



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

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Dr. John Woodward
Grace Fellowship International
3914 Nellie Street
Pigeon Forge, TN 37863

January 5, 2021

Dear Doctor Woodward:

At one time, those of us who were raised in Appalachia thought that our relationship with God was defined by how well we served in the church. We showed up every time the church doors were open. We served, we tithed, we handed out tracts, we rode buses, and we **often** went forward to rededicate our lives at the altar. We appreciated our future home in Heaven, but our daily existence was only a life of misery. Grace, mercy, peace, and love eluded us, but we kept trying.

Then one day, through Dr. Solomon's ministry, we found out that God's view of us had nothing to do with our own efforts and many attempts at perfection. The message of the cross that he brought to our ears and profoundly to our hearts showed us how deeply and thoroughly the plan devised by the Godhead allowed Jesus to be our Sin-Bearer and our Life. In time, we became convinced by the Holy Spirit that His love for us had no end in any dimension and that we actually became comfortable to embrace the cross and to accept His full intention of being our Burden-Bearer. What a relief!!! Accepting His love and valuing the righteous standing we received at our salvation has taken some time to mature. Some of those sin patterns have deep roots. In letting these truths of the cross take their place in our thoughts and beliefs has moved us on to our true purpose which is to continue to surrender to the cross in order to be His Image-Bearer and to disciple others to do the same.

So thank you, Dr. Charles Solomon, for your fearlessness in bringing these truths to our area but mostly to our hearts. The truths revealed in all of your writings will live on in the hearts of many, and from our hearts we are immensely grateful.

Pastor Jeff Black, the Staff and Congregation
of First Baptist Church of Proctorville, Ohio

THAT IN ALL THINGS HE MIGHT HAVE THE PREEMINENCE.
COLOSSIANS 1:18

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