



A MUCH NEEDED CHALLENGE.

October 2013

C. H. Spurgeon said, *“The devil has seldom done a cleverer thing than hinting to the Church that part of their mission is to provide entertainment for the people, with a view to winning them. Providing amusement for the people is nowhere spoken of in the Scriptures as a function of the Church. The need is Biblical doctrine, so understood and felt that it sets men afire.”* We seldom see someone really on fire for God these days. I am afraid that if many believers saw such a one, they would declare that he was a fanatic. The truth is that most Christians are pretty comfortable and they don’t want anyone to wake them up spiritually or challenge them to a holy walk with God. I am reminded of a radio personality many years ago who always came on the air saying, “Is everybody happy?” I think it is pretty obvious that with few exceptions, God’s people are interested in being happy, not holy. Not only do we have to get up programs which are amusing, but if you want a hearing from a good many, you had better sprinkle your sermon with plenty of jokes and witty sayings. Now, I know all this will be viewed as very negative and a little morbid! But I think it must grieve the heart of God to hear jokes on serious Biblical subjects; even on the Bible itself. A.W. Tozer said in his earlier days Christians believed that the amusements of this world were not for believers; *“So, it was understood that when you got converted and got filled with the Spirit you gave up the world’s amusements. Then, there was a slow change, and in the name of fundamental Christianity, one by one, we met those amusements at the door and sprinkled them with holy water... We must have a new reformation. There must come a violent break with that irresponsible, amusement-mad, paganized, pseudo-religion which passes today for the faith of Christ and which is being spread all over the world by unspiritual men...”* I read a couple of years ago of a faithful Russian pastor who had been in the underground church. He said the West (America) must stop sending them such spiritually weak and superficial men for we are spoiling their people and the truth for which many of their brethren have died. While it will bring the wrath of some upon you, what we need to do is to tell the carnal babies which predominate in our churches (and pulpits), that it is time to grow up. A word for Pastors; did you ever stop to think that while you are supplying sweetened pabulum for all the babies, that you are stunting the growth of those who may have a little maturity and desire for spiritual things? Here’s a question for you: “What are you trying to accomplish with the people of God? Was your call to the ministry a call to keep everybody happy; entertain believers until Jesus comes? Were you called to be an entertainer or a holy man of God; like Isaiah, Jeremiah, Daniel, Paul? Do you think God is pleased with shallow, carnal ministries which cater to the old nature of believers?” We have lost the concept of the majesty and holiness of God. Vance Havner said we ought to view God and the things of God with awe: *“But what you see in the average fundamental church today is not awe, it is just awful.”* Tozer said, *“We do not have the art of worship and we are not producing saints.”* Without a doubt, it is time for a revival, but I wonder if anyone knows what that is all about. **“If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.”** ~II Chronicles 7:14.

MISSIONS CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 1-3, 2013



- *SEVERAL MISSIONARIES
- *FLAGS MANY NATIONS
- *COLOR SLIDES
- *SPECIAL MUSIC
- *NURSERY OPEN

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

FRIDAY...7:00 p.m.

SAT...3:30 - 4:30 (Buffet Supper) - 6:00

SUNDAY...9:30 - 10:45 - 5:30 - 6:30

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BOOKS AND BOOKLETS

- Charlie Coulson The Drummer Boy - Salvation... \$1.00
- The Gift: Testimony Catholic priest Charles Chiniquy..2.00
- 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.....1.00
- What In the World Is God Doing? (Dispensations)...1.00
- Rightly Dividing the Word (Bible Interpretation)... 2.00
- Revelation of Jesus Christ. (An overview with..... 2.00
keys to understanding this great prophecy)

All but the first two books are by Pastor Starr.

SPECIAL: One each for \$18.00 pp. Ten to nineteen of any one book - 25% off. 20+ of one book - 33% off. Postage: 15%, \$1.50 min. (outside US: 20%, \$2.50 min.) (US \$ only)

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THE ATTRIBUTE OF OBEDIENCE. If there is one thing a Christian ought to be it is obedient to God and His Word. It will save you a lot of grief and may save your life. I read the story of a little girl sitting in a field in front of her house. The father was preparing to go hunting, when he looked at his daughter and saw a poisonous snake coiled and ready to strike. If his daughter moved the snake would surely attack. He said, "Mary, don't move!" At the same time, he leveled his gun, took careful aim and cut it down before it could do its deadly damage. The child was spared because she gave strict obedience to her father. That is what we are supposed to do - give strict obedience to our Heavenly Father by simply obeying His Word! After all, He alone knows what is best. The hymn writer put it this way: *"Trust and obey, for there's no other way to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey."*

CHRISTIAN: IT'S LATER THAN YOU THINK!

- If you have a work to do --- Do it NOW!
 - If you have a witness to give -- Do it NOW!
 - If you have a soul to win -- Win him NOW!
 - If you have an obligation to discharge -- Do it NOW!
 - If you have a debt to pay -- Pay it NOW!
 - If you have a wrong to right -- Right it NOW!
 - If you have a confession to make -- Make it NOW!
 - If you have a preparation to make -- Make it NOW!
 - If you have children to train -- Train them NOW!
- "The night cometh when no man can work."** -Anon.

WILL IT BE "I WON'T OR I WILL?" Quite a few years ago now, the warden in Sing Sing Prison in New York said that it made him tremble when he heard a boy say, "I won't," to his parents. He said it seemed to him that boy had already started down the road to the penitentiary. The spirit of rebellion was beginning to be the master of that boy's mind and heart. It is very serious for one to speak to his parents like this. Then, think how dreadful it must be to say "I won't" to Almighty God. Yet, this is what everyone is saying who refuses to repent and trust Jesus Christ as his Savior. If you are not saved, bow your head now and say, "Yes," to God. Repent of your sins and trust Jesus Christ as your Savior from sin!

DO YOUR FRIENDS A FAVOR!

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NEWS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT

WE COULD LEARN FROM THE RUSSIANS.

Feb. 4th, 2013, Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, addressed the Duma, (Russian Parliament), and gave a speech about the tensions with minorities in Russia: “In Russia live Russians. Any minority, from anywhere, if it wants to live in Russia, to work and eat in Russia, should speak Russian, and should respect the Russian laws. If they prefer Sharia Law, then we advise them to go to those places where that’s the state law. Russia does not need minorities. Minorities need Russia, and we will not grant them special privileges, or try to change our laws to fit their desires, no matter how loud they yell ‘discrimination’. We better learn from the suicides of America, England, Holland and France, if we are to survive as a nation. The Russian customs and traditions are not compatible with the lack of culture or the primitive ways of most minorities. When this honorable legislative body thinks of creating new laws, it should have in mind the national interest first, observing that the minorities are not Russians.” The politicians in the Duma gave Putin a five minute standing ovation. - Copied

Ed. I am often reminded of the words of Teddy Roosevelt: “If you are an American and something else, you are not an American.” Too bad the politicians in this country cannot see that.

U.S. AND MEXICO SIGN ONE-SIDED IMMIGRATION AGREEMENT.

The Obama administration entered into an agreement with Mexico’s government that it will prevent discrimination against illegal aliens in U.S, work places and the U.S. will educate them about their civil rights and minimum wage laws, an “Inside the Beltway” watchdog that investigates and exposes government corruption and criminal activity reported on Tuesday. The U.S.-Mexico agreement wasn’t signed by President Barack Obama or anyone connected with immigration enforcement or homeland security; it was signed by the federal agency that enforces the nation’s workplace discrimination laws, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC), said officials with Judicial Watch, a public-interest organization... “In other words, the Obama administration has been siding with -- and protecting -- lawbreakers, while persecuting and prosecuting American business owners, who in the past administrations were denigrated and even arrested for hiring -- or harboring -- illegal aliens,” said former police detective Iris Aquino. Under, what many call, this one-sided bonanza for illegal aliens, American taxpayers will foot the bill for Spanish-language materials

explaining the laws enforced by the EEOC and the politically-tainted agency will partner with Mexican consulate offices to provide information and training, according to attorney and political consultant Mike Baker. The U.S. and Mexican officials signed the “taxpayer funded giveaway” in the state of Florida, an agriculture center that has winked at the illegal workforce for years... While this agreement and its application may be viewed as outrageous by many, it’s already been going on for years as part of the Obama administration’s broader push for amnesty through fiat, according to officials opposed to the entire agreement. – *NewsWithViews* (8/20/13) Ed. Compare this with the article above.

SUPREME COURT JUSTICE PERFORMS HOMOSEXUAL MARRIAGE.

Reuters, Aug. 30, 2013: “U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg is to officiate at a wedding ceremony between two men this weekend, just two months after the court issued high-profile rulings on the highly divisive issue. A court spokesman said on Friday that Ginsburg would be officiating at the ceremony on Saturday at the Kennedy Center. Ginsburg is the first justice to preside over a wedding ceremony involving a same Sex couple. ... In June, the court struck down a federal law that denied federal benefits to legally married same Sex couples and paved the way for gay marriage in California by letting stand a ruling that struck down a state law that restricted marriage to opposite Sex couples. ... In an interview with Reuters in July, Ginsburg said she was pleased with the court’s decisions on the issue. Of the increasing public acceptance of gay marriage, she said, ‘I think the country is doing remarkably well. I don’t think anyone could have predicted this.’” –Copied.

Ed. Ginsburg thinks the country is doing well in coming around to accepting homosexual marriage and similar things. Well, I think the country is sinking rather fast in this immoral quagmire. What’s really important is what God thinks about it. The Bible is quite clear: God says that it is an abomination! I have said for sometime that it is only a matter of time until this sort of thing will be mandatory in all of the States!

“WOE unto them that call evil good and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. WOE unto them that are wise in their own eyes.” ~Isaiah 5:20, 21 See also Lev. 18:22; 20:13; Rom. 1, etc

THE BEGINNING OF A JOURNEY

A. W. Tozer wrote the following about fifty years ago: “**And they continued stedfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.**” ~Acts 2:42. Conversion for the early New Testament Christians was not a destination; it was the beginning of a journey. And right there is where the biblical emphasis differs from ours. Today, all is made to depend upon the initial act of believing. At a given moment a ‘decision’ is made for Christ, and after that everything is ‘automatic.’ We...are almost all guilty of this lopsided view of the Christian life. In our efforts to make converts we allow our hearers to absorb the idea that they can deal with their entire responsibility once and for all by an act of believing...In the Book of Acts, faith was for each believer a beginning, not an end; it was a journey, not a bed in which to lie while waiting for the day of our Lord’s triumph.” Conversion, salvation, results from a one time act of believing in Christ and His work on the cross. The saved person has been born again - one is born in an instant! But that is not the end...only the beginning. He is to grow up to be a responsible and useful servant of Christ. The Christian is not to merely enjoy himself, doing whatever he thinks is good or convenient, waiting for the Rapture. He’s to study the Word of God, applying it to his everyday life in order to become a mature child of God and to perform service for God. It is sad but true, that a large percentage of Bible believers today are mere babes though many have been saved for years. The hour is late and God says, “**It is high time to wake out of sleep.**” It is time to get on with the journey!

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IS MAN BASICALLY GOOD?

Is man basically good as many religious people and the psychologists think? I read an amusing story concerning this. A man who believed the above set out to prove man (nor animals) had an evil nature. All they needed was to be around good, moral people, attend church, have the proper education, etc. So, he took a baby pig out of the barn the day after it was born and kept it in his kitchen. He polished its hoofs, kept it clean and tied a pretty ribbon on it. He never left it out where it would see mud or other pigs, etc. When time passed and the pig was full grown he called all of his friends to come and see what had been accomplished through love, education, and lack of association with other pigs. The pig never saw grass but he loved it. Then he spied a place where a leaky hose created a large mud puddle. The pig made a bee-line to it and jumped head first into the mud. He rooted up the lawn to make the mud puddle larger. Soon he was covered with mud and grunting just like the other pigs. The poor deluded man was devastated. The plain truth is that man is not basically good. He has an old nature and no amount of refinements can change that. That is why Jesus said to a well educated, a very religious man, the following: “...Verily, verily, I say unto thee, **Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God...Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.**” ~John 3:3, 7. Everyone needs a second birth; a spiritual birth. My Friend, have you ever come to grips with the fact you are a sinner and your sin must be judged? Christ came and bore your sins on Calvary, but you must acknowledge to God your sin and receive Christ as your Savior. If you have never done that, do it NOW! God says, “...now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.” ~II Corinthians 6:2. “**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.**” ~Acts 16:31.