

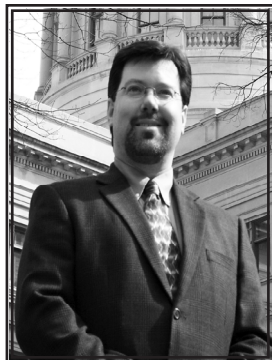
CHURCH NEWS

AN INSPIRING MOMENT WITH

Dr. Ron Bigalke

“Safe-N-Side”

A company in Texas sells an in-home, half-inch thick steel box called “Safe-N-Side.” The largest model is 48 x 40 x 27 inches, weighs 1,300 pounds, and sells for less than \$2,000. The steel cocoon is promised to protect one from handgun bullets and a two-by-four moving at 100 miles per hour.



“Safe-N-Side” is an emergency in-home shelter to protect one from devastating storms. Scripture affirms that we all need encouragement, help, and stamina from the Lord. Even when we stumble, Psalm 37:24 assures the believer that he/she “will not be hurled headlong, because the LORD is the One who holds his [or her] hand.” If the storms of nature threaten, “Safe-N-Side” offers more protection than most homes can provide. For the storms of life, however, the greatest protection is the Savior who “is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them” (Heb 7:25). The “hands” of Jesus are, indeed, the best of all!

The writer of Hebrews has provided a more quantitative emphasis upon the similarity of Christ to Melchizedek since the argument is historically based upon two priesthoods in the Old Testament. In addition to his description and comparison of Melchizedek with Christ as a superior high priest, Hebrews 7:20-22 emphasizes the divine oath which made Christ “a priest forever.” Hebrews 7:23-25 emphasizes the permanence of Christ’s eternal priesthood, which is better than the Levitical priesthood. In contrast to the ever-changing Levitical priesthood, the immutable oath that God swore is assurance that Christ’s priesthood will never cease. The sinlessness of Christ means He alone can give assurance of an unending relationship between God and the redeemed. The assurance of salvation for the believer is based upon Christ the Priest—who is perfect—and who gives his people confidence to “draw near to God through Him.” The Christian never needs to doubt the assurance of salvation because God’s provision is a surety. Christ will never change his ministry. Those who are once justified, remain always justified because the

Savior “always lives to make intercession for them” (Heb 7:25). Nothing in the present or future will separate those Christ has justified (Rom 8:29-39). Christ is the eternal priest of the believer who is always active in his ministry to give surety of salvation to those who trust in Him alone. The final verses (26-28) of Hebrews 7 form a summary of what the writer has been teaching regarding Christ as a priest in the order of Melchizedek. The believer is able to persevere in faith as a result of confidence that Christ is the only “holy, innocent, undefiled” High

Priest (7:26; cf. Col. 1:21-22) and his position is preeminent (“exalted above the heavens”). Christ is a priest according to the order of Melchizedek because of the oath, “which came after the Law,” that God swore (7:28). God’s oath supersedes the Law meaning Christ’s priesthood is better than the Aaronic priesthood and the totality of the Law. The sworn oath of God constituted the Son as High Priest whose character is “perfect forever.” Since Christ is the perfect High Priest, then He is the perfect and only way to the Father (cf. John 14:6). Indeed, the Lord Jesus said, “I am the way and the truth, and the life, no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Come. Let us Worship Christ our Lord!”



*Pastor Calvin &
First Lady Gwinnie Hatcher*

New Service Times!

Sunday School 9:45 am

Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Bible Study
7:00 p.m.

ESQUIRE FASHION SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK

“Eat not the bread of him that hath an evil eye, neither desire thou his dainty meats: for as he thinketh in his heart, so is he: Eat and drink, saith he to thee; but his heart is not with thee.”

Proverbs 23:5-6

Northlake Tire & Service Center

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MEL DANIEL Heating, Cooling & Electrical

120 South Harris St. Sandersville, GA
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Horace Daniel, Mgr. 478-232-8057
Mel Daniel, Owner 478-232-8494

**Twin City Auto
Parts**
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Sandersville
552-6952

WaCo Collision Repair
127 Smith Street, Tennille
478-552-7771

Precision Body Works
311 Poplar Drive
Sandersville
552-7982