

Self-Esteem... *Continued from last issue*

...from His love for them. Thus, their love for one another does not come from self-love or self-esteem, nor does it enhance self-esteem. The emphasis is on relationship, fruitfulness, and readiness to be rejected by the world. A believer's identification is in Jesus to the point of suffering and following Him to the cross. Only through strained semantics, laboured logic and exploited exegesis can one even attempt to demonstrate that self-esteem is Biblical or even a part of the church tradition or teaching.

The focus of love in the Bible is upward and outward instead of inward. Love is both an attitude and action to one another. And while love may include sentiment and emotional affection, it is primarily volitional action for the glory of God and the good of others. Thus when Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength" (Mark 12:30), He was saying that all of our being is to be committed to loving and, therefore, pleasing God. Love for God is expressed with a thankful heart committed to doing what pleases God according to what has been revealed in the Bible. It is not a grudging kind of obedience, but an eagerness to conform to His gracious will and to agree with God that He is the source and standard for all that is right and good.

The Second commandment is an extension or expression of the First Commandment: "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Mark 12:31). John elaborates on this. He describes

the sequence of love. In contrast to the teachers of self-love, who say that people cannot love God and others until they love themselves, John says that love originates with God and then extends to others:

We love Him because He first loved us. If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen? And this commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God love his brother also (1 John 4:19-21).

God loved us first, which enables us to love Him, which then expresses itself in love for one another.

From Adam's first breath, mankind was designed to live in relationship with God, not as autonomous selves. The entire Bible rests on that relationship, for after Jesus answered the Pharisee by saying that the Greatest Commandment is to love God and the second is to love neighbour as oneself, He said: "On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets" (Matthew 22:40). Jesus came to save us from self and to re-establish that love relationship for which we were created. Through the centuries books have been written about loving God and loving one another. However, today the church is increasingly inundated with books telling us how to love ourselves better, esteem ourselves more, accept ourselves no matter what, and build our own self-worth.

Source: <http://www.rapidnet.com/~jbeard/bdm/Psychology/self-est/self.htm>

Bible Baptist Church Bulletin

Remove not the ancient landmark, which thy fathers have set (Prov. 22:28).

Vol. 1, No. 9 19 April 2009

WHY BAPTISTS ARE NOT PROTESTANTS

By: Dr. Vernon C. Lyons

People are usually put in one of three religious groups. If you are not a Jew or a Roman Catholic, then automatically you are a Protestant. Consequently, Baptists are usually called "Protestants." However, this does not match the facts. Baptists never have been Protestants. The Protestant Reformation is usually dated from October 31, 1517, when Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church in Wittenburg, Germany. However, this was only one of a series of acts that led to the open rupture with Rome.

An event of utmost importance, but often unnoticed, is the Second Diet (or Council) of Speier, April 25, 1529. This was a Roman Catholic Council for the purpose of taking action against the Turks and checking the progress of Lutherans and others who were not cooperating with the Pope. Certain Lutheran princes appeared before this Roman Catholic Diet with a formal written protest against those matters in which the Diet went contrary to the Christian faith as they understood it. This protest was signed by Elector John of Saxony, Margrave George of Brandenburg, Dukes Ernest and Francis of Braunschweig-Luneburg, Landgrave Philip of Hesse, Prince Wolfgang of Anhalt and the representatives of fourteen imperial cities. The protest was designed to protect them from the decisions of this Council. It was a defensive measure. The celebrated church historian, Philip Schaaf, makes the noteworthy statement "From this protest, and appeal, the Lutherans were called Protestants." (History of the Christian Church, Volume VII, p.692). The same facts are stated in the Catholic Encyclopedia (Volume XII, p.495).

Continued on page 3

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

Davidson St Corner Wilson St
Kalgoorlie, WA 6430

Phone: (08) 9022 8323

Fax: (08) 9022 8323

Email: bbc@biblebaptist.net.au

Website: www.biblebaptist.net.au

Pastoral Staff

Pastor Romeo B. Macale, M.Ed.

Phone: 0419 974 101

Email: pastor@biblebaptist.net.au

Ministries

1. Bible Studies
2. Tract Drop
3. Door-Knocking
4. Personal Evangelism
5. Missions

Position

1. Independent
2. KJV 1611
3. Baptist
4. Old-Fashioned
5. Soulwinning
6. Premillennial
7. Non-Charismatic
8. Unaffiliated

Church Services

Sunday:

- 9:30 am — Sunday School
- 10:30 am — Worship Service
- 6:15 pm — Evening Service

Wednesday:

- 6:30 pm — Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Announcements and Prayer Request

CHURCH SCHEDULE

Sunday:

9:30 am — Sunday School
10:30 am — Worship Service
6:15 pm — Evening Service

Wednesday:

6:30 pm — Bible Study & Prayer Meeting

Saturday:

8:00 am — Door-Knocking & Tract Distribution

PRAYER REQUESTS:

- Special Sunday Service on May 3, 2009, Pastor Eric Thrush (Pastor of Bible Baptist Church, Mt Helena) will be the Guest Speaker on Morning and Evening Services.
- Good health and healing of Mrs. Macale's illness.

- Tract-Drop and Door-knocking on Saturday.
- Church services at Bible Baptist Church, Kalgoorlie.
- Miriam's health, and her buying for a new car.
- Pastor Eugene Macale's ministries: Bible Baptist Mission (Liloan, Southern Leyte, Philippines).
- Dondoy (Pastor Macale's brother) from alcoholism.
- Baptist Fellowship Meetings, September 28 - October 1, 2009, Calvary Baptist Church, Armadale, WA.
- Edna, Pastor Eugene Macale's sister-in-law, for healing of stage 4 cancer and her undergoing on chemotherapy in Tacloban City, Leyte, Philippines
- Pastor Jerry Penie's buying a new car.
- Kylie Mell's (Chris' wife) healing from multiple sclerosis.
- Bro. Robert Javapro's travelling mercies from the IELTS exams in Perth.

Church Bulletin

For those who have prayer requests, Christian articles, poems, or announcements for inclusion in the next issue of the Church Bulletin, please ring or email Ethel Macale.
 Deadline: Friday, 5:00 pm.
 Phone: (08) 9022 8323
 Email: ethel@macale.org

Websites worth visiting:

<http://www.biblebaptist.net.au>
<http://www.oldkiv.org>
<http://www.macale.org>
<http://www.av1611.info>
<http://www.kjv1611.org.ph>
<http://www.biblebaptist.ph>

Why Baptists...

Continued from page 1

These Lutheran leaders, and a few Reformed, who made this appeal and protest at the famous Diet of Speier were speaking for themselves and not for Baptists, of whom they themselves said in their written statement, "All Anabaptists and rebaptized persons, male or female, of mature age, shall be judged and brought from natural life to death, by fire, or sword or otherwise, as may benefit the persons, without preceding trial by spiritual judges." The Baptists then did not share in this protest and consequently cannot bear the name "Protestant." Here are three reasons why Baptists are not Protestants.

Historically Baptists Are Not Protestants

Protestants date from the sixteenth century. They are the Lutherans, the Reformed, and others who were once Roman Catholics and left the Roman Catholic faith to start denominations of their own. The Baptists never left the Roman Catholic church as did Luther, Calvin and Zwingli. They never left because they were never in. They did not begin their existence at the time of the Reformation, but hundreds of years prior to the Reformation.

Baptists make no effort to trace a historical succession back to the age of the Apostles. Their only claim is that at every age in church history there have been groups that have held to the same doctrines that Baptists hold today. These groups may or may not have been connected and they have been known by various names. There were the Montanists (150 A.D.), the

Novatians (240 A.D.), Donatists (305 A.D.), Albigenses (1022 A.D.), Waldensians (1170 A.D.), and the name Anabaptists came into prominence just before the time of the Protestant Reformation. Full historical data immediately refutes the view that there was only one religious group -- the Roman Catholic church -until the time of Martin Luther. Anyone who claims this simply has not done his homework.

I wish to purposely introduce non-Baptist testimony to the great antiquity of Baptist people. Cardinal Hosius (1504-1579) was a Roman Catholic prelate who had as his life work the investigation and suppression of non-Catholic groups. By Pope Paul IV he was designated one of the three papal presidents of the famous Council of Trent. Hosius carried on vigorously the work of the counter-reformation. If anyone in post-reformation times knew the doctrines and history of non-Catholic groups, it was Hosius. Cardinal Hosius says, "Were it not that the Baptists have been grievously tormented and cut off with the knife during the past 1,200 years, they would swarm in greater number than all the Reformers" (Letters Apud Opera, pp.112, 113). Note carefully that this knowledgeable Catholic scholar has spoken of the vicious persecution Baptists have endured, that he clearly distinguishes them from the Reformers, and that he dates them 1,200 years before the Protestant Reformation.

It is also evident that the Baptists were not Protestants because they were fiercely persecuted by the Protestant Reformers... *Continued on next issue*