

THE MESSENGER

Smith Grove Baptist Church
P.O. Box 57
Colfax, NC 27235

VOLUME 39
January 2022
ISSUE 454

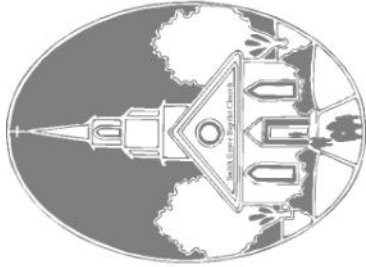
PROVERBS 25:13

As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Children's Church	11:15 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday Service	7:00 PM
Bible Clubs	7:00 PM
Thursday Visitation	7:00 PM

~ NURSERY PROVIDED ~
2707 Sandy Ridge Road
Colfax, NC 27235

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor
Home: (336) 996-8563
Cell: (336) 812-1169



www.smithgrove.org

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Greensboro NC
Permit No. 6009

The Messenger



January
2022



Smith Grove Baptist Church
2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235
www.smithgrove.org

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor
Home: (336) 996-8563; Cell: (336) 812-1169
Rev. Bruce Freeman, Associate Pastor
H (336) 996-1501 C (336) 816-2473

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Children's Church	11:15 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday Service	7:00 PM
Bible Clubs	6:45-8:15 PM

Streaming Live: Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/>
YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ

PROVERBS 25:13 *As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .*



Tues., Jan. 11, 7 pm ~ Robinwood Senior Living
Sun., Jan. 30, 7 pm ~ Singspiration

Sundays - 10:00 a.m. ~ Adult Sunday School in the sanctuary
11:00 a.m. & 6 p.m. Worship service in the sanctuary.
Wednesdays - 6:45 pm - Be Strong Bible Clubs in the Fellowship Hall;
7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. in the sanctuary.

[BEAMS is always the 3rd Sunday.]

Statement of Faith:

We are an Independent Baptist Church (*established in 1921*) preaching the old time Gospel and still believing that the King James Version of the Bible constitutes the preserved, inerrant, and inspired Word of God for the English speaking people of the earth.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER


SHUT-INS: Iris Farrington David & Carolyn McBrayer
 Neva Long Willard Tucker

Assisted Living/Nursing Home: Rose Matthews

IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

PVT Adam Brittain, Army, Germany (Sam Crater's nephew)
CW4 Jonathan Harless (Raleigh) } (Hal & Martha
LTC Robert Harless (Fort Campbell, KY) } Harless' sons)
Camren Harrell (Navy – Texas) (Grandson of the Craters)
E3 Noah Johnson, US Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral, Cape
Canaveral, FL (Henry & Geraldine Johnson's grandson)
Spec. Jocelyn Laramore, US Army; Ft. Hood, TX
(Granddaughter-in-law of Jim Laramore) Pray also for Valentino
James Laramore, Jim's great grandson & his namesake.
CCWO5 Michael Maine, US Army; Ft. Rucker, AL (Nephew
of Clarence Redmon)
PFC Trevor Westmoreland, PO Box 10197,
Ft. Irwin, CA 92310 (Allen & Sandy Westmoreland's son)



 The start of a new year always brings to mind thoughts of new beginnings, new opportunities, new challenges, and new ways of serving our precious Lord and Savior with a ministry we hold dear ~ *The Messenger*. What is in store for us in 2022? While we have no way of knowing what lies ahead, we do know the path we need to take to please Him. *Psalm 119:105; Proverbs 4:26; Proverbs 3:6*

It is our desire to use this monthly newsletter to share encouragement to the discouraged, laughter to the down-hearted, information to those seeking answers, and the gospel message straight from our church's pulpit. Many thanks to everyone who has a part in *The Messenger* each month: Pastor Chuck for writing his gospel-filled and inspiring messages; Darla and Stephanie for sharing all the exciting Christian life lessons being taught in our teen and youth programs; Ann and Glen for pulling together the BEAMS' information; Glen and Pam for running back and forth to the Post Office; Doris (Toots) for pulling together the Missionary letter; Becky, Glenda, Sam, and Clarence for all of the tabbing, counting, and sorting that the Post Office demands; and **thank you** for taking the time to read it each month!*Sherrill*, Editor

PROVERBS 25:13 *As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .*



BEAMS' Report for December 2021

of Pledges: 9; # of Contributions: 4;
Total Contributors: 13
Total Contributed: \$ 635.00 =
79 Bibles in December (plus some postage)

Many thanks to the Adult Fellowship Bible Class for their ongoing BEAMS' ministry which added \$ 170.00 for postage this month!

You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:
<https://www.smithgrove.org/beams-report/>

Services will be streaming Live every Wednesday at 7 p.m. & Sunday at 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. on [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#) — (You do not need a



facebook account to watch the video on fb!)



<https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/>

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ

To listen & download mp3:

Audio Archive Online ~ <https://www.smithgrove.org/audio-archive/>



Men's & Ladies' Fellowship

Quarterly Mtgs.: (3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m.)

Meetings will resume when the Covid-19 threat allows.

The Road to Everlasting Life

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."



Smith Grove's ministry to our widows and widowers

*"Honour widows that are widows indeed."
(1 Timothy 5:3)*

This is a continuing churchwide ministry to remember widows and widowers of the church in a meaningful way. Each month, we highlight our special "Honour Roll Gang Members" who are having birthdays. Listed below are *January and February* Honour Roll Gang members. Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.

Casandra Mann

800 Quail Meadow
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-4327 (Home)
336-317-3483 (Cell) ~ January 2

Kathy Flynt

896 Flynt Rd.
High Point, NC 27265
336-668-2500 (Home)
336-880-3352 (Cell) ~ January 7

Dolly Westmoreland

520 Lakedale Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-2093 ~ January 27

Betty Bame

8610 Adkins Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-2488 ~ January 30

Jean Rumsey


8730 Bame Road
Colfax, NC 27235
336-668-2080 ~ February 01

Joy Overcast

441 Mountain View Dr, Apt. 110
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-996-7563 ~ February 12

Are you or a family member turning 90 this year? Please let Pastor Chuck know if you would like to be recognized on your special birthday!

No January Anniversaries



Happy New Year Chuckle Time!

Upon retiring as church secretary, I gave the new secretary my large Rolodex (with many cards) brimming with all the contact info she would likely need.

One day, she texted me asking for a name to be included in the church newsletter.

I responded simply, "Rolodex." A week later, the newsletter announced the wedding anniversary of *Rolodex and Kathy Thomas*.

Q. Can you tell me how to spell Mississippi? *Do you want the river, or the state?*

Duain & Faye Whittemore ~ WINTER 2021



**ANCHOR
BAPTIST
MISSIONS
International**

Once again I want to thank all of you for your prayers and financial support. The LORD is so good to give us friends like you. I truly believe that you are laying up treasures in Heaven; not because of who we are, but because you are praying and giving according to God's will. I long for the day when we get to see your reward from Him!

We have been so very busy for the past few months preaching in at least two churches a week. I do want to apologize for being late with this letter, but time just got away from me (nothing to do with my age-HA HA!) This past Wednesday through Sunday, I was in Texas preaching Missions and then preached again in another church on the Wednesday night before returning home. I have been in a meeting this week and was able to preach today. What an incredible meeting that was! In October I was able to be in South Dakota to preach on Missions. What a **WONDERFUL** God we serve!

The Lord continues to show himself mighty in so many ways. We had an unexpected anonymous gift large enough to give all of our missionaries and their staff a Christmas bonus. And, a separate church sent in \$6,000 for 1,500 Bibles for India. It is truly "**MORE** blessed to **GIVE** than to **RECEIVE**." Think of this - How would you feel if you only received \$4.00 per month wages and you received a \$100 gift for Christmas. **THIS** is exactly what has happened. It has brought great rejoicing and praising God from Christians in Venezuela! The Lord provided this so that we might be the conduit of blessing for many in India, Pakistan, Bolivia, Haiti and many other countries. It may be the best Christmas that many of them have ever had. It makes me want to shout "**GLORY, GLORY, GLORY!**" This gift has helped to fulfill the desire of our hearts - **HALLELUJAH!**

Please continue to pray for Faye and myself as we, by the Grace of God, continue to go for the Lord. I have several meetings booked to preach Missions here in the states in the next coming weeks and the new year.

Lord willing, we will be going back to Bolivia in March 2022. We will leave the 18th and return around the 28th. If you would, please make our health and safety a matter of prayer. Of course, there is always the financial part of the trip. If you would like to help with this, just send gifts to ABMI and mark it "Travel Fund for Duain & Faye Whittemore."

As soon as the Lord allows the two churches in India to be completed, we will go and dedicate them (**this is another miracle**). I *never* get used to watching God do **HIS** work!

Again, I want to say, if I can ever be of help to you or if you have questions, please contact me.

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Duain & Faye Whittemore

10 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR CHRISTIANS

1. BE A PEACEMAKER.

Matthew 5:9 It is so easy to get worked up about things; people who wrong us, family drama, church drama, etc. But resolve to be the one who brings peace. Don't spread the rumors, don't listen to the stories, don't join the clique. Be the one who initiates peace and unity.

2. ONLY DO THINGS THAT ARE PLEASING TO GOD.

John 8:30 Jesus made the statement that he only does those things that please the Father. He is our Older Brother and our perfect example – so we too, should only do the things that please our Father. We are not saved and justified just so we can do whatever we like – our salvation comes at a great price! Therefore, Paul tells us, you are not your own. 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

3. ALWAYS DO THE WORK OF THE LORD.

1 Corinthians 15:57-58 This old broken world makes it seem pointless to do good works. But it is not pointless. We need to keep on working, keep standing steady on God's Word. Nothing done for Christ is lost.

4. TRIUMPH IN CHRIST.

2 Corinthians 2:13 This is only possible by the power of God's Spirit within you. To triumph over depression, bad moods, grumpy attitudes, jealousy, selfishness – this is a bigger miracle than healing from sickness! Ask God to fill you with His Spirit, and walk in obedience and humility, and you will begin to triumph in Christ!

5. DIE TO SELF EVERY DAY.

2 Corinthians 4:9-11 This is the secret to victory over sin. To die to self; all MY desires, MY will, MY plans – and offer myself as a sacrifice to God, daily. Dying to my need to be right, dying to my need to be respected, dying to my need for comfort... dying to ME daily. This is what 'taking up my cross' means. It's not some woo-woo theory – it is painful, daily, death to self and all my flesh desires. Wanting to get back at someone who has hurt me, wanting to profit at someone else's expense, thinking only of my own interests – these selfish desires and habits need to die, so I can be transformed to the image of Jesus Christ.

6. WALK BY FAITH.

2 Corinthians 5:5-7 Faith that God's Word is true. Faith that He will fulfill His Word. Faith that God will take care of me, also faith that He will punish sinners – like He said. Faith that He will guide me every day. Faith that if I live a life fully given to God, and walk by the power of the Spirit – everything I do will be rewarded by God. Maybe not in this life – maybe not physically – but rewards of an eternal nature.



H

A

P

P

Y

N

E

W

Y

E

A

R

7. ALWAYS BE REJOICING IN THE LORD.

2 Corinthians 6:9-11 Life is often hard. Painful. Unexpected trials. But when we have the assurance of God's love, we can rejoice in the midst of our trials, because we know that God uses everything in our lives to draw us closer to Him, and form us into the image of Christ. If we have this faith in our hearts, we can be like the apostles who sang hymns at midnight when they were in jail. Acts 16:25

8. GIVE THANKS FOR EVERYTHING.

Ephesians 5:19-21 Again – we don't feel like giving thanks in every circumstance! But here we can go back to giving our bodies as a living sacrifice; giving thanks whether we feel thankful or not! It doesn't say: "give thanks if you feel thankful", no, we need to give thanks – period. End of story. It is a command, and this is where we need to obey in faith. If you start giving thanks regularly, I bet you will start to have more peace in tough circumstances. It just works that way!

9. LET CHRIST BE EXALTED IN MY BODY.

Philippians 1:19-21 We like to sing about giving it all for Jesus', but when it comes to our body and what we do with it – there we take a step backwards. We want to do things we want to do. We have freedom, right? But here's the thing – when Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse of death, he paid an immense price! So we should not take that lightly. Our eating habits, manner of dress, how we care for our bodies – these things all need to be surrendered to Jesus and His Lordship. I want my body to glorify Him this year.

10. BE HUMBLE.

1 Peter 5:5 Humility is such a tricky thing, isn't it? The thing I like to remind myself of, is that other people's opinion is worthless to me. Only what God thinks of me, matters! Whether others think we are good, or whether they think we are bad – throw it into the trash! I only consider whether God is pleased with me.

"Do not desire to be the principal man in the church. Be lowly. Be humble. The best man in the church is the man who is willing to be a doormat for all to wipe their boots on, the brother who does not mind what happens to him at all, so long as God is glorified." Charles Spurgeon

I hope this list of New Year's resolutions for Christians has prodded your mind to think of what is truly important, what needs to come first in our lives. It surely has given me a lot to think about, as I looked up verses and reflected on these things. May God bless your new year, and may your life reflect His, in every way.

Many thanks to Kay at www.aranchmom.com.

Continued on next page



Teen Update ...

Our teen class started a new series titled, “Friendship” for the month of November. This three-part series focused on the purpose of friendships, the importance of choosing good friends, and how God calls us to be a good friend to others. These lessons were to encourage our teens to make wise decisions when it comes to developing the kind of friendships God desires each of them to have.

We turned to the following verses in the Bible concerning the purpose of friendships:

- Proverbs 27:5-6 tells us to confront sin and keep each other in line.
- Proverbs 27:9 tells us to give advice and helpful counsel when needed.
- Proverbs 27:17 tells us to build each other up and to improve each other.
- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12 tells us to encourage and strengthen each other.
- Acts 27:3 tells us to help meet the needs of one another.

Our friendships make life fun and exciting, but they also serve an important purpose. God calls us to view our friendships as a way to encourage one another to be who God would like for us to be. This is the ultimate purpose behind why God had given us friendships.

Next, we moved on to the importance of choosing good friends. We looked at the following Scripture when it comes to doing this:

- Proverbs 12:26 tells us it’s good to be cautious when choosing friends.
- 1 Corinthians 5:9-11 tells us not to hang out with people involved in sin.
- 1 Corinthians 15:33 tells us to beware, bad company will corrupt good habits.
- Proverbs 19:6-7 tells us to watch out for people who want to use you.
- Proverbs 13:20 tells us that having wise friends will make a person wise.

We all have the ability to choose who we call our friends. Since people influence one another for good or bad, we must pick the kind of friendships that will honor the Lord.

Finally, we focused on how God calls us to be good friends to others. We looked at the following verses for advice about being a good friend to others:

- 1 Samuel 20:41-42 advises us to tell our friends that we care about them.
- Proverbs 17:17 and 27:10 advises us to show an unconditional commitment to our friends.

- John 15:12-13 advises us to lovingly put our friends above ourselves.
- 1 Corinthians 16:17-18 advises us to be an encourager and to uplift our friends.
- Philippians 1:3-4 and Colossians 1:3 advises us to pray for our friends on a regular basis.

The Scriptures in each of these lessons will enable us to all make strong friendships that will have a lasting impact.

~ In Christ, *Stephanie and John Moore*

(Continued)

Our young people have been excitedly counting down the days until their long-awaited Christmas break! They have also been busy celebrating Jesus’ birthday by doing for others... they packed shoeboxes, they prepared presents for the children at Tabernacle, and they even spent one Wednesday night stuffing fruit into goody bags for our church family.

As December days dwindle, we continue the journey down our Bible Timeline. Recently, the children have marveled at the talking donkey who put Balaam in his place when God protected the Israelites from an attempted curse. And after following along with him for so long, they were also a little sad to see Moses come to the end of his amazing life. Although they were disappointed that he did not enter the promised land, they pondered God’s grace... the grace that brought Moses to a mountain top view of all the Lord had led them to, just before he died and stepped into heaven.

With faithful Joshua stepping into the leadership role, the Israelites needed encouragement to face the task of entering the promised land. So, God’s message to them was strengthening: **“Have I not commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the Lord thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.” (Joshua 1:9)** Echoing this promise, we learned a familiar old song based on this verse... one that Melanie taught another set of young people 15 years ago! **“Have I not commanded you, be strong and courageous?”**

We have also seen Rahab hiding the two Israelite spies on the roof of her home in the wall of Jericho. The youngsters listened intently as she let them down with a scarlet rope, and when Rahab was told to hang the same cord by her window during the attack to come, we recalled the protection of the lamb’s blood spread on the doorposts during the Passover in Egypt a generation before. How wonderful to see the foretelling of Christ’s sacrifice, hundreds of years before He came to give His life and bring our own redemption and protection!

As Joshua led the Hebrews closer to the entrance of the promised land, they came to the swollen, flooded Jordan River. How could two million people, their children, tents, cattle, and camels cross safely? God had a plan, and He wanted to show this new generation of His people that they could trust Him. He instructed them to let the priests step first into the rushing waters, as they carried the Ark of the Covenant, a symbol that God Himself was leading the way. When the Israelites took this step of faith, a wall of water rolled away, leaving a dry path for them to cross. God commanded each tribe to collect a stone from the riverbed, and on the other side, they stacked the twelve stones to make a memorial of this miraculous event. Someday, when their future children and grandchildren inquired, the witnesses could always recall how God had guided them. We acted this out by arranging twelve of our own big paper stones, but it’s even more important that we’re living out our faith in *real life* before our young people every day, and with every flooded “river” that we face. We too, can trust the Lord to go before us, leading the way into a new year filled with blessings and possibilities. As soon as the Israelites safely reached the shore, the rushing water crashed behind them, signifying that there was no turning back; they must continue on, trusting God to lead and direct. If we’re truly trusting Him, we can take that difficult first step of faith into 2022, moving forward to do His will, building our own stones of remembrance that help us tell how God has been with us every step of the way. May our children see us trusting Him as we cross our own rivers in the coming year...

Praying You’ll Be Blessed in 2022, *Bruce, Darla, and Marshall*



“The Remembrance of God”

“And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters assuaged;” - Genesis 8:1

Many, since the beginning of time, have been tempted to feel forgotten by God. This temptation is exacerbated by the fallen nature of humans to forget. The God of omniscience knows all things and could never forget in any way, shape, or form His people and redemptive promises made to them. The changes of Noah’s world had no effect upon the ratification and fulfillment of the Covenant terms that God would make with Noah.

The world for mankind began in a Garden and now the new world begins on a Mountain! The waters of the flood bore the Ark to its mountain site that God chose for its resting place. Ararat with its height, threats, trials and dangers would be the nursery site for the new world. The mountain beginning would be a contrast to the innocence associated with the Garden prior to Adam’s sin. The mountain, however, would include great possibilities along with liabilities.

The remembrance of God was coupled with a particular timing which enhances the fulfillment of the covenant made with Noah. The discerning spiritual insight of a redeemed student of Scripture seems to always see Christ and His redemptive work throughout the pages of Scripture.

Notice the reading of Verse 4 of this chapter: “And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat.” The word “rested” has the connotation as though laboring from saving its occupants from sin and judgment. This is the second mention of “rest” for the first mention is in Gen. 2:2,3 where God rested after His work of creation, for He finished creation.

The Ark, being a type of Christ, has the word “rest” as being very appropriate! God finished His work of creation, the Ark finished its mission, and the Lord Jesus Christ finished His work of redemption!

“When Jesus therefore had received the vinegar, he said, It is finished: and he bowed his head, and gave up the ghost.” – John 19:30

The seventh Month was changed to the first Month according to the Book of Exodus. “This month *shall be* unto you the beginning of months: it *shall be* the first month of the year to you.” – Exodus 12:2 On the 10th day of that Month, the children of Israel secured the Passover Lamb. They killed it on the 14th day. Jesus arose from the dead on the 17th day!

The Ark rested on the day that Jesus would be raised from the dead! He passed through the waters of judgment and stood on resurrection ground! Redemption is in Christ and all of the promises, security, and blessings of God are wrapped up in the finished work of Christ. “For all the promises of God in him *are* yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.”

II Corinthians 1:20

Chuck Peters

“The Rock and My Rock”

“He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *he is* my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.” – Psalm 62:2

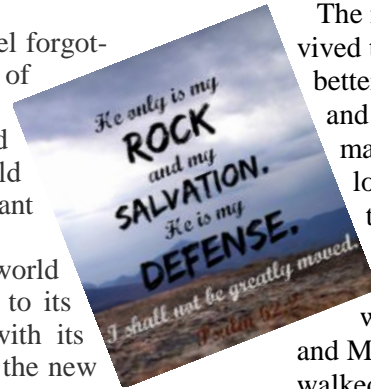
The most prominent enduring material object is rocks. What has survived the sands of time and yet remained to visibly prove existence any better than rocks? Rocks have withstood the burning heat of deserts and the frigid winds of the highest mountain peaks. Rocks have remained to announce their antiquity while other material objects have long faded from existence. Rocks have been the greatest representative of ancient civilizations and have withstood the poundings of the elements of time.

I recently, in Israel, viewed and touched the same “rocks” which may have been literally touched and viewed by the Creator and Maker of the Universe! God was incarnate in human flesh and walked the ground he had created, viewed the rocky structures beautifying the Judean desert region and graced the stone built Temple in Jerusalem by His royal presence. Remains of the great rocky fortress of King Herod at Masada bear witness to the existence of a once great Empire and evil earthly King. In the same general area of the Judean Desert, another rocky mountain region verifies the existence of a great King of Israel by the name of David, who found shelter and protection in rocky caves! I am especially thrilled by the fact that the One born King of the Jews, is illustrated by the very permanent solid object He created! “And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.”

- I Corinthians 10:4

God is represented by the most enduring physical object and the qualities of that enduring physical object are similarly seen in His Person and provision. The “rock” is known for its endurance and stability and the “rock” suggests safety and protection. Let the truth of Psalm 62:2 sink in as we read, “He only *is* my rock and my salvation; *he is* my defense; I shall not be greatly moved.” Glory to God, for in Christ the Christian has a personal acquaintance, “my rock,” a personal protection, “my defense” and a personal permanency, “not be greatly moved!” The salvation that God gives is as solid as a rock. It endures forever for its Author is the Rock and He is eternal!

We have just celebrated another “Thanksgiving” and are now in the Christmas season. Our attention is now focused upon the birth of Jesus Christ. We also have a new year, 2022, staring us in the face. The greatest focus of our gratitude should be upon the work of “The Rock of Salvation” and the solid and eternal security of the salvation He gives. Oh how grateful the Christian should be that the changing times and passing years have no negative effect on the solid “rock” salvation given by the One who is “The Rock!” I have to say, “Glory to God, what a Saviour!



From
the
pulpit

P
A
S
T
O
R

C
H
U
C
K