks wisdom.

Don't follow.

**Some food for thought ...or...**

## **Seed From The Silo!**

### **Inmate Admits Sexual Assaults at Women's Prison. "She" Used to Be Steve**

An inmate in a British female prison sexually assaulted multiple fellow inmates and it turns out the predator is actually a man, formerly known as Steve, who "identifies" as a lesbian woman....

...He was accused of four sexual assaults in total between September and November last year....

He was finally moved to an all-male prison....

The female prison where White committed his assaults did not only have female prisoners; it also had children...

White is a convicted pedophile who was previously jailed in 2001 for an attack on a child, according to PJ Media.

Putting a convicted male pedophile into an all-female prison with infants and toddlers is not just a simple mistake. This is an example of negligence in the name of being "progressive."

*Malachi Bailey, westernjournal.com*

### **Al-Shabaab Executes Two Christians After Forcing Bus Passengers to Recite Islamic Statement of Faith**

Al-Shabaab militants executed two Christians in Kenya after they attacked a bus and forced the passengers to recite the Islamic statement of faith.

... The attack happened...when seven Islamic militants from the terror group stopped a bus that was heading to Garissa.

As they have done in numerous previous attacks, the al-Shabaab radicals forced the passengers to present their identification cards and separated them by Muslim and Christian names.

They forced the non-Muslims to recite the shahada, or the Islamic statement of faith. The two people, apparently Christians, who failed to recite it were executed on the spot....

Al-Shabaab, which is based in Somalia but continues to carry out attacks in neighboring Kenya, remains one of Africa's deadliest terror groups.

*Stoyan Zaimov, christianpost.com*

What Kind Of Seed Are **You** Sowing?

### **Blueberry Dessert Bars**

1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter	3 cups all-purpose flour	3 cups fresh or frozen blueberries
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar	2 cups old-fashioned rolled oats	3 tbsp. freshly squeezed lemon juice
1 cup granulated sugar	1 tsp. kosher salt	3 tbsp. instant tapioca
1 large egg, room temperature	1 tsp. baking powder	
2 tsp. pure vanilla extract	1/4 cup granulated sugar	

Preheat the oven to 350 F. Spray a 9 x 13-inch baking dish with cooking spray, or brush with butter.

In the bowl of a stand mixer, or in a large bowl using an electric hand mixer, cream together the butter, brown sugar, and granulated sugar. Add the egg and vanilla and combine. Stir in the flour, oats, salt, and baking powder until incorporated. In a medium bowl, stir together the blueberries, lemon juice, sugar, and tapioca and set aside.

Press half of the crumble mixture into the bottom of the prepared pan. Spread the blueberry mixture evenly over the crust. Gently crumble the remaining crust mixture over the blueberries. Bake for 45-50 minutes, until lightly golden brown. Cool completely before cutting into bars.

***I USED TO THINK THE BRAIN IS THE MOST IMPORTANT ORGAN. THEN I THOUGHT, "HEY, LOOK WHO'S SAYING THAT."***



*Dr. Bob Gray*

### **The Blame Game**

***Romans 14:12***

Someone said, "My parents divorced, and that is what is wrong with me." No! You do wrong because you choose to do wrong! You cannot blame your parent's divorce for your poor choices in life. It is not your dad's fault or your mother's fault; it is your fault for making wrong choices. I know this is a little old-fashioned, but it helped build a great nation until the humanists began to look for ways to skirt personal blame.

If you are a child of God, you have the Holy Spirit living in you to help you. If you choose not to accept His help, that is your fault, not His. The Bible teaches us that every one of us shall give account to God for himself.

When a wife says that she hates men because she was molested as a child, that is just not true. The Bible does not say, "Non-molested women, love your husbands." The fruit of the Holy Spirit can be partaken by any of God's children. A part of that fruit is love and the power to be able to love in spite of the object. A child of God hates simply because he is not right with God.

# Our Statement of Faith

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. **Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23**

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons—Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. **Matt. 28:19-20**  
We believe in the deity of Christ— His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillennial return.

**I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11**

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. **Romans 3:23**

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

**Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28**

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. **John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15**

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. **John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22**

## Baptist Beliefs

**B**iblical Authority

**A**utonomy of the Local Church

**P**riesthood of ALL Believers

**T**wo ordinances - Baptism & Communion

**I**mmersed Church Membership

**S**oul-liberty

**T**wo officers - Pastors and Deacons

**S**eparation of Church and State

## Baptist Heritage

- **John the Baptist**, Exalter of Christ
- **Meno Simons** (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- **Roger Williams** (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- **John Clarke** (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- **John Bunyan** (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- **Charles Spurgeon** (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- **John Franklyn Norris** (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- **Jack Frasure Hyles** (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

### Heritage Baptist Church

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