



# GALVESTON BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2019

## *Dr. Jim's Gems*

### Evidence that Demands Faithfulness

Recently there has been a lot of news about some of the popular Christian artists having a “crisis of belief” even to the point that they consider leaving the faith. We do face difficult times as authentic believers, and yes there will be times of struggling with our faith. But the anchor holds, midst the storm. Our day of challenge to the faith isn’t new, in the book of Hebrews, we find that the writer is trying to convince the Jewish believers to stay the course. He uses the Old Testament understanding of sacrificial Law and the Greater provision found in Christ Jesus. We cannot go back to what we once were – our minds and conscience has had the light revealed – we can’t go back to a place of ignorance about the Gospel. Jesus is our Rock; He is superior to anything the world has to offer. Listen to the arguments the writer gives and take great courage in the time of trials.

Jesus is the Greater High Priest; after the “Order of Melchizedek”, the one whom Abraham gave homage and tithe too. In that Abraham gave tithe to Melchizedek, while Levi was still in His loins so to speak, reveals that Abraham was lesser than This High Priest and King of Salem. Just as Melchizedek did not have a beginning or end, even so Jesus Was in the beginning and will be in the end. Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, the first & Last. To return to the Levitical Law/Priesthood, would be returning to a lesser Priesthood.

Jesus was a greater High Priest, in that He didn’t have to offer a blood sacrifice for His sins, before entering in the Holy of Holies to offer sacrifice for the people. Also, Jesus was a Greater, better sacrifice, in that He did not have to repeat His sacrifice, in that His blood was greater for His blood Cleansed sin, not just covered.

The work of Jesus was based on a Better Covenant. Better Promises were the result. The Old Covenant was conditional on the actions of the Israelites; we have a New covenant [written in our hearts] based upon unconditional love. Jesus has a greater ministry – for His ministry was not bound to earth like the Priests on earth [whose ministry was but a shadow of things in Heaven], whereas Jesus ministry was just that the ministry in, to and of Heaven. Hebrews 10:19; the Therefore; since all these things are true, what manner of people should we be? We should “draw near” with a confidence and boldness to the Throne of God in prayer; we should “Hold Fast the confession of hope; “finally we should “consider how to stimulate each other” towards love and good deeds.

It is odd that the “Light affliction” was causing them to want to go backwards; especially considering Hebrews 10:32-35. They had already endured suffering, public spectacle, reproaches and tribulations. They had partnered with others who were going through hardship as well. Chapter 11 is a wonderful passage; it gives a short historical narrative about those who had gone before and had endured “through faith” the adversity and tribulation which accompanies the Gospel when lived out. When I read Hebrews 11:32-40; I get emotional; for those who lived not their own lives for the furtherance of the Gospel; enduring great human atrocities yet did not waiver. We hear of persecution today in other parts of the world; we pray for them, but also pray we won’t have to go through such things. How very selfish and cowardly we are!

Hebrews 12:4-6 and James 1:2-4 explains the reason we have tribulations in our lives. Will we let the “perfecting of our faith” be accomplished? Will we let the Father “prune” us for greater fruit for the Kingdom of God, or will we like many will fall away from the “real living of the Christian life?”

Paul said, in 2 Corinthians 12:9-ff, that he would rather boast about his weakness, that the Glory of God would dwell in Him. May we say as Paul, “Phil 3:10 -11, that I may know Him, and the fellowship of His suffering being conformed to His death, that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead!”

Blessings

*Dr. Jim*



**Senior Adult Game Day**  
Join us for Fun and Fellowship

**Tuesday, Sept. 10 @ 1:30 PM**

**GBA office**  
**1221 Cedar Dr,**  
**La Marque**

Bring a friend, a snack to share and your favorite game.

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**Executive Director/  
Pastor Breakfast**

**Monday, Sept. 9 @ 7:30 AM**  
**Kelley's Restaurant**  
**La Marque**

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**ACP Reports**

Please return your ACP Reports to the GBA Office, 1221 Cedar Dr., La Marque, TX 77568 by Nov. 15. These reports are very important.

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**Glass Missions Offering**

**Received to Date:**  
**\$4030.00**

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**Crisis Pregnancy Center of  
Galveston County**  
**Change For Change**  
**Received to Date:**  
**\$40,000**



**GBA 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**  
**Tuesday, Oct. 16**  
**First Baptist Church Alta Loma**  
**5400 Main Street, Santa Fe**

Preacher for Annual Sermon  
Rev. Aaron Sanders, Pastor  
Coastal Community Church

Nominations are being accepted for the following Admin Team positions:

Betty Sumner, rotating off October 2019.

John Newton's term which ends Oct. 2021.

Contact the GBA Office, office@galvestonbaptist.org or 409-938-8942 to make reservations for dinner and/or to make nominations.

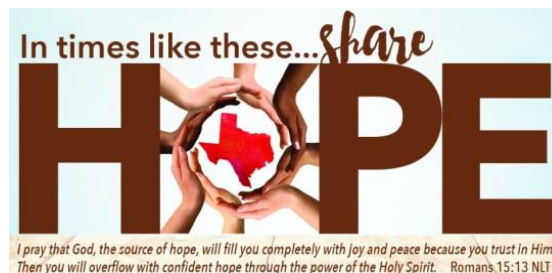
Display tables will be available upon request.

**The Renovate Conference**  
**has been cancelled due to**  
**lack of registration.**



Mary Hill Davis Week of Prayer Sept 22-29, 2019

Goal: \$1.4 million



2019 State Offering Goal

\$3.8 million



**Come Join Us  
and  
See What We Mean**

**Men and Women From All Churches**  
Please join us for “Adults on Mission”

Emphasis: State Missions  
Lead by Elaine Mason  
Assistant Director, GBA WMU

Tuesday, Sept. 10, 11:30 – 12:30 PM  
GBA Office  
1221 Cedar Dr, La Marque  
Bring a friend and a snack

Following the meeting, Brenda Chavers, Heritage Park Baptist, will be teaching an art lesson on acrylic painting of flowers, first timers are free, \$3 for others to cover cost of supplies. When you RSVP, please let us know if you plan to stay for the class so we can have enough art supplies.



**Valley Mission/Christmas Stocking  
Ministry Workday  
September 10 @ 9:30 AM**

Items needed for this week are:

Crayons & colorbooks	<b>GIRLS</b>
Jump ropes	Little girl's jewelry
Bubbles	head bands
Play doh	barrettes
	<b>BOYS</b>
	Balls - small
	YoYos

**Teenagers**

Playing cards and card games (SkipBo, etc.)  
Journals & pens, notepads  
Jewelry  
Flashlights

**Information Needed**

Please submit a copy of your church's Constitution and By-laws to the GBA Office to help us serve you better.

**Volunteers are needed for the GBA Team as shown below:**

**Pastoral Care – needs leader** - will provide necessary structure and support for all pastors, churches and church staff of the GBA when times of personal or congregational crisis arise.

The team will promote ongoing personal and congregational health through training events and resources.

**Leadership Development – needs leader** The Leadership Development Team is responsible for equipping pastors, staff, churches and volunteers for the work of ministry. The team will promote leadership development through training opportunities, resources, coaching and personal relationships.

**Missions Team – John Eckeberger, Leader** - will promote opportunities for individuals and churches to engage in mission work locally and world-wide. The team will provide opportunities to learn more about mission work.

**Crisis Response Team – John Knape, Leader** – will be responsible for maintaining associational equipment for use during a natural disaster. The team will provide ongoing training for volunteers who wish to serve in a crisis situation.

**Church Planting and Revitalization Team – Aaron Sanders** Assists GBA churches who are planting or replanting churches within the association's geographic footprint.

Please contact the GBA Office, [office@galvestonbaptist.org](mailto:office@galvestonbaptist.org), or 409-938-8942 or the team leader for more information and to volunteer.

**Annual Book of Reports**


The 2019-2020 Annual Book of Reports and calendar are being created. Please let us know by Sept. 24 about corrections and/or additions for your church to be printed in the book which will be available at the annual meeting.

Please help by giving us dates for your church's activities and information:

VBS  
Mission Trips and Activities  
Special Events  
Pastor/Church Anniversary  
Pastor's Birthday  
Worship Service schedules



## Upcoming Events

- 2 Labor Day
- 5 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA
- 8 Grandparents Day  Happy Grandparents Day
- 9 Executive Director/Pastor Breakfast, 7:30 AM, Kelley's La Marque
- 10 Adults on Missions @ 11:30 AM, GBA  
Sr. Adult Game Day @ 1:30 PM, GBA  
Sisters Who Care @ 6 PM, TMBC
- 12 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA  
Admin Team Meeting @ 2 PM
- 19 GBA Prayer time @ 9:30 AM, GBA
- 24 WMU Leadership Meeting @ 6 PM, Northside
- 26 GBA Prayer Time @ 9:30 AM. GBA Office.



- October - Pastor Appreciation Month**
- 3 Admin Team Meeting
- 7 Ex Director/Pastor Breakfast
- 10 WMU Annual Meeting & Pie Supper
- 15 GBA annual Meeting, FBC Alta Loma
- 27-30 SBTC Convention, Odessa

### November

- 3 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- 4 World Day of Prayer, Family Unity, 6:30 – 8 PM
- 17-19 BGCT Convention, Waco
- 28 Thanksgiving Day

### December

- 1-8 Lottie Moon Week of Prayer
- 2 GBA Christmas Party
- 22-31 Office closed for holidays
- 25 Christmas Day

### Host Churches Needed For Christmas Parties

- December 2, 2019, 6:30 PM
- December 7, 2020, 6:30 PM

## Impacting Churches to Impact the Kingdom

