

# Flint River Newsletter

Flint River Primitive Baptist Church - 641 Moontown Road - Brownsboro, AL 35741

Worship, Sundays at 10:30

www.flintriverpbc.org

Newsletter for January 2012

## **Pastor's Note**

Elder Ben Winslett

Welcome to our newsletter for January, 2012! It is great to be "back in the swing of things" after a busy holiday season. I greatly enjoyed spending time with family for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years, including a wonderful trip to Vestavia Primitive Baptist Church's New Years Eve meeting. However, I am equally thankful that life has returned to normal (including seeing you all at Church each Sunday, as many were understandably out of town for family events).

I pray this new year brings Spiritual growth among our Church body. May we grow in both the grace and knowledge of our Saviour Jesus Christ. The Church finds her strength in Christ, through the Holy Ghost, and in the truth. □



*Elder Michael Gowens (L) with Bro. Mike Mitchell. We were very edified by Elder Gowens' preaching as he visited Flint River Church in December and spoke on the subject of Prayer.*

## Prayer and Praise

- Carolyn Yeager, cancer treatments.
- Andy Cooper's father, fighting pneumonia.
- Bill and Cyndie's twin girls! :-)
- Repentance of inactive members.
- Open doors to minister to others.
- Our young men away at college.

## **Ordinances of the Lord's True Church**

Elder Ben Winslett

**Article 9:** *We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper, and washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these ordinances, and the true mode of baptism is immersion.*

In our previous Newsletters, we have studied our first eight Articles of Faith. These articles expressed much about the nature of the True and Living God and also what scripture teaches about eternal salvation. In this Newsletter, we shift gears a bit towards some fundamental practices of the Lord's true Church, the "ordinances."

As scripture dictates by word and example, the Lord's Church was given two ordinances to keep and practice until Christ's Second Coming. These two ordinances are The Lord's Supper (also called Communion) and Baptism. Wherever the Church has been in history, she has practiced these two ordinances. In fact, one way of tracking the Lord's Church through history is to follow groups of Christians who stood outside of the mainstream of the day by practicing Believer's Baptism. For it has been often, throughout history, for Christians to neglect these two beloved services.

### **Baptism**

The Bible teaches what we refer to as "Believer's Baptism." This means that Baptism is an ordinance of the Church to be administered by an ordained Elder upon a repentant

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### On The Radio

**Words of Grace** airs  
each Sunday morning  
locally at 8:30 a.m. on  
1140 AM, WBXR.

Tell your friends!

believer. This was the case with the Baptism of John, who only Baptized repentant sinners. In Acts chapter 8, an Ethiopian Eunuch had traveled to Jerusalem to worship. While returning to his home the Lord sent Philip the Evangelist to preach the Gospel of Christ to him. After preaching Christ to the Eunuch from Isaiah 53, the Eunuch asked the question, "What doth hinder me to be Baptized?" Philip's answer was simple. He replied "If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest." This teaches that Baptism is for believers! The Bible teaches Believer's Baptism. Notice after this, they "both went down into the water" and then "both came up out of the water." This teaches Baptism by immersion! Scripture could not be more plain.

It is for this reason that the Lord's Church, throughout the centuries, rejected infant baptism and also rebaptized those whose baptisms were not consistent with the scriptural pattern. As Paul said, we desire to "keep the ordinances" as they were delivered to us by the Lord Jesus Christ - 1 Corinthians 11:2. Christ was Baptized. The Apostles were Baptized. The early Church was Baptized. If you love the Lord, and have not, then I suggest you follow through with "the answer of a good conscience" and joyfully submit to the "watery grave" of Baptism. Be baptized, showing the newness of life Christ has given.

### **The Lord's Supper**

The next ordinance is The Lord's Supper, also called Communion. In this service, the Church "shows the Lord's Death" until He comes by partaking of unleavened bread and grape wine (the fruit of the vine). This ordinance was instituted by Christ shortly before His crucifixion. Christ went into an upper room with his baptized disciples, those closest to Him, for the Passover. After they observed the passover, Christ took unleavened bread and grape wine. He blessed the bread, broke it, and distributed it to the disciples as an emblem of His broken body. He then took the wine, the fruit of the vine, and passed the cup among the disciples as an emblem of His shed blood. In this, He instituted the ordinance of the Lord's Supper, an ordinance repeated by the early church as demonstrated in the Book of Acts and in Paul's epistles, notably in 1 Corinthians.

After this Supper, He arose, took a basin of water, and washed His disciple's feet. He then instructed that as He had done to them, so were they to do to each other. Footwashing is more than a simple example Christ gave, but a practice for us to observe, teaching the servitude and humility expected of a disciple.

Do you desire a closeness with Christ? As He said after washing His disciple's feet, "if ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them." Be baptized in His name, keep His Supper, and wash His disciple's feet. □

### News, Announcements & Reminders

- REMINDER: Stay for lunch, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays.
- Ladies Thursday night fellowship to be announced.
- Cleaning in January by the Powell Family.

*Do you have news, meeting announcements, or prayer requests? Send them to Elder Winslett at [benjaminwinslett@yahoo.com](mailto:benjaminwinslett@yahoo.com)*

### ***Baptism, by Elder John Leland***

**Christians, If Your Hearts Are Warm,**

**Ice and snow can do no harm;**

**If by Jesus you are prized,**

**Rise, believe, and be baptized.**

**Jesus drank the gall for you,**

**Bore the curse for sinners due;**

**Children, prove your love to Him,**

**Never fear the frozen stream.**

**Never shun the Savior's cross,**

**All on earth is worthless dross;**

**If the Savior's love you feel**

**Let the world behold your zeal.**

**Ev'ry season of the year,**

**Let your worship be sincere;**

**When the storm prevents your roam,**

**Serve your gracious Lord at home.**

**Read His sacred word by day,**

**Ever watching, always pray;**

**Meditate His law by night,**

**This will give you great delight.**

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