



Bracken Association of Baptists

Partnering Together for the Kingdom

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"For we are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9a NKJV).

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A Word from the DOM

¹⁵The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.
(1 Timothy 1:15 ESV)

Around the Christmas season this is the verse in Scripture that comes to my mind most frequently. There are plenty of other passages that come to mind as well that we often reference but this one sticks with me because of the great hope we find in it.

The amazing love and grace of God toward men is shown very clearly in this verse. God has chosen to send Jesus his only begotten son into the world with a great purpose. That purpose was not to come into the world to save the religious or those who were thought to be good but rather sinners.

These words are written by the Apostle Paul formerly known as Saul. Who knew exactly what it meant to be a sinner. Paul describes himself very clearly in the verses prior to this as a blasphemer, persecutor and an insolent opponent. He even calls himself the chief of sinners. Saul was very religious but if there ever was anyone who was opposed to Jesus and his

followers during his time it was Saul. However, now that he is Paul a man changed by the grace and mercy of God he can now look back with confidence and say these words, "Christ came into the world to save sinners of whom I am foremost."

Perhaps, this verse rings so much with me because I know my own heart, my own sinfulness and therefore can relate very well to Paul. However, the great hope in this passage is that the purpose of Jesus coming in the flesh that we celebrate during Christmas was to pursue sinners like you and me. "Jesus came into the world to save sinners." This is good news! It is good news that is worthy of proclamation.

Especially during this Christmas season as we reflect upon the amazing grace that has been shown to us by our Lord Jesus may we also take every opportunity to proclaim this good news to others. May the Lord bless you and be with you all this Christmas season but may he also embolden you to proclaim the good news of his gospel.

In Christ Alone,
Rev. Dewayne Slusher
Director of Missions

Prayer Concerns

- Churches without a pastor:
Calvary Baptist, Mt. Pisgah Baptist, and Stonelick Baptist.
- Families who are in need during the holiday season.
- Families that mourn the loss of loved ones during the holidays.
- Opportunities to share the gospel during the Christmas festivities.

*If you have a prayer request you would like to be added to this list please notify the association office by email at: brackenassoc@kybab.com

Monthly Church Prayer List

January:

First Baptist Church Augusta
Bethel Baptist Church
Calvary Baptist Church

February:

First Baptist Church Carlisle
Central Baptist Church
Clearfield Baptist Church

March:

Crosspoint Baptist Church
Crossroads Baptist Church
Dover Baptist Church

Around the Association

Sat. Jan. 24 th 8:30am	Men's Prayer Breakfast at Frisch's Big Boy in Maysville
Tues. Feb. 10 th 6:30pm	Executive Board at FBC Maysville
Tues. April 14 th 6:30pm	Spring Meeting at Flemingsburg Baptist
Sat. April 11 th	Disaster Relief Training at Lancaster Baptist Lancaster, KY
Tues. April 28 th 7:00pm	United Day of Prayer Lewisburg Baptist Church

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January

25th Chris Bailey, Pastor, Owingsville

February

11th Jean Simmons, Pastor's Wife, Plainview

28th Janet Bishop, Pastor's Wife, Augusta

March

6th Brad & Janet Caudill, Iringsville

6th Harry & Opal Brooks, Mt Olivet

11th Christi Liess, Pastor's Wife, Maysville

29th Al Simmons, Pastor, Plainview

*If we have missed your birthday or anniversary
please let us know so we can update our records.