



REVIVAL

STAYING PUT AND TRUSTING IN GOD





**PRESIDENT
JOSHUA B. CARSON**

“If we have been praying and asking God to order our steps to those who are hungry, then we must begin believing that is occurring.”



The Reader is Waiting

“And Philip ran thither to him, and heard him read the prophet Esaias, and said, Understandest thou what thou readest?” (Acts 8:30)

Considering the question without the context would make Philip seem audacious or possibly even arrogant. After all, Philip’s first words to a man who was in charge of Queen Candace’s entire treasure were, “Can you understand what you’re reading?” The question is startling in its bluntness. When giving instruction on the practical principles of reaching people with the Gospel, this is not an often-promoted opening statement. Any pastor or teacher would most likely correct any pupil heard starting a conversation this way.

Philip was on a mission, one important enough that an angel of the Lord had given him instructions to “Arise and go toward the south, unto the way that goeth down from Jerusalem unto Gaza, which is desert” (Acts 8:26). There seems to be zero hesitation between his instruction and his response. Philip’s availability collides with boldness when “the Spirit said unto Philip, Go near, and join thyself to this chariot” (Acts 8:29). Understanding that Philip has received personal instruction from the angel of the Lord twice, the reader is placed on the edge of their proverbial seat to see what is about to unfold.



Personally, my introduction to evangelism was a white 15-passenger church van when I was a child. Truthfully, I didn’t know it was outreach, but I did know there was candy involved. We would roll around town picking up kids and I’d hand out suckers when they got on. Many of them had become my church friends. Being so young, I wasn’t old enough or mature enough to consider that we were picking them up because their parents didn’t attend church. I have since had thousands of interactions, trying to be a witness of God’s love, between that time in my life and now. Many of those interactions have started as a result of seeing someone reading their Bible in a public setting. Truly, it is amazing what this common ground can do to facilitate a conversation. All too often we may reason away an opportunity to assist a stranger in coming to a full understanding of Scripture.

“Understandest thou what thou readest?” does not offend the eunuch at all. Humbly and honestly, the eunuch admits that understanding without being instructed seems impossible. The eunuch’s desire to understand and apply the Word of God to his life had grabbed God’s attention. God’s response was to send a willing preacher who possessed a comprehension of the text. Their interaction was not accidental or coincidental — it was divinely orchestrated. Within a couple of scriptures, the eunuch has been instructed, he is baptized, and Philip has been caught away.

Most likely, none of us will have an encounter with a chariot this week leading to a conversion. However, there is a strong chance the Lord will prompt you to engage that person reading the Bible in Panera or the individual you see weeping in the waiting room. Maybe it will be the lady in line at the grocery store or the bank teller who was reading a devotional when you walked up. If we have been praying and asking God to order our steps to those who are hungry, then we must begin believing that is occurring. While we often speak of reaching non-believers with the Gospel, may we never overlook those who are reading but don’t fully understand — they may have prayed for you to show up.

Joshua B. Carson

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♦To promote revival and growth among Apostolic churches and pastors by encouraging unity and cooperation among those of like faith and by providing a forum for the sharing of new ideas, ministries and programs.

♦To report on those trends and events which directly affect the work of the church.

♦To promote and enhance the ongoing ministry of Indiana Bible College.

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FEATURE: Revival - Staying Put and Trusting in God

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DEMON POSSESSION: TODAY VS. BIBLE DAYS

Written By Charlotte L. Pound

Note: The opinions on this page are entirely those of the individual and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of Indiana Bible College.



L.L. Booker, Rialto, CA - I feel it is safe to say that there's as much demonic activity in the world today as at any time in human history. However, I feel that for the most part, demonic activity has gone "underground." They are there, but tend to "lie low."

We actually have seen and dealt with as much demonic activity in our services as at any time in my fifty years of ministry. However, if at all possible, we do not allow the devil to put on any productions.

The individual is most often surrounded by intensely praying saints, while a small trash container is simply placed relatively close to the individual to catch their vomit. Once this is finished, we move on in an effort to pray them through, or back through, to the Holy Ghost. I also feel that many a devil has been cast out while the repented individual they've lurked in is baptized in Jesus' Name. I doubt any demon would enjoy being baptized in His Holy Name.



Garry Tracy, St. Louis, MO - Demons are part of Satan's kingdom. They are real and active in our world. Oppression caused by demon activity can cause depression and confusion, while possession by demons can cause serious physical and mental health issues. Demons are masters at hiding their true identity; they are deceivers like their father, the devil. Therefore, it is imperative that we have the gift of discernment by the Holy Spirit so that demon activity or possession can be correctly identified.

Great harm has been caused by those who presume a person to be oppressed or possessed by a demon, when in fact it is a mental health issue or chemical imbalance. Equally important is to be living a holy life under God's authority and have faith in the power of Jesus' name when casting out demons. Jesus has absolute authority over all demons and so do Spirit-filled believers. As the Western world turns away from God's authority over their lives, we will experience a rise in demonic activity. This necessitates proper instruction for God's people as we approach the imminent return of Jesus.



Tom Crutchfield, Hinesville, GA - Jesus taught the disciples that they had power and authority over all devils as well as all diseases. I feel we don't see this as much in our urban society because, as Galatians tells us, there is the age-old battle of flesh against the Spirit. Often, we are dealing with out-of-control flesh. Other times we are facing "spiritual wickedness in high places." I believe the demonic in America has a more hidden agenda as they try to advance. They don't act out as much, in fear of exposing themselves.

As far as healing, I don't believe that most of our sickness is from evil spirits. Aside from being a pastor, I am also an RN. Working in an emergency department, I have had so many opportunities to see people near death, in hypovolemic shock, who God has brought back from the clutches of death through prayer and people gifted to care for others in medicine.

We don't try to turn over every rock looking for a devil. We will deal with plenty in our lifetime without doing that. It's important for pastors to have Spirit-filled altar workers that are trained in this area to keep everything decent and in order.



L.C. Gore, Wylie, TX - The spirit world is just as active as it has always been. Our modern secular society is not as aware of these spiritual insights; however, the church must be. While we cannot ignore this, it would be a mistake to perceive "a devil under every rock." At times it is familiar spirits, strongholds, etc., mixed with carnality, the works of the flesh, and erosion of our world that makes for a culture of spiritual darkness in these times.

The fallen spirit world still affects people, in various cases, with influences, oppression, and possession that can and does, at times, result in various physical or mental ills. A word of caution would be to note that labeling everything or everyone with various physical or mental challenges as demon possession or influences would be incorrect and wrong.

As a modern apostolic people, we should be ministering in the power of the Holy Spirit and the Word with demonstration and power. There is an ongoing need for the Apostolic five-fold ministry and believers to operate and be led of the Holy Ghost in this end-time hour like never before. May our approach ever be like Jesus' and the apostles'.



Art Wilson, Wayne, MI - With reference to I Corinthians 10:19-21, it is clear that the demonic world is very real in our day. I have personally had encounters with many demon-possessed people that were seeking deliverance. I have also encountered many that are under the influence of demons and were not seeking deliverance. I have encountered demons and demon-possessed people while ministering in prisons and in the heights of the United Nations alike. (They are at work everywhere!)

Today's world is set up to make it so easy to come under demonic influence that many are even unaware of their actions. It's important to understand that devils relate to people in a variety of ways (demons, devils, beasts, familiar spirits, impersonating angels of light, and principalities). That's why we must stay close to the Word of God and allow the Holy Ghost's conviction (no matter how difficult) to continue to be our guide.



Jason Carr, Beaumont, TX - I believe that in America, what we primarily deal with are spirits of oppression and depression that torment people's minds. The demonic world is still very active in our day and country, but not nearly as active and destructive as carnal flesh.

The old adage, "You get what you're looking for," is true. So why would we rather look for a fight with the devil than look for blessing and favor from the Lord? If we are actively looking for Jesus, everything else will follow. If we look for anything but Him, we are looking for the wrong thing! Everything is subject to the Name of Jesus. Prayer, studying, submitting to the Word of God, and learning to feel after the Spirit of God are all we need to have power and authority over all principalities and powers.

God himself, robed in flesh, said to us in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." When we start seeking the right thing first, all things will fall into place!

REVIVAL

STAYING PUT AND TRUSTING IN GOD

REV. REX WILLIAMS / FARMVILLE, VA

Written By Christina Li



Pastor Williams and Family

"You water and sow, but only God can give the increase. So, if you start playing the numbers, you won't think you have a growing church. One soul is worth any effort you put forth. We can't put a price on a soul," says Pastor Rex Williams of Calvary Tabernacle in Farmville, Virginia.

Trusting God and Staying Put

Farmville is a small town of about 8,000 people. The average income is \$25-30,000 per year. Pastor Williams

considers Noah, "which is the greatest preacher of all time, and he only had eight. I do believe God called me here and it's amazing to know you're where God placed you. I believe we are having revival. The most important key is staying put where God called you and working the field. You don't have to get in a hurry."

Pastor Williams says that to have revival, "Our best tool has been Bible studies. I think it's still the greatest tool to win souls and to keep them. Another priority is to reach and train youth."

Revival During the Pandemic

"We have used social media a lot to reach our community. We started Facebook live for the first time during the pandemic. We've used door hangers in the past and recently started back up, says Pastor Williams. "Lately, texting has been a good tool to keep in touch with our leadership and church family. We also use our planning center for guests' info. Once they come and give their info, they receive an email and then our teams touch base with them by text."

Calvary Tabernacle ministries include Sunday School, Prayer, Outreach, Men's Ministries, Women's Ministry, Couples', Youth, and Hyphen ministry. Pastor Williams meets with his leaders about every six weeks. "They don't hand in monthly reports. I just keep in touch with them one on one and in our leadership meetings."

"Recently I placed some of my ministers over different age groups to keep in touch with our regular attendees, those who come occasionally and first-time guests. We're trying to be sure we don't miss reaching out and staying in touch. I have a seasoned minister who is over ages forty-five and up. My assistant pastor is a young man, and I put him over ages twenty-five to forty-five. My youth pastor at this time serves with hyphen and youth age. Every six weeks, we meet and go over their communications with their age group and responses from their age group." Pastor Williams believes this "works best for the time that we're in right now."

For planning and training leadership, "I bring a man in occasionally that I feel has a revival church and a team of good leaders he has mentored."

Pastor Williams has 40% of his congregation involved in some form of ministry, as well as 40% involved in evangelism.

"Once a month, we have 'Breaking Bread' that meets from house to house as they did in the book of Acts. We play and sing



A Beautiful Sanctuary with Hungry Hearts

and have someone give us the Word of God for about fifteen minutes. Then, we eat and fellowship. We also have a once-a-month 'Family Night' at the gym."

Never Giving Up; Never Staying Down

Pastor Williams focuses "mostly on our conscience, conviction, and soul. In our public life, we try to look good and lose weight.

We should try to dress properly, but I focus ministry mostly on conscience, conviction, and soul. If you keep your conscience in working order and your deep convictions in God and don't lose them, your soul will prosper. That's what we've got to focus on."

"I preach a lot about overcoming, Acts 2:38, and having victories in life. Never give up and never stay down. We can't afford to stay down. You may fall down, but you get back up."

Planting Seeds for a Mighty Harvest

"This is our third sanctuary since 1987 and will seat 500. The whole building is 80 feet by 140 feet. We have eleven Sunday school rooms, two offices upstairs, and four offices downstairs with a nursery. I'm sure many wonder why we built a church this large. It's because we had a vision of growth and God laid it on the heart of someone to donate money. We haven't seen it filled yet, but we're doing what God called us to do." Calvary Tabernacle has an 80-foot by 100-foot Life Center, as well as an upstairs apartment for guests and a game room. "We have a large kids' playground, Addison's Park. It was built in honor of our grandson, Addison Vance Mina. We lost him to a tragic accident in May 2009. We are tremendously blessed and very thankful to have all the property paid for. The only monthly bills the church has are insurance and utilities."

"We started the church in a house in 1987. We sometimes win people and they move away because it is a small town and not as many job opportunities. Including two colleges, we only have 8,000 people in Farmville. We win them, but some move away. However, they attend other churches, so that's great."

"As in all churches, we've had many who were baptized and filled with the Holy Ghost, but didn't have strong roots and didn't stay. Some were in for several years but have backslidden. We've planted the seed, and we're believing for many of these people to come back."

The number of conversions is twenty in total including last year and this year. "Our average attendance in-house since COVID is around 55-60. We averaged about 100 the year we moved into the new church."

Since COVID, about thirty-five people haven't come back and probably won't until the governor lifts restrictions. They still pay their tithes and watch online." Pastor Williams does regular services as well as online services. "We had



A Convert is Baptized

online-only, for a few weeks. Then, we had parking lot services and are now having services in-person."

"We came to Virginia to tour the White House and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the Vietnam Memorial. My wife and I had been feeling that God wanted us to do more and were seeking His will. We made a wrong turn on the drive leaving Richmond, Virginia and ended up in Farmville. That night the Lord said, 'This is where I want you to preach.' I said, 'You're crazy.' That was 1984. From 1984-1986, we made five trips. Every time we came our burden became stronger. During the last visit, at two o'clock in the morning, walking down Main Street in Farmville, I was crying. I said, 'Okay, God, You made a mistake because I don't have a Bible school background. I'm just a home missionary; just a kid. But, I'm going to do it.' So I obeyed the call."



The Worship Team

"When we started the church in our home, my son played the drums and my wife played the piano. We didn't know anyone when we first came here, but we had some friends from Mississippi come and help us with that first service, along with one lady from the town of Farmville. So, there were eight present."

"We had church. I just preached one God, Acts 2:38, salvation, and baptism in Jesus' name. We made friends and went door-to-door inviting people."

Faithful Witnesses and Influences

Pastor Williams grew up in Tupelo, Mississippi. "My brothers knew Elvis Presley. My mom was a Methodist who received the Holy Ghost in an Apostolic church. She cleaned the church and we walked three-and-a-half miles to clean it with her. I felt something at eleven years old, but as a kid, I didn't understand. I knew that something from another world visited me. I didn't get the Holy Ghost until I was twenty-six."

"I was in the same church as a young teen with Sis. Donna Linville, the Ladies' President of the Virginia District.

Some of the boys made fun of her because she was a true Christian and different from most teens. I was on the outside looking in, but I wanted what she had because what she had was real. She influenced my ministry. My mom and her faithfulness were also a great influence in my life. She was faithful even though my Dad never got in church. My pastor, Cecil Greenway, my older sisters, and brothers-in-law were great influences in my life as well."

Pastor Williams' education was basically gleaned from the church. "I poured myself into church. The district had a program of training for young ministers. Ministers from all over the state did three-to-four-hour training seminars for the young ministers."

Refusing to Live in Fear

The message Pastor Williams has preached primarily is, "Keep being faithful, don't live in fear, and keep a daily prayer life."

"We have a big enough church to keep a safe distance between attendees. I don't require masks. I told my church, 'I can't make you come to church or pray, so I'm sure not going to make you wear a mask.' I got a group together and we prayed over every doorpost of our members' houses at least three times. We anointed with oil and prayed. We've even had some outside of the church ask us to do this. So, we did theirs too, as well as anybody that asked."

"We meet on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. We also have Tuesday

prayer two nights per month, and youth night every Friday night. We stream Sunday services."

"I do believe that COVID is the fulfillment of end-time prophecy. I believe the next war won't be fought with missiles, but with viral weapons."

The impact this pandemic has had on bringing in souls is, "It's been our best year as far as real interest. We've had three families

come in since we've been online. They'd been praying for a Spirit-filled church. One lady had been watching online because her church was shut down. They were born and raised Methodist. They lived thirty minutes away. She told her husband and a few weeks later they came. She got the Holy Ghost and was baptized and a few weeks later, he got the Holy Ghost and was baptized. Now, she's one of our praise singers. He's feeling a call to preach."

God-Called and God-Directed

"Everything is paid for. We've had a better year financially during this depression than before. It's totally amazing. I don't think I'm a great preacher or revivalist. I just know God called me here and I won't leave until He tells me. I started a business and it's just boomed. It's amazing. I'm not trying to brag; I don't have a college education. I was just a country boy that got something inside of me."

"I'm excited about living for God and I want to do as much as I can while I'm on this earth."



Pastor Williams Preaching



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Rev. Chester Wright

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Christmas in July



Stephen Judd
President/CEO

Many years ago, the Christmas in July campaign was launched out of the desperate need for funding during the summer months, when our financial support is at its lowest. As you read one of our children's stories, would you prayerfully consider helping us with a special one-time

Christmas In July gift to the TCM?

Salena (not her real name) was born overseas, in an impoverished nation. Her earliest memories are of being passed from one place to another, stranger to stranger, misused and abused in ways we cannot include in this column. After being abandoned, she was adopted by an American family and brought to the States. Fearful of the things that could happen in the night, she would stay awake until daylight, and be unable to function during the daylight hours. Fearful of food scarcity, she would hoard food, and stuff her little belly to the point of being sick.

Due to her special needs, the family who adopted Salena decided to send her to another adoptive home. That second family sent her back, and then she was sent to TCM. Abandoned and rejected three times, Salena was convinced that she was unlovable. When she would introduce herself to others, she would say, "Hi, my name is Salena, and I'm hard to love."

It took a whole year for Salena to begin to see TCM as a safe place. She had never been loved the way we loved her, and she had never been able to let down her guard. I am happy to share with you that since coming to TCM, Salena's progress is nothing less than miraculous. The child who could barely hold a pencil now writes letters to her sponsors. The child who could not bear to be touched rushes to give hugs.

Healing takes time, and little Salena is receiving mental, emotional, physical, and spiritual healing at TCM. God is working in this precious child's life, and you can be a part of that healing work. Our Mansion theme this year is "LOVE WORKS!" Love works every day through the hands of our amazing staff who care for the children. Love works through our sponsors who give faithfully and allow us to continue the work that God is doing in the lives of these precious children. Most importantly, we believe that love works through the power of the Holy Spirit. The work that is done with these precious children is only possible because of you.

Loving and giving is what the true spirit of Christmas is all about, and it's not just something that we celebrate once a year in December, but throughout the entire year, even in July. Please don't wait. Your help is urgently needed now! Whatever you can give will be appreciated very much and will help to defray the summertime expenses of caring for our children at TCM. You can give now by scanning this QR code or visiting www.mansionkids.org.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for standing with us in this, the Lord's work!



Rev. Kara Dibble - Missionary to Scotland, Part I

Interviewed By William Turner



Kara Dibble

Kara Dibble graduated from Indiana Bible College in 2018, followed by an additional year in the IBC Advanced Leadership program. She has served for the past two years as an Associate in Missions (AIM) missionary in Scotland, where she began as an instructor at Harvest Bible College in Glasgow under the leadership of Robert and Jerolyn Kelley. She was a key to the missionary team's adjustment to online learning during the national pandemic lockdown, and shifted to the position of academic dean for the college while assisting a new church plant in a nearby city. Kara returns to Indianapolis and IBC in July to assume the position of Business Office Secretary.

A Family History of Missions

In personal terms, Global Missions involvement was not a surprising choice for Kara. Her grandparents, Robert and Belinda Filkins, were UPCI missionaries to Switzerland, Ivory Coast in West Africa, and France. An uncle and aunt, Dale and Maleah Pace, were AIMers to Ivory Coast. Another uncle and aunt, David and Kelly Dibble, are regional missionary evangelists in the Pacific and missionaries to Micronesia. Her first direct exposure to Global Missions was as a nine-year-old with her parents on a church missions trip to Guatemala. Her pastor and father, Thomas Dibble of Waterbury, Connecticut, had led a team from her home church to construct a local Guatemalan church. Kara returned with them for the construction of Sunday school classrooms. The experience left a distinct impression on Kara's mind and heart.

"I remember being so in awe that people would walk a whole day just to get to church, which was also all day," she said, "and then walk all the way back home. I remember thinking, 'There's just not enough churches.' We got to tour the Bible school and see the rooms that many in our group had helped build on the last trip they came on. But this time, we got to help build Sunday school rooms, and to me, that was special because it meant that kids just like me could have their own room to come and hear a lesson about who Jesus is."

Preparation for the Foreign Field

Her next mission trip did not come until she was twenty-three and on her way to Scotland with the encouragement and direction of Robert K. Rodenbush, Dean of Missiology at IBC, and Biblical Studies Dean Bobby Killmon, as well as her father. Some valuable lessons learned at IBC helped her establish her ministry in Scotland, she said.

"I loved Brother Mooney's night classes," she recalled. "I had taken them for credit but also repeated them as his TA." On more than one occasion, he would invite students who lingered after class to go to McDonald's "to grab a bite to eat." The real purpose, of course, was for interaction with the students.

"He let us ask him questions, but it always amazed and humbled me when he would start asking us questions. This seasoned, well-established, and respected minister asked a group of 18-to-21-year-olds questions. One of those nights, I asked him what he wished he would have known when first starting out in ministry. He turned to me and said, 'Family is important, Sister Secretary. You've got to learn to be present. You've got to learn to do what you're doing and nothing else. When you're working, you work hard, but when you are with people, don't be working.' I felt as if he'd been watching me my whole life and knew that is exactly what I always failed at. He didn't say it with judgment but with compassion. It didn't make me feel scolded, but encouraged and inspired."

Other Lessons Learned at Indiana Bible College

There were other lessons from IBC that she drew from during her time in Scotland.

"IBC helped to prepare me in so many ways, from theology and Bible classes, to the classes about how to teach, to the classes on adapting to a new culture. They all helped to prepare me.

"Just realizing that there are many ways of thinking and approaching life helped me approach the mission field with the mindset of 'this is different, not necessarily wrong.' The point isn't to go and change people starting with culture or 'the right way to do things,' but to allow the Lord to bring about change that He desires by introducing Him to others."

She remembers a statement by James Poitras, Global Missions Director of Education and Short-Term Missions, when he was at IBC as a guest lecturer. "He told us that people often focus too much on their weaknesses and ignore their strengths," and end up wasting their current skills by trying to master another. "My takeaway from it was, 'Find what you're good at and get busy doing it for the Lord.'"



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THE END!

IT'S CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

Interviewed By Susan Thomas



Daniel E. Dagan
Port Charlotte, FL

Pastor Dagan, tell us a little about yourself and your ministry.

I was raised in the Tampa, Florida area. I was first exposed to the Apostolic truth through a new convert fellow football player. I was saved while in college at the University of Louisiana Monroe.

The Lord allowed me to graduate with a BA degree. I met my wonderful wife, DaVida while in college. She is a fourth-generation Apostolic. The Lord has blessed us with three wonderful, healthy sons. I was reached through a joint daughter work of the late elders Fred J. Foster and George C. Coleman. Mark Foster was our pastor when God called us to Southwest Florida to plant a church in Charlotte County, Florida, in the Spring of 2003. This is a county of 190,000 people. We were honored to plant the first United Pentecostal Church in this county.

How do you respond to the view that prophecy teaching is too difficult, too many views, too hard to understand?

I agree that some portions of prophecy are very challenging but if we will set aside time and study the Bible with a prayerful, focused spirit, God will illuminate His revelation and quicken our understanding. (I Corinthians 13:9, 12; I John 3:2). In terms of studying end-time prophecy, I suggest you start with the book of Daniel. Then, move on to the book of Revelation. As part of your foundational study, you should include the Olivet Discourse (Matthew 24-25; Mark 13; Luke 21) and Paul's two epistles to the Thessalonians. Study your Bible. Don't just read it; study it! Jude 22-23: "And of some have compassion, making a difference: And others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire..." When Jesus preached about the days when the Son of Man is revealed (Luke 17:26-30), he declared it would be as it was in the days of Noah and Lot. He went on to say that fire and brimstone from heaven came down and destroyed them all. The mere preaching and teaching about the scenes of the end times should shake and stir people to the very depth of their souls! I would be deeply concerned if they were not frightened and motivated to make their calling and election sure.

Are we in the last days?

Yes, without question (Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17). The last days began as the church was founded in Acts 2:1-4. The time of the Gentiles is coming to an end (Matthew 15:22-28; Luke 21:24; John 1:11, 8:57-59, 10:30-33; Romans 11:7-11, 25-27; Acts 3:12-26). All the "end-time prophecy" signs are fulfilled with the exception of Ezekiel 38-39 (Gog and Magog conflict). I hold the view that this conflict ushers in the person of the Antichrist. I believe we are in the midst of the greatest harvest of new and restored souls the church has ever seen, and after this will come the Rapture. Pay close attention to Israel, God's eternal indicator of end-time events. We should also be aware of the rising confrontation between God's true Apostolic Church and the Apostate Religious Group in the world today. The apostate is seen as the miry clay blended with the iron (a type of the Roman system) in the feet of the image of Daniel 2. The move towards globalism and a form of religion that is acceptable to the government powers of the world is a great sign of the rising spirit of Antichrist and is a prelude to the person of the Antichrist.

Will there be a Pre-, Mid-, Or Post-Tribulation Rapture?

Without question, there will be a Pre-Tribulation Rapture. The Bride of Christ, the church, will not go through the wrath. (I Thessalonians 1:9-10, 5:9; Romans 5:9; Revelation 3:8-11 compared with 2:22). The church or churches is mentioned twenty times in Revelation chapter 1 to 3. However, in the Tribulation chapters (6 to 18), you do not read the word "church" one time. Furthermore, you do not read one clear recording of a single person being baptized in water in Jesus' name or receiving the Holy Ghost with the sign of tongues in any of the Tribulation chapters. The Spirit came down when the church began, and it will go up at the Rapture of the church. "He who now letteth" will be taken out of the earth at the Rapture of the church (II Thessalonians 2:1-9). The Bride will be caught up. The many prophecies in the Old Testament concerning being filled and baptized with the Spirit of God are tied to the Church Age. The Spirit of God will still be in the earth, just not as it was at Pentecost dwelling in the souls of men and women.

In your opinion, what happens to the USA during the Tribulation? Does the USA have a role in end-time prophecy? Is the USA mentioned in the Bible?

In Revelation 12:14, we see the woman/Israel (Revelation 12:1 with Genesis 37:9-11) aided by the two eagles' wings. Perhaps this is the USA. After a vote of the United Nations, Israel was reborn as a recognized nation on May 14, 1948. Seventy years later, almost to the hour, President Donald J. Trump had the U.S. Embassy moved to Jerusalem. I believe the world powers will have a role in the last days. However, I think it is very important to view these prophecies through the lens of the time period that they were given and to always keep Israel at the center of end-time prophecy. America's military, wealth, and population keeps her on the front of the global stage until the Tribulation. Then, everything shifts back to the Middle East and the surrounding areas.

Tell us about your book, The Unveiling. Why did you write this book, and who needs to read it?

As the church of the living God, we must be aware of the Spirit of Antichrist and Jesus' warnings concerning deception as a sign of the end. This apostate, ungodly spirit and deception are going to be two key weapons that Satan uses in this last hour. The greatest need we have in the army of the Lord today is for more soul winners and intercessory prayer warriors!

You may order Bro. Dagan's book by going to: hopeapostoliccupc.org (Go to "Online Store" and the books are listed). It is a 340-page study guide, and the cost is \$30.00. If you have questions, you may contact Pastor Dagan, with your pastor's blessings, at pastordagan@gmail.com.

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	SPEAKERS / NOTES	CONTACT / INFO
JULY 23-27	North American Bible Quizzing Tournament PCI Youth Ministries will submit the list of BQE-qualifying teams to the hotel (an initial maximum of 4 rooms/team). The host hotel will contact teams for specific rooming and payment information.	Location TBD	Speakers for devotions and services will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.seniorbiblequizzing.com for more information.
JULY 28-30	North American Youth Congress The world's largest apostolic youth event, filled with dynamic preaching, singing, and fellowship.	This event will now be hosted online.	Michael Thomas, Jerry Jones, Victor Jackson, Amado Huizar, Adam Shaw, and many more.	For more information: www.northamericanyouthcongress.com
AUG 20-22	Indiana Bible College Welcome Weekend IBC welcomes incoming and returning students to begin our Fall 2021 semester.	Indiana Bible College 1502 E. Sumner Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46227	Our first chapel service of the year will take place the following Tuesday, featuring IBC President Joshua B. Carson.	Apply online at: https://indianabiblecollege.org/apply/
AUG 29	Move the Mission Offering Due Date Formerly Sheaves for Christ, Move the Mission is the fundraising ministry of the Youth Ministries of the United Pentecostal Church International. Since its inception in 1953, over \$134 million has been raised to fund missions and ministries around the world.	This event will be promoted at churches nationwide.	When you invest in Move the Mission you intentionally share the gospel around the world!	Visit www.movethemission.com for more information.
AUG 31-SEPT 2	The Movement Conference The Movement Conference is created for pastors and their church leadership teams who are pursuing the missions model of multiplication.	First Apostolic Church 1331 William Blount Dr. Maryville, TN 37801	Kenneth Carpenter, Timothy Lee, Matthew Ball, JH Osborne, Jimmy Toney, Raymond Woodward, David Poole, Aaron Bounds, Sam Emory	Visit www.livethemovement.org for more information.
SEPT 9-10	Mid-America Renewal Conference (MARC) Indianapolis, Indiana - A power-packed preaching conference in the heart of the Midwest.	Calvary Tabernacle 902 Fletcher Ave. Indianapolis, IN 46203	Joshua B. Carson, Doug White, Gary Keller, Aaron & Cindy Bounds, Tim & Stacy Gaddy, Jason & Valerie Staten, Scott Graham, James Wilson, Wayne Huntley	ibc@apostolic.edu indianabiblecollege.org or call (317) 262-4030 or (317) 514-8069
OCT 1	CMI - Awakening Registration Available The Virtual Conference for Apostolic Campus Ministers	This event will be held online.	Aaron Soto, Lindsay Walker, Mike McGurk, Kaleb Saucer	Visit www.upciyouth.com/events for more information.000
OCT 5-8	UPCI General Conference 2021 Don't miss this incredible gathering of apostolic ministers and acquaintances worldwide.	Indianapolis, IN	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.upcigc.net for more information.
OCT 20-23	Winds Conference A conference with a powerful apostolic atmosphere to empower and equip young ministers and millennials.	East Wind Pentecostal Church 1021 Emerson Dr. NE Palm Bay, FL 32907	Jerry Jones, Victor Jackson, Josh Carson, Aaron Bounds, Mark Brown, Joel Urshan, and many more.	Visit www.WindsConference.com for more information.
NOV 1	AYC Online Applications Available Apostolic Youth Corps is a branch of UPCI Youth Ministries.	Destinations will be announced closer to the event date.	AYC North American trips are open to applicants 15-35 years of age.	Visit www.apostolicyouthcorps.com for more information.
NOV 12-13	Chicagoland Men's Conference Our goal is to continue to be a meeting men can gather from all over our fellowship to be strengthened, renewed, inspired, blessed, and be better men and stronger men.	Family Harvest Church 18500 92nd Ave. Tinley Park, IL 60487	Speakers for this conference will be announced closer to the event date.	Visit www.chicagolandmensconference.com for more information.
DEC 19	Christmas for Christ Offering Christmas for Christ is an annual offering received during the Christmas season that supports church planters in North America. Our goal is to raise \$6 million dollars.	Churches nationwide will participate in this offering.	Every church should set a special day to bring their best offering to Jesus. The official date is December 20, 2020, but can be altered according to the local need.	Visit www.christmasforchrist.faith for more information.

Theology: Addressing Different Definitions of Inerrancy



Jason Gallion

Church Today

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Where is King Herod?

The question, *Where is King Herod?* is a rhetorical question because King Herod has already been found. King Herod resides in each one of us. He resides in each one of us, and every person is guilty. We all have proclaimed with our mouths that we love the Lord, but sometimes we fail Him in our actions. Herod resides in me because there have been times where I have said, "I'll serve Gd, and I'll give Him my life." However, at the end of the day, it was just lip service, because Herod resides in human nature, which we all struggle with.

Herod resides in human nature, and we struggle because many of us have forgotten over and over what the blood of Jesus has done. We have forgotten what Christ has called us to be. We come to church and we have remembered a portion. We can worship and dance in service, even when everyone has left. It is in those quiet moments when I am on my own that, sometimes, Herod comes out. That is where I find myself wrestling with a spirit that I thought that I could overcome. That means that I do not understand what the blood of Jesus can do for my life.

If we truly understand, we know that Herod wants to exploit you in those moments of weakness, and Herod wants to convince you that you can't overcome your past and your sin. That is what Herod wants to do. However, I believe if we could ever get to a place where our action and our words are matched up, if I could ever get to a place of consistency, where I push back the failures of my flesh, where I have completely disconnected with what the world's identifying me as, if I completely walked away and said, I am a new creature, and I don't ever want to go back, that we can accomplish incredible things through Jesus Christ!

I believe the blood is powerful enough to take you and me, regardless of what we've done, regardless of whom we have identified with in our flesh, God can transform us! I do not believe there has to be a spirit of Herod in any one of us, but I do believe the crown that we can put on is a royal crown, a holy priesthood, that we need to have the spirit of Jesus Christ inside of us that says that my actions and my words are aligning. So, I cast the crown off here. I am not coming to Christ just to worship him with my mouth, but there's got to be something within my heart, some consistency that begins to bleed over in my everyday life. You see, that means that when I am in those hard times, I put on the true crown. That is when I can either put on Herod's crown and say, I just worship Him when there are other people around, and they can see me do my thing, or I worship Him in privacy because it is with my heart!



Bobby Killmon

Theology

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Why does it seem there are many different definitions for basic doctrines like inerrancy today?

I will leave aside attacks against the Church today and speak to the more important issue of "in-house" differences. Sometimes, when someone loves the Word of God, they can hear liberal attacks against inerrancy and attempt to reduce the Bible's clear statements to something that seems more "defensible." That impulse, however, reduces what they can claim about Scripture in terms of science, history, or even morals. For instance, Peter Enns says to think of inerrancy in terms of the incarnation. There is "God stuff" and "human stuff." That sounds plausible and perhaps something we might be able to use, but the analogy breaks down. Enns doesn't believe the Bible is without error. To make his new term "incarnational inspiration" work biblically, the Bible would need to be without error, just like Jesus was without sin or error as a human being. He's trying to distort the language of Scripture to move people into non-Scriptural belief.

The response of Bible believers can sometimes fall into what James Boren called "fuzzification." By this, he meant the "presentation of a matter in terms that permit adjustive interpretation." That means the definition constantly adjusts to new attacks until the term becomes useless. J. W. Montgomery, writing in 1978, said that Evangelicals would start to see "contradictions" or "source theories" and perhaps even "errors in Holy Scripture" as nothing more than "a question of hermeneutics, not of inspiration at all!" Montgomery declared that "the 'inerrancy' with which one is left is an inerrancy devoid of meaningful content;" and he warned of the dangers of "adjustive interpretation." As Apostolics, we need to remember that we too can be moved from the true standard of belief by an impulse to defend on the ground the enemies of Scripture create. While this doesn't deal with all issues surrounding inerrancy, it is a baseline for approaching the issue because real things are at stake.

Today, I sit in a hospital with my 85-year-old father. He has been in a serious accident, but thanks be to God, he is recovering. However, I have spent moments with him over the last few days as he has prayed, talked in tongues, witnessed to doctors and nurses; and yes, he has even spoken of heaven and "going home." The promises of God's Word are real. I have a concrete trust in the truth declared in the Bible that goes beyond mere human emotion and experience. In moments like this, we find a biblical faith. It is real trust, not a blind existential or emotional leap. A trust that is based on what I know to be true from both God's Spirit and my real encounter with Him by the Spirit, and the reality of a trustworthy, inerrant Word that affirms my faith is not in vain. I need both. I have both. I give heartfelt thanks in moments like this for both.



T. W. Massengale

Church Growth

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Opinions on Outreach

Recently a pastor talked to me about compassion-evangelism and the use of free giveaways as a means of attracting visitors. He had heard of mixed results and wanted to know my opinion.

The Bible is very clear that the church should help the poor and disadvantaged (Lk. 14:13). However, targeting all your evangelism efforts in this area seldom works. Research clearly shows that well over 90% of our new converts come from

the family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, and acquaintances of your current members. While we should not avoid reaching out to strangers with the gospel, the chance of them making a decision for God is much lower than relationship-evangelism.

Therefore, churches should encourage their members to reach out to those they know. Consider the following: (1) Lots of 'special Sundays,' promoted well, encouraging members to bring friends or family members; (2) Good guest follow-up to encourage all your guests to visit again (few are baptized the first time they come); (3) Regular training to teach members how to witness (most lack witnessing skills); (4) Home Bible Study training to insure every guest is offered a HBS; (5) Bus ministry builds long-term relationships with kids and parents (use "Parentreach" to see bus families saved); (6)

Car ministry provides rides for those without transportation; (7) Emphasis on Easter, Pentecost Sunday, Mothers/Father's Day, July 4th, and Christmas programs. Team contests encourage members to bring guests.

Should you still reach for people who have no relationship connection to the church? Yes, door knocking still works in some areas. The "Quest" survey will get you some home Bible studies. Prayer walks should not be neglected. Booths at fairs and art events have had some success. Block parties and park services should not be discounted. But carefully examine your evangelism 'mix.' Most should be built on relationship evangelism and not stranger-evangelism. Bottom line: your best outreach methods are power-packed church services and altar calls. But you need lots of visitors. Finally, you need strong new convert care to retain your gains.

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JESUS SAID UNTO THEM,
"LET US GO INTO **THE NEXT TOWNS**,
THAT I MAY PREACH THERE ALSO." MARK 1:38



THE NEXT TOWN



WHERE IS YOUR NEXT TOWN?

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3 CHURCH PLANTING OPTIONS:

PREACHING POINT, DAUGHTER WORK, SELF-GOVERNING WORK



Spiritual Growth

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How Do We Live a God-Centered Life?

In my twenty-eight years of counseling, I find people who have had an Acts 2:38 salvation experience for many years who do not know how to live a life that is God-centered. What is a God-centered life? What does it mean to be holy as He is holy? How do we glorify God in our body and our spirit which belong to God?

God's great commandment gives the details to answer the above questions. The great commandment instructs us to love God with our whole or all – heart, soul, mind, and strength! Our heart, soul, and mind are the ingredients of our invisible self. It is where we process our thoughts that creates our feelings and actions. We must be accountable to God in every thought, feeling, word, and action.

The Bible teaches that we all will answer to God for everything we say and do! This includes how we treat people, especially our spouse and children. If we claim to have the Holy Ghost (God in us the hope of glory), we must treat others as God would treat them.

"Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: and be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:31-32 KJV

These are easy, straightforward instructions on how we are to treat others. There is no excuse to use evil words or have a hateful attitude! We are to be Holy-Ghost-controlled and allow the fruit of the Spirit to have control over our actions. The Holy Ghost is not an enforcer. God will not make us do anything! We must choose to be holy in our thoughts and actions. We must choose to glorify God in our thoughts, words, and deeds.

Because God is our Creator and our Savior, we must treat others as we would treat God! God is love. He tells us we must love one another! There is no place for selfishness in our words or attitudes. We must treat others as we want to be treated! God sees ALL we do. Surrender to HIM!

www.carolclemans.org – nationwide counseling, life coaching, teaching, writing God's truth – (636) 448-0121 – read over 500 articles. Join: www.patreon.com/carolclemans. Mins. Ref: Pastor Daniel Batchelor, Duplo, IL. (Holy Ghost 66 years).



Accounting & Tax

Bitcoin, Ethereum, and Dogecoin... Oh My!

Every day new reports come out about the pros and cons of cryptocurrency. The accessibility to purchase virtual currency is now easier than ever with apps such as Robinhood. While we will not discuss whether one should "invest" in the latest coin being mined, there are tax consequences to be aware of if you do.



Identity and Scripture

VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com

LIFE-Living In Freedom EVERYDAY (Part 4 - Continuation)

This month we will linger a while in the fourth stage of our emotional healing journey. We are discovering that while this stage of healing is a place of quietness and stillness, it is also a place of the 'Niagara Falls of Tears.' These are healing tears that erupt and flow out of us like the Niagara Falls. We have no control of these tears and they erupt during the most unexpected times. These tears are extremely important for numerous reasons. Here are just a few of those reasons.

First, these tears are important because as our Creator is molding us back together piece by piece, the healing tears are mingled into the fibers of our being/our person. This molding process is so much easier when it is mingled with liquid...and what better liquid than the liquid of healing tears!

Next, these tears create within us an intrinsic sensitivity to the hurt and pain others carry deep inside. What is the importance of this sensitivity? It is important because now that we have become victors and are no longer victims of life's hurt, pain, trauma, and abuse, God can use us to help others. The world's view of tears is a sign of weakness in those who shed them.

Finally, but only finally in this article due to limited space, tears touch the very soul and spirit of a person. A person sees that we are concerned for their well-being and we have much compassion for them when they see our tears. Our tears are no longer tears of hurt, sorrow, pain, grief, and torment. We now have tears of joy, love, compassion, empathy, thankfulness, gratefulness, and forgiveness.

When God creates us and makes us over anew, He changes even our tears! So we linger in this fourth stage to be saturated with these new tears which have an intrinsic value to them. Let these tears soak us through and through.

Vickie Hodges is a UPCI licensed minister with 35 years experience in Early Childhood Education and Brain Development Research. She is the author of LIFE (Living In Freedom EVERYDAY) Recovery Series. Vickie is a trainer and a speaker at seminars, retreats, conferences and universities. She can be reached at VickieHodgesSharingLife@gmail.com or (281) 489-0055.



Relationships 201

www.dsministries.com

Love Thyself!

I understand this will make some folks uncomfortable. I can see the gears in your mind working through this. "What does he mean, love thyself?!"

We're not supposed to do that!" Wrong.

We know the first greatest commandment is to 'love the Lord your God with all your heart, all you soul, and all your mind.' The second greatest commandment is of equal importance: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' (Matthew 22:37-40).

There is an inferred third commandment listed. We understand you will love your neighbor to the extent you love yourself. People typically love those closest to them in a similar fashion as they love themselves.

People emulate what is inside. People who express anger at others do so because they are generally angry with themselves. They have lost control of something, so anger results, and someone else ends up being the beneficiary of their anger, either now or later.

We cannot love God if we don't love the people around us. And, we cannot love those around us if we don't love ourselves.

I am not talking about self-adulation, self-adoration, self-exaltation, or narcissism. If we don't have a healthy love for ourselves, we cannot wholly and effectively love others. If we cannot effectively love others, then we cannot wholly love God. When somebody does not love themselves, they have a low self-image or a poor sense of self.

There are certain temperaments, which are naturally prone to think negatively about themselves. We can overcome this belief system by looking at ourselves through the 'eyes of Christ' rather than through our own eyes.

We can find self-image teaching in the Bible using the word 'humility.' We define a humble view of self as an accurate view of self. Nothing more, nothing less.

God has poured into each individual abilities, capabilities, and talent. Learn to embrace who God created you to be. Learn to appreciate God's creative genius in you. Then let Him use you as He desires. You will be blown away, and the Kingdom will benefit.

Dr. Daniel Sirstad is a UPCI ordained minister and has a PhD in Clinical Pastoral Counseling. As the Executive Director of DayStar Ministries, Dr. Sirstad travels extensively teaching and preaching on relational subjects. He counsels for many congregations throughout North America using HIPAA-compliant video technology. dsirstad@dsministries.com

loss the same as if you sold the currency.

Whether you sell or not, the IRS is interested in knowing if you own any crypto coins – the first question on form 1040 is the question: "At any time during 2020, did you receive, sell, send, exchange, or otherwise acquire any financial interest in any virtual currency?" Form 8949 is used to report cryptocurrency gains and losses.

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THAT'S OUTRAGEOUS**College Reports Chaplain as Possible Terrorist for Bible-Based Sermon on LGBT Ideology**

A chaplain in the United Kingdom is alleging discrimination and harassment after a college dismissed him and reported him to the government's anti-terrorism unit for a sermon affirming biblical teaching on sexuality.

Rev.

Bernard Randall was a chaplain at Trent College in Nottingham when, in 2019, he delivered a sermon encouraging students to love "our neighbors as ourselves" and love "everyone equally." In the same sermon, he told the students, "You do not have to accept the ideas and ideologies of LGBT activists." He also noted that Trent exists "to educate boys and girls according to the protestant and evangelical principles of the Church of England."

Trent, which had implemented an LGBT curriculum, reported him to the government's counter-terrorism watchdog *Prevent* and then dismissed him later that year, according to Christian Institute, which is representing Randall in a lawsuit. Although his dismissal was overturned, he was told his sermons must be approved ahead of time.

Randall's lawsuit alleges discrimination, harassment, victimization and unfair dismissal. "I was doing the job I was employed to do," he said in a statement.

**NCAA Refuses Championships in States Where Biological Males Barred from Women's Sports**

The National Collegiate Athletic Association announced that states with laws or policies prohibiting transgender-identified biological males from competing in women's sports will lose opportunities to host championship events and tournaments.

The NCAA Board of Governors released a statement stating that it "firmly and unequivocally" supports "transgender student-athletes" being able "to compete in college sports."

"Our approach — which requires testosterone suppression treatment for transgender women to compete in women's sports — embraces the evolving science on this issue..." stated the NCAA. "Inclusion and fairness can coexist for all student-athletes, including transgender athletes, at all levels of sport."

**Pastor Warns Leftist Ideology is Extremely Dangerous to the Church**

Over the last decade, Lucas Miles began noticing what he believes is a "really damaging, antithetical to the Gospel, and certainly heretical" issue metastasizing across the Western Church.

"I've seen what The New York Times has called this 'Ascendant Liberal Christianity' invade churches. And of course, they present 'Liberal Christianity' or 'Progressive Christianity' in a positive light, but I think it's actually extremely dangerous to the Body of Christ," Miles, a pastor and author stressed.

Over the last 36 months, Miles said he began seeing this liberal ideology invade churches at an unprecedented rate. "I would hear people start talking about Christianity using progressive language, and the Jesus they presented was more of a great social organizer than the Savior of the world," he said.

"I live in a red state and blue county, and there are probably four or five churches right around me that are flying a Marxist Black Lives Matter flag or Christian socialism symbol or a rainbow flag, and they're flying those higher than the cross. I think it says a lot about where the churches in America are right now."

Miles reports that many in the Christian Left have kept one foot in biblical orthodoxy and one foot in progressive ideology. "But if we begin to downgrade Scripture to something other than the Word of God, Christianity begins to erode."

Feeling an urgency to help Christians discern biblical truth from dangerous ideology, Miles penned his latest book, *The Christian Left: How Liberal Thought Has Hijacked the Church*. The Christian Left, he said, is "really good at hijacking terminology" in order to "ooze their way into being recognized" as "Christian." One way they do this, he said, is by increasingly pushing for a "Christian Universalism" that says all paths lead to Jesus Christ.

Speaking of this trend, Lucas contended, "It's really a partnership with liberal Christian universities, certain mainstream media outlets, and even certain mainstream faith outlets."

One reason progressive ideology has so easily permeated churches across the West is because of growing biblical illiteracy, Miles said. According to the State of the Bible 2020 report, the proportion of Americans who read the Bible daily also fell to fewer than one in 10 (9%), the lowest number on record during the 10 years of the State of the Bible research study.

"One thing that we do not have the liberty to have a degree of difference on is the authority of Scripture, because the moment that the authority of Scripture is challenged, all the other aspects of our faith rooted in it are challenged as well. The moment we adopt and begin to accept forms of Christianity that downplay the authority of Scripture, it gives way to embracing things that aren't Christian, but yet we're calling Christian."

NEWS IN BRIEF

■ District Judge Roseann Ketchmark rejected a Missouri Christian university's plea for temporary protection against the Biden administration's Fair Housing Act, which, the school said, requires religious schools to open women's dorm rooms and showers to male students. An attorney representing the Fair Housing Act's department was quoted as saying, "The plaintiffs can't establish either irreparable

harm or the likelihood of success necessary to sustain a preliminary injunction."

■ A leading bioethicist is calling for new laws and regulations after scientists successfully created the world's first human-monkey hybrid embryos. The scientists said they created the hybrids by injecting human stem cells into monkey embryos, according to *Nature*.

SOCIAL TRENDS**Biden Becomes First President to Omit God from National Day of Prayer Proclamation**

President Biden on Wednesday issued a National Day of Prayer proclamation that touted the "power of prayer" and invited Americans to "give thanks," although the proclamation's absence of the word "God" sparked criticism and marked the first time this has happened in modern United States history.



By a 1952 law, every U.S. president must issue a proclamation designating a National Day of Prayer. This year, the day fell on May 6th.

"Today, we remember and celebrate the role that the healing balm of prayer can play in our lives and in the life of our Nation," the proclamation reads. "As we continue to confront the crises and challenges of our time — from a deadly pandemic, to the loss of lives and livelihoods in its wake, to a reckoning on racial justice, to the existential threat of climate change — Americans of faith can call upon the power of prayer to provide hope and uplift us for the work ahead."

On the National Day of Prayer, "we unite with purpose and resolve, and recommit ourselves to the core freedoms that helped define and guide our Nation from its earliest days," it reads. The proclamation, though, omits the word "God," making Biden the first president not to include "God" in his proclamation in modern history.

LEGAL TRENDS**Federal Judge Compares Abortion Industry to Nazi Eugenics: It's 'Pure Evil' to Target Certain Babies**

America and the rest of the world are guilty of Nazi-like eugenics by allowing abortion that targets the unborn for various traits such as sex, race and disability, a federal judge asserted this week in a much-publicized abortion case.

Judge Richard Griffin, a member of the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, made the comments in a concurring opinion that was attached to the court's decision in a ruling that upheld an Ohio law banning abortions based on a Down syndrome diagnosis. Griffin noted the clear connection with Nazi eugenics in his opinion:

"Following Nazi Germany's horrific implementation of eugenics to its natural conclusion, the eugenics movement lost its popularity. ... Tragically, however, the practice continues today with modern-day abortions."

THE MOVEMENT CONFERENCE

AUGUST 31 – SEPT 2, 2021

THE 2021 VOICES OF THE MOVEMENT



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Maryville, TN



Timothy Lee
Singapore



Matthew Ball
Carmel, IN



JH Osborne
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10AM • FORUM

/ Rev. Gary Keller (moderator)

/ Rev. Aaron & Cindy Bounds

/ Rev. Tim & Stacy Gaddy

/ Rev. Jason & Valerie Staten

11:30AM • SERVICE

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7PM • SERVICE

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/ Rev. Wayne Huntley

THE GOD OF IMPOSSIBILITIES

REV. SAM EMORY | MERCED, CA

Transcribed by Linda Schreckenber

"Ah Lord God! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee: Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the Lord of hosts, is his name, Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings." (Jeremiah 32:17-19)

There Is Nothing Too Hard For God

It was our God that made the heavens and the earth by His great, powerful, outstretched arm and capable right hand. If He can do that, then we must conclude that there is nothing too hard, nothing too difficult, neither is there anything impossible for Him.

The majesty of our God is limitless, and He has all power. In Genesis 18, when God told Abraham that they would have a son in their old age, Sarah laughed, and Abraham was doubtful. Then, the angel asked, "Is anything too hard for the LORD?" There is nothing too hard for our God. He is the God of impossibilities.

My friend, there are over thirty thousand promises in the Bible, and God will keep His Word. If our God has made you a promise, He cannot lie, and there is no promise He cannot keep. There's no prayer too hard for Him to answer. Jesus said in Matthew 21:22, "And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive." When you ask in prayer and believe, you'll receive. There is no problem too hard for God to solve. He specializes in things that seem impossible. Now God may not solve your problem the way you want Him to, but there's no problem too hard for Him to solve. He will keep His promises. If we pray, there is no prayer He can't answer and no person too hard for Him to save. He can save anyone, anywhere, at any time.

Don't give up on your family. Don't give up on your kids, your friends, and your co-workers, because we believe what Job said: "I know that thou canst do everything..." (Job 42:2) Let us be careful that we do not put a limit on Almighty God. There's nothing too hard for God. But we can limit Him and bind His hand in our life if we have an unwilling spirit and a bad attitude, and are not willing to accept "no" as an answer. If we are full of pride and have an arrogant or selfish attitude, that causes God to turn a deaf ear to our request. So, humble yourself before the God of impossibilities.

Don't Be Weary In Well Doing

"And, let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." (Galatians 6:9) Here we are in 2021, and the virus is still spreading, the political arena is out of control, but we should not be overcome by what we hear and see. Our God has unlimited power. There is no closed door that He cannot open. There is no situation He cannot overcome, so let us be careful to stay the course.

Sometimes our prayers aren't answered because of our attitude, a spirit of unconcern, or unconfessed sins. Unbelief is devastating because it blocks our faith and closes the window to the supernatural.

Jesus was in His hometown but could not heal many people, because they were filled with unbelief. We must believe He is the God of impossibilities if we are to see the impossible done in our day.

God Wants To Get Glory Out Of Our Lives

"Then Nebuchadnezzar spake, and said, Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, who hath sent His angel, and delivered His servants that trusted in Him, and have changed the king's word, and yielded their bodies, that they might not serve nor worship any god, except their own God. Therefore, I make a decree, That every people, nation, and language, which speak anything amiss against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, shall be cut in pieces, and their houses shall be made a dunghill: because there is no other God that can deliver after this sort. Then the king promoted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, in the province of Babylon." (Daniel 3:28-30)

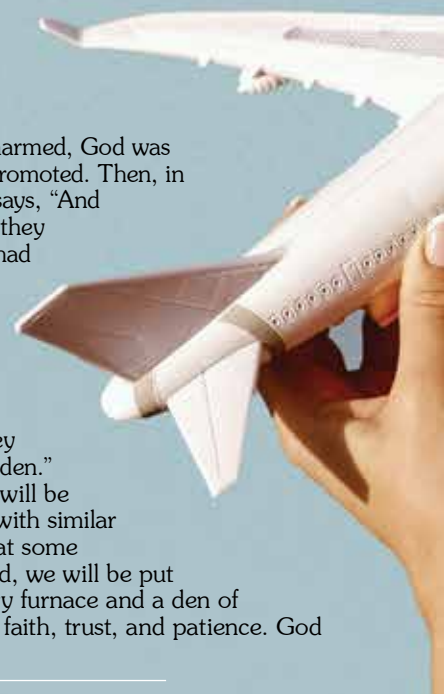
There will be times when God will not take us out of the path of trouble. Rather, He may choose to see us through to the other side. He wants to get glory out of our lives, so we must ask ourselves a question: "What gives more glory to God; keeping us from the trials, troubles, and temptations, or delivering us through the fiery furnace unharmed?" God used this test and trial to show how great His power was. He was well able to protect them in the midst of the fire and deliver them untouched, unharmed, and without the smell of smoke on their person. I know we have had some great losses and sickness, but what if this is our fiery furnace? Rather than ask to be delivered, maybe God gets more glory seeing us thorough instead of taking us out. The people were astonished at God taking them through the fiery furnace!

Daniel had enemies who sought to find fault in him and his God. They persuaded the king to pass a thirty-day law that no prayers could be made to any deity but the king himself. Daniel continued to open his window and prayer eastward three times a day as he did before. As punishment, Daniel was thrown into a den of hungry lions, but God kept him all night.

"Then the king arose very early in the morning, and went in haste unto the den of lions. And when he came to the den, he cried with a lamentable voice unto Daniel: And, the king spake and said to Daniel, O Daniel, servant of the living God, is thy God whom thou servest continually, able to deliver thee from the lions?" Daniel 6:19-20

Daniel walked out unharmed, God was glorified, and Daniel was promoted. Then, in Daniel 6:24 the Scripture says, "And the king commanded, and they brought those men which had accused Daniel, and they cast them into the den of lions, them, their children and their wives; and the lions had the mastery of them, and brake all their bones in pieces or ever they came at the bottom of the den."

I'm doubting that we will be confronted or challenged with similar circumstances. However, at some point in our walk with God, we will be put to the test with both a fiery furnace and a den of lions. It was a test of their faith, trust, and patience. God



waited until the situation seemed impossible, and then He showed up as the God of impossibilities.

God Will Show Up And Show Out

"And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you today: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever. The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace." (Exodus 14:13-14)

After forty years of Egyptian captivity and slavery, God sends Moses to free His people. After each plague and each miracle, God makes Pharaoh's heart harder. As I'm reading the text, I'm thinking, "Wait, God, whose side are you on? Things should be getting better, not worse!" I have noticed that in the midst of trouble, things can go from bad to worse, especially when we begin to pray. When God begins to move, oftentimes things will go crazy. Then the voice of the enemy comes: "Where is God?" We begin to feel like Job. "Behold, I go forward, but He is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive Him. On the left hand, where He doth work, but I cannot behold Him: He hideth Himself on the right hand, that I cannot see Him: But He knoweth the way that I take: when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold." Job 23:8-10

Everyone says, "But..." Wait a minute! Hold up, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord! God shows up! It's not over yet! I feel my help coming on! I know my God will show up and show out, in His time, because He is the God of impossibilities.

The Pit of Despair

"O LORD my God, I cried unto thee, and thou hast healed me. O LORD, thou hast brought up my soul from the grave: thou hast kept me alive, that I should not go down to the pit. Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of His, and give thanks at the remembrance of His holiness. For His anger endureth but a moment; in His favour is life: weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." (Psalm 30:2-4)

David was in darkness
and felt close to
death in whatever
he was facing. He
says the Lord brought
him up from the
grave or the shadow of
death. He gives glory
to God for saving him
from the pit of despair
and keeping him alive. I
don't know about you, but

I can think of a few times like that
when I didn't know God. I was
doing my thing, and it got me into
trouble. I should have been dead
a long time ago, but God! Lift up
your hands and remember. "But
God! I was sick! But God!" The
psalmist reminds us there are times
or seasons when trouble and weeping
may endure for a night, but joy will
come in the morning.

"It is of the LORD'S mercies
that we are not consumed, because
his compassions fail not. They are
new every morning: great is thy
faithfulness." (Lamentations 3:22-23)

Trouble may come in the night or a dark
season, but joy will bring a new season.

In Thyatira, a chain of events led to Paul and
Silas being beaten with many stripes and cast

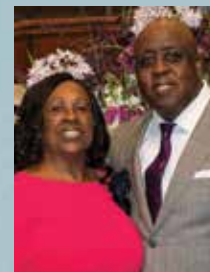
into prison. The jailer of the prison,
"Who, having received such a charge,
thrust them into the inner prison, and
made their feet fast in the stocks. And
at midnight Paul and Silas prayed,
and sang praises unto God: and the
prisoners heard them. And suddenly
there was a great earthquake, so that the
foundations of the prison were shaken:
and immediately all the doors were
opened, and every one's bands were
loosed." (Acts 16:24-26) They shackled
them physically, but they did not bind their
voice. They started to sing in the midnight
hour, and the foundation of the prison was moved. Every door
was opened and every man's chains loosed. It was the dawn of a
new day with new mercies, new grace, and new faith. They may
try and bind our hands or where we go, but no one can stop our
praise and worship.

Let me close with this; while working on this sermon, I
received this text from a saint: "Did I not keep Daniel in the
lion's den? Did I not keep Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
in the fiery furnace? So, I will keep my people in the midst of
turmoil and trouble."

It may be late in the midnight hour, but brand-new mer-
cies, compassions, and power are coming to us. We are about
to enter into the throne room, so get ready to meet the God of
impossibilities.

**Rev. Sam Emory, along with his lovely wife, Shirley, has
pastored Apostolic Tabernacle in Merced, California since 2006,
after evangelizing for ten years.**

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Merced, CA





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Now, the MA/RI District has launched a new growth initiative. Our vision is to double the number of churches and ministers in our district by the year 2030. We call it Decade to Double.

We are excited to announce a strategic partnership with the Louisiana District UPCI. We want to thank them for their pledge to send church planters and workers into the MA/RI District to help make this vision a reality.

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Dan Kantola phone # 208-866-2930 or email djkantola@yahoo.com

Word To The Wise:

"How you treat the one reveals how you regard the many, because everyone is ultimately a one." - Stephen R. Covey

"We don't have many celebrities in my family, but if my great grandfather was living today he'd be the most famous man in the world."

"Really? What'd he do?"

"Nothing much. But he would be 165 years old."

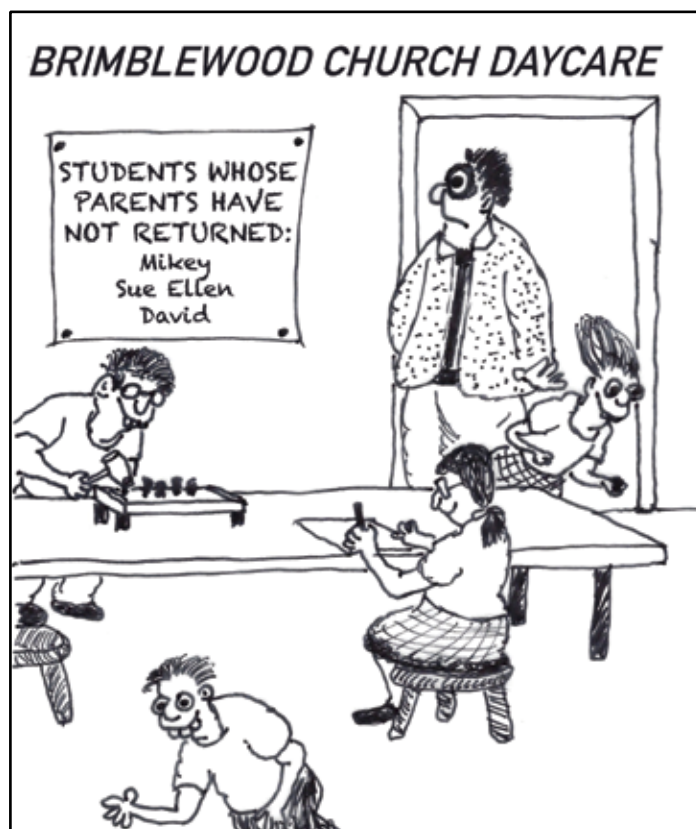
* * * * *

A little girl went to church with her mother. She had a dollar and a quarter in her shiny little Sunday purse.

When the collection plate came around, the mother noticed her daughter dropping in her quarter instead of the dollar.

Later, the mother asked her daughter why she chose to give the quarter over the dollar.

She enthusiastically explained to her mother: "I was going to give the dollar, but just before the collection the preacher said that God loves a cheerful giver. I knew I'd be a lot more cheerful if I gave the quarter, so I did."



* * * * *

Bob was a Walmart greeter who was habitually late for work, but otherwise an excellent employee. Out of frustration concerning this gentleman's tardiness, the Walmart store manager called him in for a one-on-one meeting.

"So," began the manager, "I understand you're retired from the armed forces. May I inquire as to which branch?"

"I was in the Navy," Bob replied.

"And," inquired the boss, "were you ever late arriving at your former job?"

"Why, yes, sometimes I came late" answered Bob.

"Well, tell me, what comment was made upon your callously late arrival?"

The greeter smiled and replied, "Good morning, Admiral Jones, would you like tea or coffee this morning?"



"God is SWAMPED right now. So knock it off with prayers like 'Help my bundt cake turn out great.' and 'Help me find my nail file.'"

* * * * *

A young Sunday school student was coloring an activity page when he suddenly looked up at his teacher.

"Sis. Stroobey, how old are you?" he asked.

"Thirty-nine and counting," the teacher replied.

The child thought for a moment, then said, "And how old would you be if you let go?"



After receiving complaints that his sermons were too long, Pastor Morty attempts to break the record for the shortest sermon ever preached.



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MARK 4:35-41

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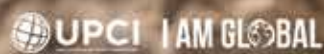
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