WHERE IT'S ALL ABOUT JESUS!

# BELLVIEW
## Baptist Church

Week of January 25, 2026

# Pastor Bob's Message...

**Why Did Jesus Perform Miracles — And Is He Still Working Today?**

Throughout the Gospels, the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ is marked by miracles. He opened blind eyes, cleansed lepers, calmed storms, cast out demons, and even raised the dead. These mighty works were not random acts of kindness nor mere displays of supernatural power. Every miracle Jesus performed had a divine purpose, and that purpose still instructs us today.

First and foremost, Jesus performed miracles to bring glory to the Father. Over and over again, Christ made it clear that His works were not about personal fame or public spectacle. In John 11, just before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus prayed openly so that those standing nearby would know the power came from God. He then declared, *"This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God might be glorified thereby"* (John 11:4). Every miracle ultimately pointed upward, revealing the authority, compassion, and holiness of God the Father.

Miracles also served as divine confirmation that Jesus truly was the promised Messiah. Nicodemus acknowledged this when he said, *"Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him"* (John 3:2). The miracles authenticated Christ's message and revealed His identity. They showed that the kingdom of God had drawn near.

A second vital element in Christ's miracles was faith. While God's glory is always the highest priority, faith consistently appears as the human response God honors. Jesus often said, *"According to your faith be it unto you"* (Matthew 9:29). Faith itself did not produce the miracle—God alone has that power—but faith demonstrated trust in God's will, ability, and character.

One of the most honest pictures of faith in Scripture is found in Mark 9. A father brought his demon-possessed son to Jesus after the disciples were unable to help. When Jesus challenged his belief, the man cried out with deep humility, *"Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief"* (Mark 9:24). This passage reminds us that faith does not mean the absence of struggle. True faith comes honestly to Christ, admitting weakness while still trusting Him completely. God honors faith that is real—even when it is imperfect.

This truth becomes especially clear when we consider Jesus' visit to His hometown of Nazareth. Scripture tells us, *"And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief"* (Matthew 13:58). The power of Christ had not diminished, but the people's hearts were closed. Their familiarity bred doubt rather than faith, and unbelief hindered what God desired to do among them.

These truths lead us to ask an important question: Is Jesus still doing miracles today? The answer is yes—God is still able, still sovereign, and still at work. However, we must understand His purposes. God does not perform miracles merely to satisfy personal comfort or human convenience. That brings us to two serious questions every believer must ask when praying for a miracle.

# Pastor Bob's Message Continues...

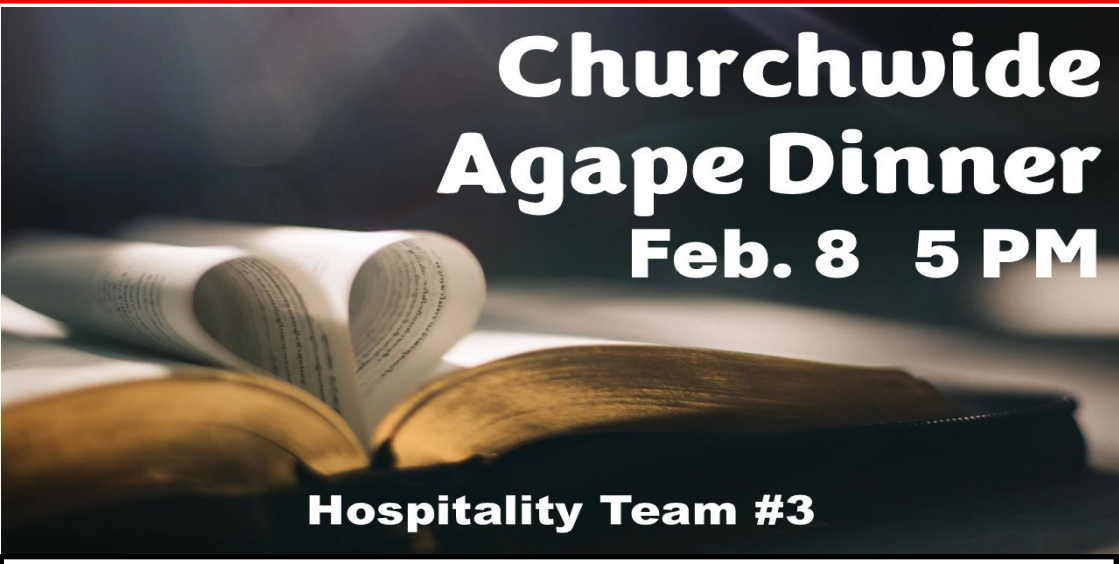
relationships. Scripture invites us to bring our needs before the Lord. But if our ultimate aim is personal relief rather than God's glory, our prayers fall short of biblical faith. James warns us, "*Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts*" (James 4:3). God's miracles are never about elevating self; they are about magnifying Him.

Second: Do we truly believe God can do what we are asking? Faith is not pretending or positive thinking—it is a confident trust in God's will and power. Hebrews 11:6 declares, "*But without faith it is impossible to please him.*" Even when our faith feels weak, we can echo the father's prayer in Mark 9:24 and ask the Lord to strengthen what we lack.

If God grants a miracle, it should not end with personal celebration alone. Testimony matters. When we openly declare what the Lord has done, God receives glory, and faith is strengthened in others. Jesus told the healed man, "*Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee*" (Mark 5:19).

If you are praying for a miracle today, remember this: God's glory comes first, faith must be genuine, and obedience must follow. Come honestly, believe humbly, and be ready to tell others what the Lord has done—because He alone is worthy of our faith and our praise.

Pastor Bob




Tithe & Offering Statements, for 2025, are available at the Welcome Center. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at (270) 554-3173, from 8 AM– 4:30 PM, Monday—Friday.

# Pastor Bob's Message….

**Lesson Introduction: Truth in a Post-Christian World**

We are living in what is commonly called a post-Christian world—a culture that no longer assumes biblical truth as authoritative or absolute. Truth is often viewed as personal, subjective, and fluid, shaped by individual experience rather than divine revelation. The Book of Proverbs speaks powerfully into this confusion by reminding us that truth does not originate within humanity. Instead, true wisdom flows from God alone. This week's lesson, "Truth Matters," confronts the false confidence of human wisdom and calls believers to trust, embrace, and proclaim God's truth as we share Jesus in a skeptical world.

**I. Human Wisdom Appears Right—but Leads to Destruction (Proverbs 16:20–26)**

"There is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Proverbs 16:25)

Proverbs 16:20–26 exposes a central danger of fallen humanity: trusting one's own judgment apart from God. Solomon reminds his readers that wisdom is not determined by appearance or popularity but by submission to the LORD. What feels right, sounds right, or is culturally celebrated may still be spiritually destructive. Verse 25 serves as a timeless warning that human reasoning, unaided by divine truth, inevitably leads to ruin.

The Hebrew word translated "right" is *yāshār*, meaning straight or upright.[1] What appears morally straight to human perception may still be crooked in God's sight. In ancient Israel, surrounding nations prized persuasive speech, ambition, and self-made success. Solomon counters that mindset by teaching that wisdom begins with humility and obedience to God's Word. No amount of eloquence or effort can correct a heart that ignores divine truth.

For believers today, this passage is especially relevant. Our culture affirms personal sincerity over objective truth, encouraging people to "follow their heart." Proverbs insists that the heart is not a reliable guide unless it is shaped by God's revelation. If we are to share Jesus faithfully, we must first reject the lie that truth is self-defined.

**II. The Humbling Confession of Human Inability (Proverbs 30:1–4)**

"Surely I am more brutish than any man, and have not the understanding of a man." (Proverbs 30:2,)

Proverbs 30 introduces the words of Agur, whose confession stands in sharp contrast to human pride. Rather than boasting in his wisdom, Agur openly acknowledges his limitations. His statement is not exaggerated humility but a sober recognition of humanity's finite understanding when compared to God's infinite wisdom.

The word "brutish" comes from the Hebrew *ba'ar*, meaning senseless or lacking understanding.[2] Agur is not denying human intelligence; he is confessing that human wisdom cannot ascend to divine truth on its own. His questions in verses 3–4—concerning creation, control, and knowledge of God—force the reader to admit that ultimate truth lies beyond

# Pastor Bob's Message Continues...

human reach.

This confession echoes the testimony of Solomon himself. Scripture describes Solomon as the wisest man who ever lived (1 Kings 4:29–31), surpassing all kings in wisdom and riches (1 Kings 10:23). Yet even Solomon understood that wisdom apart from God is empty. Agur's words reinforce the lesson: human brilliance, education, and achievement cannot replace divine revelation.

In a post-Christian world that exalts knowledge and scientific advancement as final authorities, this passage prepares believers to witness with humility. We do not argue people into the kingdom; we point them to the God who alone possesses truth.

**III. God's Word Is Pure, Complete, and Final (Proverbs 30:5–6)**

"Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him. Add thou not unto his words, lest he reprove thee, and thou be found a liar." (Proverbs 30:5–6,)

After confessing human limitation, Agur affirms the perfection of God's Word. Every word spoken by God is trustworthy, tested, and sufficient. Unlike human opinions that evolve and contradict one another, God's truth stands firm through every generation.

The Hebrew word translated "pure" is *tsāraph*, meaning refined or tested by fire.[3] God's Word has withstood examination and needs no correction. The warning against adding to Scripture exposes human temptation to modify God's truth to make it more acceptable or less offensive.

In a culture that revises moral standards to fit personal preference, this warning is crucial. When truth is adjusted, the Gospel itself is distorted. Faithfulness requires trusting God's Word exactly as He has given it.

**Conclusion: Why Truth Matters for Sharing Jesus**

This lesson reminds us that truth is not discovered within ourselves but revealed by God. Human wisdom often appears right but leads to destruction. Human knowledge is limited and insufficient to define ultimate reality. Only God's Word is pure, authoritative, and final.

These truths are essential if we are to share Jesus in a post-Christian world. The Gospel is not one perspective among many; it is God's revelation of salvation through Christ. If truth is relative, then Jesus is optional. But if truth comes from God, then Jesus—who declared Himself to be the Truth—is the only Savior. As believers, we must stand confidently on God's wisdom and proclaim His truth with humility, clarity, and conviction.

**Footnotes**

[1] *Yāshār* – straight, upright, morally correct.

[2] *Ba'ar* – brutish, senseless, lacking understanding.

[3] *Tsāraph* – refined, tested, purified by fire.

Pastor Bob

# LOOKING AHEAD/ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Sunday, January 25

**9:00 AM Bible Study**
**10:00AM Worship Service**
**6:00 PM Business Meeting/Evening Service**

## Wednesday, January 28

**6:30 PM Mid-Week Services / Student Ministry, TeamKid, Mission Friends**
**7:40 PM Adult Choir Practice**

**Women's Ministry Meeting**
Tuesday, February 10 @ 6 PM
Fellowship Hall | Soup and desserts provided
Please sign up in the lobby!

**Donate SOUP to the Food Pantry by Sunday, February 8!**

# WEEKLY SCHEDULE/GIVING

## LIVE STREAMING SCHEDULE

**Sunday, January 25—10 AM**

**Sunday, February 01—10 AM**

**Sunday Bulletin and the monthly newsletter are online!**

Go to

www.bellviewbaptistpaducah.com

Only newsletters that will be sent out are the members with no email addresses.

## Last Sunday's Report for January 18, 2026

**Required Weekly……..$7,842.52**
**Offering Received……..$13,226.85**
**Designated Received……...$1,991.90**

## VOLUNTEERS FOR THE WEEK

**Deacon of the Week**

Andy Pegram—270-443-0965

**Greeters/Welcome Center**

Randy & Paula Walls | Linda Lowe | Paula Walls

**January Ushers**

**Keith Byers —Kenneth Harper—Jason Olroyd**
**Andy Pegram—Richard Sawyer—Ray Shelton**

**Safety Team for Sunday, January 25—#3**

Card Ministry for January—Tracie Jackson

Please NO food or drinks in the Worship Center.

THERE WILL BE NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR AGES 1—3 YEAR OLDS ON SUNDAY, February 1.