

FAMILY NEWS

ECBM Circuit of Baptist Churches
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Presiding Elder: Rev. Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, GCH, BA, MA, DPTH, DMin

Vol. XXV, No. 49 “*Preaching the Doctrines of Grace...Practising the Grace of the Doctrines*” September 11, 2016

THE UNQUENCHABLE FIRE OF HELL

“If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell” (vv. 43–45).




—Mark 9:43–50

Hell—eternal conscious punishment of those who do not repent of their sins and trust in Christ—is a subject that too many preachers and teachers in our day seek to avoid. In a drive to reach unbelievers who might find the doctrine of hell off-putting, many preachers never mention it at all. Some go further and say that unbelievers will simply cease to exist at death and will not suffer for eternity (annihilationism). Still others go even further and affirm that there is no punishment of any kind, not even annihilation. They advocate universalism, the belief that everyone will go to heaven no matter what they believe.

The neglect or denial of hell may be presented under the name “Christian” at times, but no one can be faithful to our Lord’s teaching without affirming the eternal conscious punishment of the impenitent. That is because no one in all of Scripture talks about the reality of hell more often than

From The Pulpit...



-  **Dr. Hensworth Jonas** will preach at the **8:00 a.m.** service at the **Tyrells Baptist Church** (Tyrells Main Road) on the topic “**Divine Holiness**” based on **1 Samuel 2:1-10**.
-  **Pastor Joshua Jonas** will preach at the **8:00 a.m.** service at the **Covenant Baptist Church** (Friars Hill Road) on the topic “**A Divine Investment**” based on **Luke 12:13-21**.
-  **Pastor Rolando Lewis** will preach at the **10:00 a.m.** service at the **Central Baptist Church** (Radio Range) on the topic “**Christian Warfare: Fighting the Giants**” based on **I Samuel 17:41-47**.

Christ Jesus Himself. Today’s passage includes some of His most noteworthy teaching on the subject.

Jesus draws attention to the utter horror of hell with a series of contrasts that all involve bodily crippling and mutilation (vv. 43–47). He teaches that it is better to lose a body part that entices you to sin than it is to go to hell. This would have been a particularly striking saying for His original Jewish hearers—the disciples—for bodily mutilation in Judaism was strictly forbidden, and it disqualified one from entering the worshipping congregation (Deut. 14:1; 23:1). To say it would be better to mutilate your body than to go to hell, then, shows the seriousness with which we must take sin.

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Hell is so awful that losing a body part is a better fate.

The word “hell” in verse 47 translates the term *gehenna*, which was another name for the “valley of the son of Hinnom,” the place near Jerusalem where many ancient Jews sacrificed children to the pagan god Molech (2 Kings 23:10). By the first century A.D., the place was seen as accursed because of that, and it was used as a figure for the eternal place of punishment after death, or hell. Jesus’ use of the unquenchable fire in reference to this place (v. 48) borrows from the fact that in his day, the physical *gehenna* was a garbage dump where garbage never stopped burning. Jesus uses the physical reality to point to something much worse—unending pain in the afterlife for those who go to hell.

Coram Deo

Hell is a reality that’s perhaps painful for us to think about, so from one perspective it is understandable that we do not often like to talk about it. However, we must not view things from our perspective but from God’s perspective. He calls us to preach the reality of hell—the bad news—so that people might understand how much they need the good news of the gospel. Let us not neglect hell as we tell other people about Jesus.

Passages for Further Study

- Isaiah 66:22–24
- Daniel 12:2
- 2 Thessalonians 1:5–10
- Revelation 20:7–15

—www.ligonier.org

READING THE BIBLE
IN A YEAR...



- Today, Sept. 11th – Prov. 20-22
- Monday, Sept. 12th – Prov. 23-25; 2 Cor. 1-3
- Tuesday, Sept. 13th – Prov. 26-28; 2 Cor. 4-6
- Wednesday, Sept. 14th – Prov. 29-30; 2 Cor. 7-8
- Thursday, Sept. 15th – Prov. 31 & Eccl. 1; 2 Cor. 9-10
- Friday, Sept. 16th – Eccl. 2-4; 2 Cor. 11
- Saturday, Sept. 17th – Eccl. 5-7
- Sunday, Sept. 18th – Eccl. 8-10

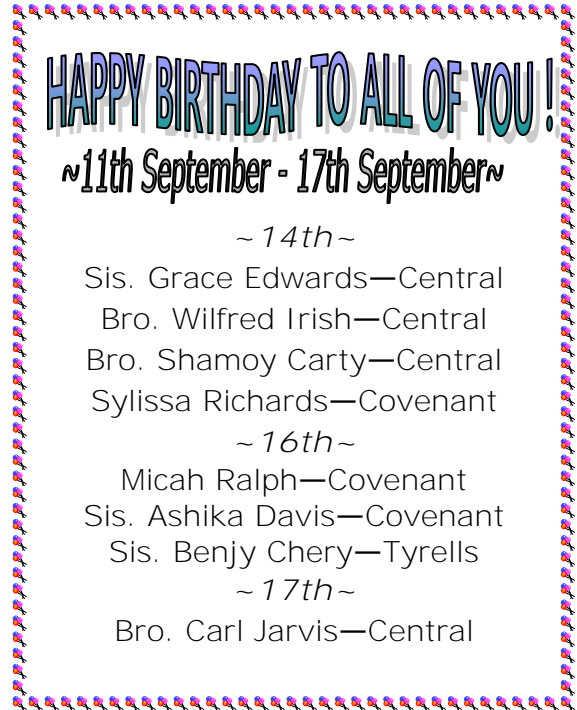


HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

 ~15th~

 Bro. Carl & Sis. Cassandra Jarvis

 Mr. John & Sis. Martha Bowen



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU!

 ~11th September - 17th September~

 ~14th~

 Sis. Grace Edwards—Central

 Bro. Wilfred Irish—Central

 Bro. Shamoy Carty—Central

 Sylissa Richards—Covenant

 ~16th~

 Micah Ralph—Covenant

 Sis. Ashika Davis—Covenant

 Sis. Benjy Chery—Tyrells

 ~17th~

 Bro. Carl Jarvis—Central



MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS



1. NOONDAY PRAYER MINISTRY

All members of the Circuit are advised that Noonday Prayer will be held in the Conference Room (formally **Pastor Joshua Jonas' office**) at the back of the chapel at Central (Radio Range). Let us earnestly seek the Lord in prayer.

2. BLAST YOUTH MINISTRY

All teenage boys and girls are reminded of B.L.A.S.T. (Building Lives Around Scriptural Truth) this Friday. The BLAST Girls Club will now meet from 6:30 p.m.—8:00 p.m. in the Central Baptist Fellowship Hall. and the BLAST Boys Club will meet from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. in **Pastor Joshua Jonas' office**. Do not miss this time of great fellowship!

3. CHOIR REHEARSAL

All members of the Voices of Victory and the New Creation Singers are advised of a choir rehearsal on Saturday at 5:00 p.m. Please be punctual.

4. PROVE THE TITHE

All church members are encouraged to be faithful with the giving of their tithes (10% of gross income) in accordance with the teaching of Malachi 3:8-10, as well as the Missions Offering as the Lord blesses you. The former supports our local church programmes and the latter our outreach beyond the walls of our churches. Let us give cheerfully, in obedience to Christ, and keep the work of the ministry strong and efficient.

5. CHURCH ATTENDANCE

All members of the Circuit are reminded of their Covenant Responsibility to attend all the stated meetings of the church unless providentially hindered by illness, unusual **working conditions that do not violate the Lord's Day**, and other such circumstances (Heb. 10:24, 25). The stated meetings of the church are as follows: All services on the **Lord's Day (Sunday School, morning and evening worship)**, Midweek Prayer Services; Church Stewardship (business) Meetings; and any special meetings that the elders shall deem necessary. Please be reminded that you are expected to advise the elder who is resident at your congregation of any providential hindrances.

NOONDAY PRAYER MINISTRY



- ❖ We meet for prayer at **Central** from **12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.** in the Conference Room from **Monday to Saturday**. All are welcomed to join us.
- ❖ Your prayer requests will be the focus of our prayers at each Noonday Prayer Meeting.
- ❖ The e-mail address for this is prayer@baptistantigua.org.

E.C.B.M. MISSIONS OFFERING



Where does your mission offering go?

- Haiti: Baptist Haiti Mission--Christian schools, churches, hospital, child services
- Dominica: Berean Christian Academy--Staff Support
- USA: Covenant Baptist Theological Seminary--Pastoral Training
- Antigua & Barbuda: Sovereign Grace Hour--Television & Radio

Your tithe supports the budget of your local church.

Sunday School Adult & Youth Reading **Prepare for next week...**

SERIES: **"Game Changer: How To Impact Your World"**

Study #2 Pray Fervently—Part 1 of 2
(Daniel 2:13-21, 26-28a)

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth.

—II Timothy 2:15

BE FERVENT IN PRAYER

GENERAL MINISTRY NEEDS

Elders, Deacons, and their families
 Baptist Academy of Antigua
 E.C.B.M. Ministries & Staff
 Evangelistic Ministries



“Sovereign Grace Hour” (ABS TV & Abundant Life Radio)

CHURCH FAMILY

HEALTH: Bro. Egbert Gordon, Sis. Sharon Carty, Sis. Chanda Jonas, Sis. Veronica Roberts, Sis. Louise Pilgrim, Sis. Enid Matthew, Sis. Jean Edwards, Dr. Hensworth W. C. Jonas, Sis. Ann-Marie Pilgrim, Bro. Nigel Pilgrim, Sis. Rosalind Ferris, Sis. Paula Skerriit, Sis. Cassilda Williams, Sis. Sonia Charles, Sis. Monica Gardener, Sis. Pamela Walcott, Sis. Juliette Smith, Sis. Priya Jattan

PRIVATE CONCERNS: Sis. Maxime James, Sis. Maria Hurst, Sis. Yvonne Lee, Sis. Nadine Smith, Sis. Curline Joseph
 Dea. Ian & Sis. Bronwen Blair

THANKSGIVING: Bro Wilfred Irish, Sis. Judy Browne, Sis. Ashoka Davis

NEW MEMBERS: Sis. Helena Williams, Bro. Corly Francis, Sis. Eulyn Williams, Sis. Alesha Joseph, Bro. Kyle Abraham, Bro. Enrico St. Jean, Sis. Ashika Davis, Sis. Celine Bolivard, Sis. Telesha Choy, Sis. Charissa Watkins, Bro. Ken Murray, Sis. Gloria Herrera, Bro. Kareem Michael, Sis. Clytie Francis, Bro. R. Oliver Baptiste, Bro. Shane Cory, Sis. Rosamund Haynes, Sis. Victoria Charlton, Sis. Eliena Louisa, Bro. Xavier Joseph, Bro. Zakeem Michael, Sis. Nia Santana, Bro. Akeel Jarvis, Sis. Esther René

WATCH CARE: Sis. Irene Jonas, Bro. Charles Richards, Sis. Enid Matthew

SHUT IN: Sis. Edith McCoy

OTHER CONCERNS

SAVING GRACE: Chelsea Barlow, Chikaede Barlow, George Browne, Khalid Browne, Hamadi Browne, Hasani Roberts, Colin Brisport, Otis Brisport, Sandra Manwarren, Debbie Hurst, Bre Henry, Andy Josiah, Patrice Josiah, John Lee

NEW MEMBER APPLICANTS: Michelle Paige (Covenant), Christine Powell (Central), Kimberly Nathan (Central) Z'Roya Ambrose (Central), Denley Buckley (Tyrells)

Pray without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 5:17

Memory Verses For Next Week



Pre-school — Psalm 121:1-2
 Elementary — 1 Timothy 6:6-7
 Secondary & Adults — Ephesians 2:8-9

THIS WEEK

- Sun. 08:00 a.m. Sovereign Grace Hour (ABS TV)
- 08:00 a.m. Worship: Tyrells & Covenant
- 09:00 a.m. Sunday School: Central
- 09:45 a.m. Sunday School: Tyrells & Covenant
- 10:00 a.m. Worship: Central
- 06:00 p.m. Worship: All Churches
- 07:00 p.m. Sunday School: All Churches
- Mon. 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- Tues. 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- 03:00 p.m. Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM)
- 06:30 p.m. **Elders' Meeting: Central**
- Wed. 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- 07:00 p.m. Prayer Service & Fellowship Groups: All Churches
- Thurs. 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- Fri. 09:00 a.m. Sovereign Grace Hour (ALR 103.9 FM)
- 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- 06:30 p.m. BLAST (Girls) Youth Ministry: Central
- 06:30 p.m. BLAST (Boys) Youth Ministry: Central
- Sat. 12:00 p.m. Noonday Prayer Meeting
- 05:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal: VOV & NCS

ECBM DIRECTORY

- Central Baptist Church 462-2894
- Tyrells Baptist Church 460-3557
- Covenant Baptist Church 561-4022
- Baptist Academy 462-2894
- Baptist Retreat Centre 463-8801



Eldership

- Hensworth W. C. Jonas (Presiding) 771-4888
- Ivor J. Walker (Associate) 464-1644
- Orvin D. E. Paige (Associate) 464-1014
- Joshua M. Jonas (Staff Associate) 726-9662
- Rolando A. Lewis (Staff Associate) 784-6147

Diaconate

- David S. Jarvis (Chairman) 464-7477
- Earl W. F. Skerriit 722-4313
- Ian J. Blair 773-1061
- John Patrick Tomlinson 786-7957