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The Coffee Baptist Vision

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Rev. Bryan Simoneaux

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Rev. John Gunter
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August 26, 2021**A Visit With Dr. John**

We live in a world fraught with problems, disaster, sin, heartaches, and death. The people of Haiti just experienced an earthquake that killed hundreds of people and caused untold damage. Tropical Storm Fred caused flooding after that.

The recent withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan with the attendant Taliban takeover of the country had its share of heartbreaking moments. Soldiers who fought there feel anger that the gains they made were not sustained. The part of Afghanistan that accepted more modern and western thinking and lifestyles now face oppression.

I just heard news today that there is not a single available ICU bed in Alabama. The surge of the Covid Delta variant has caused untold trouble. I personally know people with Covid and underlying conditions, who need to be in the hospital, but cannot because there is no room. I know people who are fighting for their lives in ICU units. I know people who are grieving because the pandemic took their loved ones.

These are just three things in a sea of difficulties we face in the world today. Do these things cause anyone to struggle with faith or hope? I'm sure they do.

What can we do? The first thing is to trust in God and his promises in the midst of trials. Jesus said, "let not your heart be troubled: you believe in God believe also in me." (John 14:1).

The second thing we can do is to pray. It's normally OK to pray for your own well-being and for that of your family and friends. It's appropriate to pray for others, both near and far, who are undergoing trials and tribulations.

We also can do things to help eliminate the problems. We can contribute to people who are overcoming disaster. We may be able to do some hands-on help.

We can take precautions by doing what health officials tell us concerning Covid. We can try to avoid spreading it. We can take the advice of the doctors and the scientific community to receive vaccination.

We can do those things on a daily basis that are before us. We can go to work or school or whatever is our lot. We can make the effort to honor God in what we're doing. We can try to help others along life's way. We can seek to follow the teachings of Christ as we relate to our fellowman.

We can remember that this world is passing and there is an eternity beyond. We can use our days to influence people to yield their lives to God and to trust in Christ for forgiveness.

We can recognize that there is much good in life in spite of all the problems. There can be fulfillment and joy in the midst of the storms.

May God bless you with a sense of closeness to Him and the contentment and joy that comes from that!

Calendar of Events**August**

26 - Ministers' Meeting
 28 - Represent Youth Gathering - 3-5 PM

September

2 - Vineyard Work Day
 6 - Labor Day—Office Closed
 14 - Executive Committee Meeting - 7:00 PM

Ministers' Meeting

Guest Speaker: Rodney Bledsoe
 Baptist Foundation of Alabama

August 22, 2021 at 8:00 AM

Coffee Baptist Association

Breakfast will be served!

Annual Church Profiles have been sent out. Please encourage your church clerk to complete your church profile.

It's time to elect messengers for the 2021 Annual Meeting.

CCBA Annual Meeting

October 14, 2021

6:30-8:30 PM

Zion Chapel Baptist Church

Guest Speaker: Dr. Michael Mynatt

Help for financial volunteers

TechSoup is a nonprofit international network of non-governmental organizations that provides technical support and technological tools to other nonprofits. Tools available: Microsoft Office 2019 \$52, Intuit Quickbooks (no payroll) \$50, Norton Security \$12, and more. Call our office and speak to Michele for more info.

County Line Baptist Church has a piano they would like to give to someone in need.

Call the church office at 334-347-6082 for more details.

Lee Street Baptist Church Seeking a temporary/fill-in pianist

For more info or to apply contact the church office at (334) 347-4981.

First Baptist Church Elba has around 100 Baptist Hymnals

that are free to a church in need.

Copyright date is 1991.
 Contact the church office at 334-897-2246.

Represent Youth Gathering

August 28, 2021 3:00-5:00 PM

New Brockton Farm Center

Live Music, Free Food, and Door Prizes!

Multiple Competitions, Championship Belt, and Bragging Rights!

Contact Kit Johnson (334)449-3204 for more info. Search "Represent Event" on Facebook.

Samford Extension**Personal Evangelism**

Professor: Dr. Granger

August 23 - October 11 2021

Mondays at 6:00 PM

We encourage young preachers or bi-vocational pastors to attend.