



A
Ministry
of:

**CORNERSTONE
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

54 Brighton Street
P.O. Box 438
Belmont, MA 02478
Tel: 617-489-2498

Pastor
ROLLAND C. STARR
Editor

WHAT'S GOING ON IN FUNDAMENTAL BAPTIST CHURCHES?

March 2007

The following is from a couple in Chicago who are in their eighties. They have been Fundamental Baptists for years, perhaps most of their lives. They get the Challenge and have written to us many times over the years. For some years now, they have written to say that in that great metropolitan area (probably the 3rd or 4th largest city in the United States) it is just about impossible to find a true, old-fashioned, Fundamental Baptist Church. From what I see and hear, this is not abnormal but the usual thing. Here is what they wrote: "We just left a Church about six weeks ago. The Pastor (?) hardly ever started on time and then just tells jokes. The coffee pot and cakes, etc. are in the sanctuary so people had them in the pews (while church was on). We have been in 4 churches that have TVs; one had no evening service but was going to have the football game on. In one church, in the evening service they were to have a pot luck, games, and the football game on TV... We have gone to many Baptist churches in Chicago and many of the suburbs. A lot of the women wear pants and people come looking as though they were going to wash the car or had been cleaning house. Some wear T shirts with writing on them. In one church, a man led the singing in shorts. One of our sons attends a church where, when the service starts you would think you were at a rock concert.

This sort of thing is pervasive, it is everywhere. We get mail from other folks in the States and Canada, who say there is no Fundamental Baptist Church within any reasonable distance. If these are not the last days of apostasy, I don't know what you would call them. Just read II Tim.3:1-5: **"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves... Traitors, heady, highminded, LOVERS OF PLEASURE more than lovers of God: HAVING A FORM OF GODLINESS, but denying the power thereof: FROM SUCH TURN AWAY."** This is describing professed believers in Christ. Some of them don't even have a form of godliness today! Notice what God says; **"From such turn away."** Among most Fundamental Baptists, separation from the world and worldly churches is a non-issue. Many are following the worldly, pop-psychological gospel of Rick Warren and Bill Hybels, etc. They say, if you want to win the worldly, you have got to cater to them; you have to have a worldly church program. That is the seeker-friendly way of doing church. But it is church without the benefit of God's presence. What good is that? Is that formula in the Word of God? NO! It is in direct contradiction to God's Word! But who cares, we are getting them in, they say. For what? When you disobey God, it doesn't matter how many you get in, God is not pleased! If anybody cares, God says, **"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. IF ANY MAN LOVE THE WORLD, THE LOVE OF THE FATHER IS NOT IN HIM."** I John 2:15. Let me encourage preachers who haven't yet succumbed to this ungodliness. Jesus is coming! Only what He says and thinks counts. He said, **"...if any man serve me, him will my father honor."** His approbation is worth something; the world's is worthless. Would you rather be right with God or wrong with the crowd?

CORNERSTONE NEWS

APRIL 8TH - 6:30 a.m.

SUNRISE SERVICE

"HE IS RISEN"

SPECIAL MUSIC

FULL BREAKFAST



A great way to remember the resurrection of our Lord! Bring the family! Full course breakfast afterward (free). S.S. - 9:30 / Church - 10:45 & 6:30

THE WAY TO WIN SOULS FOR CHRIST! In the great day, when the muster-roll shall be read, of all those converted through fine music, and church decoration, and religious exhibitions and entertainments, they will amount to the tenth part of nothing; but it will always please God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe. Keep to your preaching; and if you do anything beside, do not let it throw your preaching into the background. In the first place preach, in the second place preach, and in the third place preach. Believe in preaching the love of Christ, believe in preaching the atoning sacrifice, believe in preaching the new birth, believe in preaching the whole counsel of God. The old hammer of the Word of God will still break the rock in pieces; the ancient fire of Pentecost will still burn among the multitude. Try nothing new, but go on preaching... -Spurgeon. Ed. The modern method of *seeker friendly* services is not winning souls to Christ for Christ is not interested in building up one's self esteem. It is just getting folks to embrace a counterfeit gospel!

SPECIAL OFFER ON BOOKS AND BOOKLETS:

Charlie Coulson The Drummer Boy - Salvation... \$1.00
Is Your Bible...Word of God? - Bible Versions..... 3.00
Charismatic Movement: Is It Of God? -Needed..... 1.50
New Evangelicalism/Deadliest Ism -Important info..1.50
What The Bible Says About Separation..... 1.50
Cornerstone Clippings - Items from Challenges..... 2.00
Creation vs. Evolution - Young People need this.... 1.00
The (New) Evangelical Experiment..... 3.00
God's Word To Roman Catholics..... .75
What In the World Is God Doing? (Dispensations).... .50
Revelation of Jesus Christ. (An overview with..... 2.00
keys to understanding this great prophecy)

Special: One each for \$15.00 pp. Ten to nineteen of any one book - 25% off. (Postage paid). 20 of one book - 33% off.

YOUTH CORNER

AMERICA FOUNDED ON BIBLE PRINCIPLES!

Well-known commentator Lowell Thomas once said, "The Bible is of vital importance in teaching freedom: dictators fear the Bible, and for good reason - it inspired the Magna Carta and the Declaration of Independence." John Adams, a member of the committee appointed to draft this American "Declaration" was the only individual, aside from Benjamin Franklin, who made any suggestion as to the terminology to be used. In a letter written to Jefferson in 1813, Adams said that they had based their immortal document to a great extent on the tenets laid down in the Bible. He wrote: "The general principles on which the fathers achieved independence were the general principles of Christianity!" -Copied. Ed. How sad it is today to see young people (and adults) being brain-washed on this subject. For the most part, political leaders, judges and the media are doing their best to obliterate all public reference to Christ and Christianity. The Bible says, **"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?"** Psalm 11:3. This country was founded on the Bible and the great principles of Christianity - that's what made it great! But we have lost our way!

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT.

Hell is paved with good intentions,
and delay is chief of the devil's inventions.

Keep your words soft and sweet;
you never know when you may have to eat them.

The reason a dog has so many friends is he
wags his tail instead of his tongue.

The man who is in tune with this world
is out of harmony with Heaven.

Your rate of speed means nothing
if you are on the wrong road.

How do you walk over a mountain?

Just one step at a time.

PART TIME CHRISTIANS

You can see the saints a'gathering

Early upon the Lord's Day;

Hear them sing and promise Jesus

They will follow all the way.

But where are they in the evening?

Why this service they reject;

They were out to Church this morning

And that's all that God should expect.

-Author unknown

www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobboston.org

NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

RICK WARREN'S INCREDIBILITY! Two months ago Rick Warren visited Syria. Afterwards, the state-run news agency reported that Warren disagrees with U.S. policy in Iraq, and believes America is making a mistake in not dialoguing with Syria. The report said he also believed peace will not come without the aid of Syria and that 80% of the people in the U.S. rejected what we are doing there. He also allegedly praised the leadership of Syria's leader, Al-Assad. The Christian Radio Network, VCY America responded: "(Warren) has no business involving himself in any role that appears to be representative of the U.S. and called Warren 'a mindless shill for a nation that embraces terror...'" Warren denied he made such statements. - from *Agape Press*. Ed. Whether he made those statements or not, if he had any sense at all, he would have known that he would be a tool of a wicked regime whose hatred of Israel and America is undeniable. Apparently, Warren has imbibed so much of his own self esteem gospel, he thinks he can solve the world's problems.

MOST KIDS HAVE OWN TV! A Nielson study reveals that 77% of kids have a TV in their bedroom. Most kids say their parents haven't a clue what they are watching. The average youth now spends 6 1/2 hours per day on media. It used to be that parents fear was that guy lurking in the shadows at the playground. Now, it is often the program in the kids bedroom. -*Sword of the Lord* 10/6/06. Ed. Statistics and observation show it is obvious that the majority of young people have either low morals or no morals. No wonder, they are allowed to do whatever they want to, and are only following in the steps of their parents!

DANGEROUS LEGISLATION PROPOSED. Under House speaker Nancy Pelosi, there is a proposal that would designate churches, pastors, religious denominations, public interest organizations and other non-profit groups as "lobbyists." Currently lobbyists must register with the government. This new bill expands the definition of lobbyist to include any church or organization that strives to influence public opinion. This legislation will drastically affect the operation of churches that speak out on moral and political issues... What happens, under such a law, if pastors speak out and work against partial-birth abortion? Same sex marriage? This bill represents the biggest single legal restraint ever placed on people of faith. -*ACLJ Newsletter* (1/16/07) Ed. We've just learned this provision was taken out of the bill. It shows the political climate and of course, such legislation could come up again.

ANOTHER SERIOUS TEEN PROBLEM. Parents, beware of MySpace on the internet. This is from *FBIS* (12/12/06). "MySpace is a massive, supercharged, visually enhanced chat room. A recent survey found that 61% of Americans aged 13-17 have a MySpace profile. During any given week it has 36 million users. It allows people to sign up for a free account wherein they create their own personal 'spaces' and associate with others... One newspaper article said MySpace was one huge free-of-charge warehouse for e-flirting." *The Los Angeles Times* ran an article that begins: "I've covered murders, grisly accidents, airplanes falling out of the sky, and occasionally dirty politics. But in nearly two decades of journalism, nothing has made my insides churn like seeing what my 13-year-old daughter and her friends are up to on MySpace.com. 'Advanced browsing features are also available that allow you to select sexual orientation (straight, gay, bi...) body type, etc.' There might be a button that says, 'Click here to see half-naked women.' Images that are blatantly pornographic can still be posted... Evangelist Brad Courtney's daughter got into it. He looked into it and said, 'The materials I saw were posted by 13 and 14 year-old boys and girls... every word in the cursing vocabulary, including the vilest ones; references to every sexual act imaginable; a poem that was so sexually graphic I cannot print it...'" Ed. We often warn about TV and the Internet. Christian parent, you had better check to see what your children are doing. The above article has many testimonies of Christians who found their children into this. Your children should not have their own TV nor access to the Internet. As the old saying goes, "A word to the wise..." I am afraid that many Christian parents are not very wise!

FALSE PROPHETS MISS! One thing about God's true prophets: they never miss! "'Sometimes I miss.'" (said) religious broadcaster Pat Robertson on his track record of predicting future events based on supposed divine revelation. Robertson said on Jan. 2 that God told him that a terrorist attack would cause mass death and chaos in the United States in 2007." -*World* (2/13/07). Ed. Robertson has made more failed prophecies than can be counted. Of the many hundreds of prophecies in the Bible not one has yet failed and none will fail. If a man really gets his message from the Lord, he won't miss. Read Jeremiah and note all the prophecies by the false prophets - not one came to pass, they all missed. Read Jeremiah's! Amazingly, now as then, the false prophets had a big following. Blind leading the blind!

PARDON THAT DID NO GOOD

Over one hundred and fifty years ago in Pennsylvania a man was convicted of murder while committing a train robbery. Back in those days the country was a little more interested in law and order than today; he was sentenced to die. But there was an appeal made to Andrew Jackson, President of United States. Jackson granted the guilty man, George Wilson, a pardon. But Wilson refused to receive it. He said that he wanted to die and argued that he wasn't pardoned until he accepted it and this he refused to do. Nothing like this had ever happened before. Who ever heard of a murderer refusing a pardon? The State's attorney said the law was silent on that so, it was taken to the U.S. Supreme Court. The celebrated John Marshall, Chief Justice, handed down this decision: "*A pardon is just a piece of paper unless it is accepted by the person which is implicated. If he refuses the pardon, then, it is not a pardon. George Wilson must hang.*" And he was hanged! Over 2,000 years ago the Son of God, Jesus Christ, died on the cross to pay for the sins of the world, *for your sins*, and because of that fact, God offers you a pardon. **"In whom (Christ) we have redemption through his blood, even the forgiveness of sins."** ~*Colossians 1:14*. Will you receive God's wonderful offer? God says, **"As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name."** You don't have to reject this pardon like George Wilson did - all you have to do is neglect it. Refuse to take it. The Bible warns: **"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation."** Receive Christ and His pardon right now!

Cornerstone Baptist Church

54 Brighton Street

P.O. Box 438

Belmont, MA 02478

www.cornerstonebaptistmetrobooston.org

HOOKED ON TV!

Without a doubt the great majority of Americans are hooked on TV. The sad thing is many professing Christians are among that number; to them I want to address these words. The Psalmist said, **"Turn away mine eyes from beholding vanity; and quicken thou me in thy way."** ~*Psalm 119:37*. Not only is it a matter of vanity, but most of the television fare is downright sinful! A study I read years ago (I am sure it is worse today) said that the average American looks at 22 hours of TV per week. Think about this; that is forty-seven days in a year, or one year in eight wasted. I am speaking to professed believers in Jesus Christ; what might have been accomplished in all that time. But it was wasted. And, YES, years you'll have to give an account to God for; they will have to be faced at the Judgment Seat of Christ. Some years ago a scientist in the Midwest offered \$500 (it would be at least double that today) to 120 families who would give up their TV for thirty days. Of that number, 93 turned him down without thinking about it. He was able to get only five. He testified that one couple did not speak to each other, two started chain smoking and all were distressed, bored and nervous. There is no doubt that the vast majority of Americans are hooked on TV. And too many Christians are included in the number. The Psalmist asked to be quickened, made alive, unto the ways of God. God says we are to **"redeem the time,"** not waste it! If you're saved, it's time to get serious about the things of Christ. As I have said many times before, it is time to trash the TV; before it trashes you!