

ISSUE

02

VOLUME 1

WINTER
2021-22MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
OF HUNTSVILLE
BIBLE COLLEGE

THE HBC GAZETTE



OUR MISSION

To prepare and equip disciples who are called to lead and serve in ministries in the church and community.



IMPORTANT DATES

2021 Endowment Campaign Ends
December 15

Christmas Break (School Closed)
December 23-31

Mental Health and Wellness Month
January

Spring Semester Begins
Tuesday, January 4

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday – (School Closed)
Monday, January 17

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From the President's Desk

By God's grace we have come to the close of the Fall 2021 semester. This year has not been without its challenges - erratic weather, the bitter realities of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and widespread economic concerns have made this year difficult for a hundreds of thousands of people all over the world. The call for people of faith to boldly stand for the gospel is needed more than ever. It is eternally important to maintain our hope by standing firmly on God's Word.

Despite the downward trends elsewhere, God has sustained HBC to hold steady and weather the storm. For 2022, we are on track to confer degrees to the largest graduating class in our 35-year history! Even still, we recognize that as the future of biblical higher education seems to be in jeopardy, the faithful study of God's word has never been more important. Since the pandemic started, a few U.S. Bible colleges have closed their doors. This is a tragedy for many reasons but one in particular stands out to me.

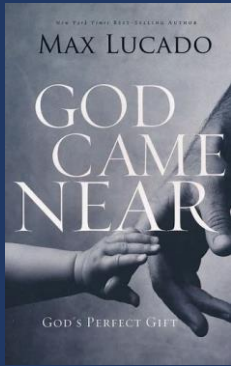
For many people, Bible college becomes the place where men and women learn to take their faith seriously and study the Bible in detail. While 70% of believers who enter college abandon their Christian faith by graduation, only 1 of 20 Christians will attend a Bible college. This trend will only be changed

when Christians begin to realize the importance and benefit of attending a Bible college to build personal faith, Scripture knowledge, and God-honoring relationships. When students spend time studying God's Word and serving His people, they will grow in their own faith and awareness of God's plan for them. Knowing that God's Word is true can shape a person's entire life. HBC is a place where all students are taught to build their lives upon the truth of Scripture. We thank God for the glorious gospel and for places like HBC where it can be learned.

In this time of uncertainty, the certainty of the gospel of Jesus Christ will solve the problems of our world. It's the only thing that will, and that's where we come in, to offer hope to the hopeless, love to the unloved, and God's salvation to all who will believe on His Son—instilling this message into the hearts of the faithful, so that they may be able to teach others also (II Timothy 2:2).

As we celebrate the birth of Our Divine Savior in this season, let us never forget that Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace who promises us a peace that the world cannot give us. He offers us peace of heart even in the midst of trials and crosses. May God hear your prayers and grant your petitions during this holy season!

John L. Clay
President



BOOK OF THE QUARTER:

When God Came Near

By: Max Lucado

BIBLE VERSE OF THE QUARTER:

Galatians 4:4-5

"But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, so that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons."

SONG OF THE QUARTER:

"I Do Worship"

By: John P. Kee



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

"The giving of gifts is not something man invented. God started the giving spree when He gave a gift beyond words, the unspeakable gift of His Son."

- Robert Flatt



A Biblical Perspective on Christmas

Reflections from the Faculty

By: Rev. Dr. W. Temple Richie

"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord" (Luke 2:11 NIV)

CHRISTMAS. A time of celebration. Giving of gifts. Santa Claus. Family gatherings around food. This is what it has come to be, but it is in Scripture, the Bible, that the real and true meaning of Christmas is found. The Gospel writer, Luke, records the following: *"Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."* (Luke 2:11). Christmas is about the birth of Jesus the Christ.

A simple look into the name for this season, CHRISTMAS, tells us how we should approach it. There are several opinions as to the origin and meaning of the word Christmas, but all tend to point to the word coming from Middle English Cristemasse, which in turn comes from Old English, *Cristes-messe*, literally meaning "Christ's Mass." The mass is the central liturgical, worship rite in the Roman Catholic Church. Thus, Christmas, i.e. "Christ's Mass," is about worshipping, celebrating Jesus Christ.

What of the exchanging of gifts, a major part of this season? While Christmas is about giving, it is about God's gift of Jesus the Christ to the world. Any giving we do should follow the lead provided by the Magi; we should bring and present our gifts to the Babe. What kind of gifts? How about starting with the gift of one's self. **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



2022: Renewal and Rededication

Chance for a New Start

With the arrival of every new year comes the chance to renew our faith and love for God. It also brings the wonderful opportunity to renew the joy of salvation in our hearts, as new creations in Christ. *"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"* (2 Corinthians 5:17 NRSV).

Whatever 2021 has brought you, whether success, happiness, and enjoyment, or sorrow, setbacks, and struggle, you can look ahead to 2022 with hope. Consider the word of the Lord through the prophet Jeremiah, *"For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end."* (Jeremiah 29:11 KJV).

Prayer of Self-Dedication

"Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to thee, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly thine, utterly dedicated unto thee; and then use us, we pray thee, as thou wilt, and always to thy glory and the welfare of thy people; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen." (*Book of Common Prayer, 1979 version, Protestant Episcopal Church in the USA*).

IN MEMORIAM



Rev. Dr. Willie T. Brown Academic Dean from 1995-2012

"...Blessed are the dead who from now on die in the Lord." "Yes," says the Spirit, "they will rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them." (Revelation 14:13)

The entire College community mourns the passing of former Academic Dean, the Reverend Dr. Willie T. Brown who passed on May 8th, 2021. As we grieve the loss of one so dear to our community, we also celebrate that Dr. Brown is now in the presence of His Savior. God blessed Dr. Brown with a long and fruitful life, using him to make a great impact on HBC and the broader academic and church community of North Alabama. We take this moment to recognize and celebrate a life so powerfully and faithfully lived.

Dr. Brown, a native of Montgomery County, AL, was a preacher and educator whose distinguished career in education and ministry spanned more than 54 years. He dedicated his life to fostering excellence in students at Cobb High School (Anniston, AL), Alabama A&M University, J.F. Drake Technical College, and Huntsville Bible College. He served faithfully as the Pastor of Bright Hope Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America (CPCA), and as an Associate Minister of Church Street CPCA.

We also profoundly mourn the the loss of the following students who passed away in 2021. Each one is fondly remembered and deeply missed.



Ms. Juanita M. Owens
July 10



Mr. Chet Davis Cash
September 18



Mr. Carter Videau
October 1



Mr. Earl S. Robinson
December 12



HBC Academic Calendar

HIGHLIGHTS

REGISTRATION DEADLINE
SPRING TERM

January 4

LAST DAY OF DROP/ADD
January 25



Employment Opportunities

- Student Recruiter
- Advancement and Development Officer (Part-time)
- Advancement and Development Officer (Full-time)
- Adjunct Faculty

To apply, send a cover letter and resume to:

Email:
admin@hbc1.edu

Mail:
Huntsville Bible College
906 Oakwood Ave,
Huntsville, AL 35811

Winter Meditation: Loving God, Caring for Others

"Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me (Matthew 25:45 KJV)

Jesus taught that our love for God is inextricably bound to the way we love and care for others, especially those who cannot repay us, including those who are hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, imprisoned or strangers to us. Every disciple of Jesus must understand that the choices we make to love others, or not, will have consequences that determine our future – for better or for worse.

The Day of the Lord will reveal the true measure of every person's love for God and what kind of life we have chosen for the age to come – a life of peace and joy with God or a life of misery and separation from God. It will also reveal those who have lived according to God's command to love Him above all else while loving others. God is gracious and merciful; His love compels us to treat others with compassion, generosity, and kindness.

How well have you shown your love for God and others today?

HAVING A
HEALTHY MIND
IS JUST AS
IMPORTANT AS A
HEALTHY BODY

JANUARY is HBC Mental Health and Wellness Month

Watch your inbox.
An Activities
Calendar for the
month will be posted
on the HBC website
and distributed via
email.

MENTAL HEALTH TIPS FOR 2022

*"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health,
just as your soul prospers." (3 John 1:2)*

1. **Stay Connected.** God created us to be in fellowship with Him and in relationship with others. Spiritual connections – worship, prayer, Bible meditation keep you balanced and connected to God. Social connections and relationships (or lack thereof) can have a significant impact on psychological well-being.
2. **Know the Difference Between Healthy and Unhealthy Perfectionism.** Healthy perfectionism is having standards that are at the high end of what you can reasonably attain. Goals are a good idea but try to think of them only as general targets. Unhealthy perfectionism involves rigid, unrealistic goals that result in lots of self-criticism if they are unmet.
3. **Talk to a Counselor.** More and more people are talking about mental health and accepting the fact that it is necessary for many people to attend therapy at some point. Getting help to support your mental health is always a good idea.
4. **Avoid Overreactions.** At some point this year you will have an argument with a friend or significant other, a conflict with a professor or work colleague, or experience some sort of rejection. Immediate emotions of anger, shame, embarrassment, anxiety or sadness might motivate you to do something impulsive to address the issue. Breathe, slow down, and wait to respond until things have calmed.
5. **Stay Active.** Physical exercise reduces stress and contributes to increased physical and mental health. The impact this will have on stress, anxiety and mood is well worth the time it takes out of your day.

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