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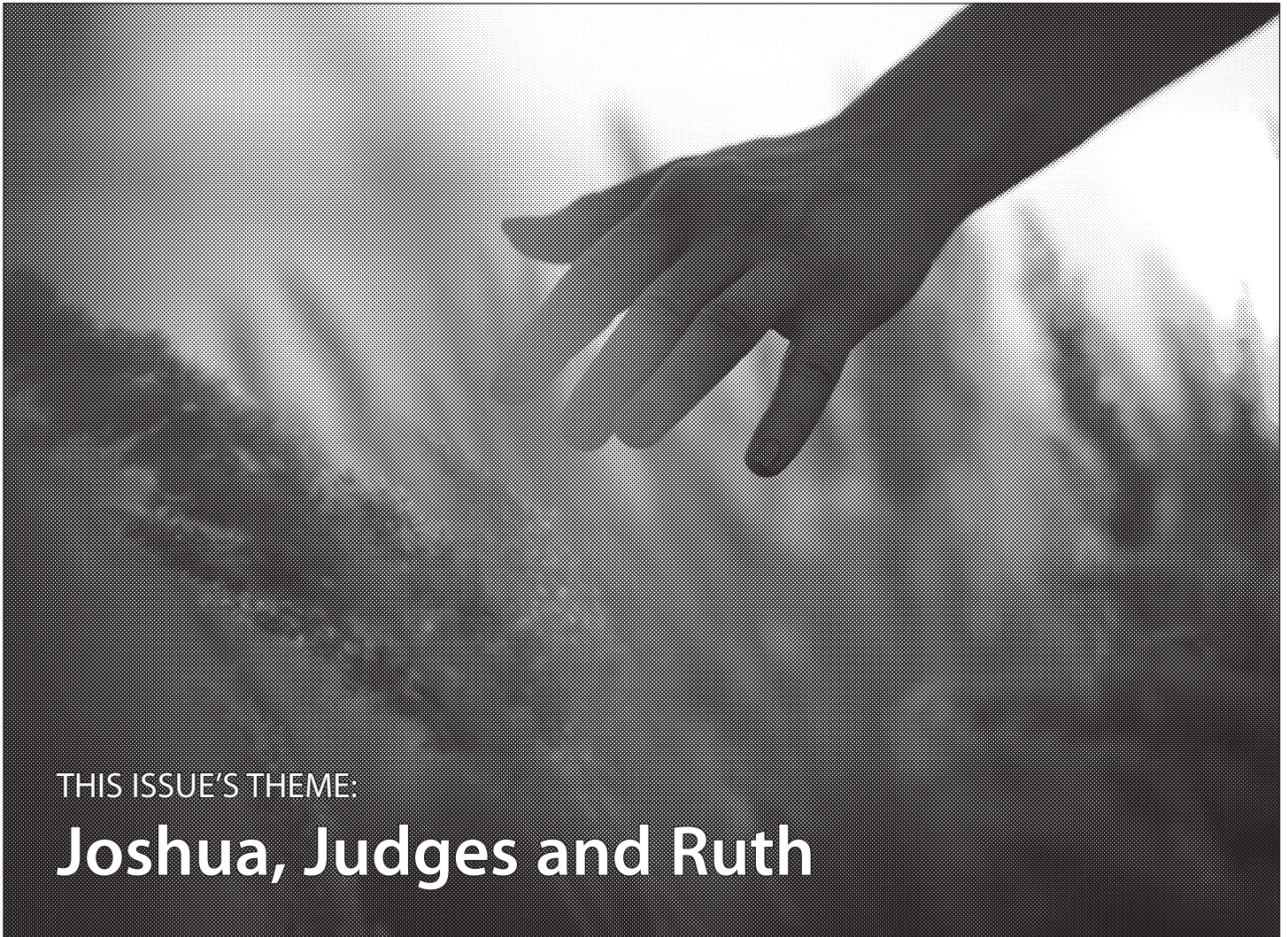
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THIS ISSUE'S THEME:

Joshua, Judges and Ruth

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Joshua, Judges, and Ruth

Edwin Broadus

One of the most delightful sections of the Old Testament for many readers is the portion from Joshua through 2 Kings. We often refer to these books, plus 1 and 2 Chronicles, Ezra and Nehemiah, as books of history, for they contain the Bible's primary historical account of the nation of Israel from its entry into Canaan until its return from Babylonian exile. However, in the Hebrew Bible, Joshua through Kings (with the exception of Ruth) comprises the Former Prophets, because according to Jewish tradition these books were written by prophets. Beyond this, they are appropriately thought of as prophetic when we remember that prophets, in the biblical sense, were not always or even usually "foretellers," but rather by definition were "forth-tellers"—inspired spokespersons for God. Joshua and Kings are not history as moderns write it, but they are to illustrate and explain the mighty acts of God. They tell how God is at work accomplishing His purpose with and for His people.

This article, introductory to other articles in this issue, deals only with Joshua, Judges and Ruth. The first of these books, named after its principal human character, relates the conquest and distribution of the Promised Land. Its purpose is obvious – it demonstrates how God fulfilled His land promise, first given to Abraham as a very important part of His covenant with him and then to his descendants through Isaac and Jacob (see 21:43-45). Although Joshua was the human leader, as R.K. Harrison aptly points out, the

book is not a tribute to military prowess and human enthusiasm but to the mighty acts of God. The conquest of Jericho is a preeminent illustration of this.

The book is also an emphatic reminder of the covenant faithfulness of God and of the necessity for God's people themselves to be faithful to their own covenant obligations. Thus, the book appropriately ends with Joshua's farewell speech (chapter 23), in which he challenges the people to serve God and obey him, and with the renewal of the covenant (chapter 24), by which the people reaffirm their commitment to live up to this covenant.

While the book of Joshua is an almost uninterrupted story of triumph under divine leadership complemented by the Israelites' obedience, much of Judges is rather dismal. True, there are stories of triumph wrought by God through men and women like Barak, Deborah, Gideon, Jephthah and Samson (cf. Hebrews 12:32-34), but the overall picture is of frequent apostasy, which inevitably brings trouble to Israel. This tragic situation is summarized at length in Judges 2:6-23 and later, more succinctly, by Samuel in 1 Samuel 12:9-11.

Judges is named after those leaders God raised up to deliver and to judge—not so much to do what judges do today but rather to rule God's people by executing His judgment in their behalf. The purpose is more difficult to discern than that of Joshua. However, the book clearly delineates what F.F. Bruce calls the "Deuternomic"

philosophy of history—obedience to God facilitates prosperity, while disobedience leads to calamity. Like Joshua, the book underscores God's covenant faithfulness. He does not give up on His people, for when they repent and return He forgives and restores. Judges also enables us to see the importance of the ensuing monarchy. Twice in the book, including at its very end, it states, "In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit" (17:6; 21:25). Even though Israel soon went about seeking a king in the wrong way (without waiting for God to act) for the wrong reason (to be like the nations around them), God eventually made David king, who because he was faithful to God brought order and prosperity to Israel.

The third book, Ruth, is here included with Joshua and Judges because our English Bibles follow the Latin Vulgate and the Greek Septuagint in placing this engaging story immediately after Judges, no doubt because the time frame for both books is the same. However, the Hebrew scripture puts Ruth in the third and final section of the Old Testament, called the Hagiographa, or Sacred Writings, immediately after the Law and the Prophets. The Hagiographa includes what we call the poetical books, plus Ruth, Esther, Lamentations, Chronicles (one book in the Hebrew Bible), Ezra-Nehemiah and Daniel. Jesus identified these three divisions as "the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms" (Luke 24:44), calling the last section by the name of its most prominent volume. Five shorter books in the Hagiographa have been traditionally read at various Jewish feasts: Song of Solomon at Passover, Ruth at Pentecost, Ecclesiastes at Tabernacles, Esther

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Joshua: Letting The Lord Lead

Thayer Salisbury

As Edwin Broadus pointed out in his introductory article, the Lord, not Joshua, is the focus, the hero, the mighty central character of the book of Joshua. Joshua is an admirable leader precisely to the extent that he does not seek to lead but to be led. On the rare occasions when he relies on his own judgment, he is defeated. But for the most part, Joshua is one of the most submissive of leaders.

The Lord In His Life

A key text for understanding the book is chapter 1:1-9. In this passage, Joshua is given instruction as to how he will be able to lead the people. To lead well, he must allow the Lord full control of his life.

It was not Joshua's own wisdom or strength but the presence of the Lord that made him a successful leader. It came about as the Lord promised him it would. "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go" (Jos 1:9).

The presence of the Lord in Joshua's life was not a mystical claim, but a practical reality. Anyone may claim to have the Lord within. Anyone may profess to allow the Lord control. But the proof comes in the actions.

As Joshua is instructed, "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success" (1:8).

Joshua was to demonstrate reliance on the Lord by means of his speech. The Lord's word was to be in his mouth. He was not to command and lead using his own words, but the word of the Lord.

Joshua was to prepare for this type of leadership by meditation upon the word of God. The word was not only to be in his mouth, it was to be the meditation of his heart. It was to be the focus of his thought, not occasionally, but day and night. Only then would he be able to use God's word in leading the people.

Joshua was not to merely speak of God's word and think about God's word, he was to put it into action in his own life. He was to do the word (cf. James 1:22f).

The three must be combined. We can neither speak the Lord's word nor do it if we have not meditated sufficiently on it. Yet, private meditation

on God's word does not help others. If we do not use the Lord's word in speaking to others, they will not recognize the source of our wisdom and they will not be caused to honor Him as they ought. But meditation on the word of God, and even speaking of it, is not of value if it does not bear fruit in action.

To the extent Joshua practiced the instruction of 1:8, he was a successful leader and a good example for Israel and for us. Joshua is not the hero of his own story. On occasion he is closer to being the villain. When he tried to lead he failed. But when he allowed the Lord's word to lead he was successful.

A second key passage in understanding the book is 5:13-15. Joshua encounters a man with a drawn sword and asks, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" The reply is, "No; but I am the commander of the army of the Lord. Now I have come." Joshua's response is submissive. He falls with his face to the ground and awaits instruction. Joshua recognizes that his role as a leader of the people is to follow the Lord. And it is not up to Joshua to ask the Lord which side He is on, but to receive and follow His instructions.

The Lord In The Life Of The Nation

This submission on the part of Joshua, the leader, needed to be translated into the life of the nation. The tragedy of the book of Joshua is the fact that it so rarely was. Although Joshua may have been a relatively good model of submission to God, other community leaders did not learn to trust the Lord as they should have.

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Lord of the Flies

Wayne Turner



We hate flies. They are pesky nuisances that carry filth and disease. We've all experienced the annoyance of a solitary fly buzzing around, often landing in inconvenient places, which just will not go away. We've been harassed by swarms of flies that arrive, uninvited at our picnics. They are useless, worthless pests with no redeeming value. Thus, flies symbolize that which distracts and detracts. They are nothing.

As one reads Joshua, Judges and Ruth, it is not surprising that a negative view of humanity emerges. Humans seem little more than worthless flies in the presence of God. Despite the various victories enjoyed by the Israelites, the reader is repeatedly reminded of how weak and rebellious humans are, even in the face of God's love. We see Joshua as a very fallible leader who, having been commissioned to lead the conquest of Canaan, can also forget God and try to act on his own. We see the disobedience of Achan and consequent defeat of the Israelites at Ai. In the period of the Judges, we see an ongoing cycle of human conduct—selfish rejection of God and His will, God's judgement, the despairing cry to God followed by God's gracious deliverance. Then the cycle repeats – over and over again. What pesky nuisances. In Ruth, we see a woman, a Moabitess, not one of God's people, who seems an unlikely candidate for the role she will ultimately play, in the lineage of King David and Jesus Christ. On the surface, it might seem that these books show the sovereign Lord of the universe as reigning over a people as pesky and worthless as flies.

From that perspective, the books show the loving faithfulness of a gracious God. No matter how imperfect and even rebellious His people may be, God continues to keep His promises. Through Joshua, He gives Israel the land promised. In the time of the Judges, He establishes them as a nation. Through Ruth, He creates the ultimate future of Israel and the rest of the world. The message is clear. No matter how people may fail, God will not.

But the story of these books goes further, showing that God not only fulfills His promises to an imperfect people, He also works through them. We are not mere flies, worthless and useless before Him. We can be His instruments to accomplish His purposes. Though we may seem like nothing, He can empower us to do great things. Though the books of Joshua, Judges and Ruth may seem to get little attention from readers today, they hold a great message of encouragement and hope.

This issue of the Gospel Herald will hopefully challenge and inspire you in your service to God. We are again indebted to Paul Birston for his work on putting this issue together. Ed Broadus gives us an overview of the three books, noting how each of them shows God's covenant faithfulness. Thayer Salisbury explores the book and life of Joshua. Despite some lapses, he shows how Joshua was committed to follow the Lord. Peter Morphy, writing about the book of Judges, shows the consequences that Israel experiences when they disobeyed God and each person did what they wanted to. Yet, in the face of those dismal days, God showed Himself to be "gracious, loving and willing to forgive." Finally, Paul Birston connects us with the story of Ruth, reminding us of the stresses of economic hardship, reminding us that "in the midst of the stresses and strains of everyday life, God can redeem hopeless situations."

These three books, often relatively unknown and unexplored by Christians today, remind us how God will always be faithful to His word—no matter how bleak or dark things may be, or even how many of God's people may be unfaithful to Him, He is still active in the world, working to carry out His purposes and giving us hope.

Thayer reminds us of one of the most important accounts that come from this period of history. In Joshua 5:13-15, just before God gives the instructions for the conquest of Jericho, Joshua encounters a man with a drawn sword. In effect, Joshua asks whose side he is on, Israel's or their enemy's. The answer reminds Joshua and us that the question is not whether God is on our side, but whether or not we are on His side.

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The Good Old Summertime

As the days of summer come again, we need to give some attention to possible values and dangers. "It's summer time and the living is easy" is a statement we often hear about summer. With summer often comes vacation time, family trips with perhaps some extra free time. Longer evenings mean more time in recreational activities, relaxing in the back yard, picnics, visiting and all that goes with a relaxed lifestyle. Often, as children grow to be teenagers, they are not as much involved in family activities because they have a summer job and/or desire to spend more time with friends and away from family. For younger families then, let me encourage you to be sure and take advantage of this precious time while children are younger and likely more involved in family activities...

WARNING: Do not allow these precious times to slip by without teaching by word and example the most important relationship of all... relationship with God.

A cartoon, published in the New Yorker magazine some years ago, showed a father scowling as he looked over the report card his little boy had brought from school. The little boy was perhaps wise beyond his years and asked his father, "What do you think it is, Dad? Heredity or environment?" Since children are greatly influenced by what they see—perhaps even more so than by what they are taught—this is a question worthy of

consideration.

As the "good old summertime" comes along, what lesson will you teach your child/children by example? For some, holiday time is the time to get away from it all. They spend time at the cottage, beach, touring or whatever is enjoyed, and things like worship services, Bible study and Christian service go on "holiday" as well. We all know how

Don't live in such a way that your children can use you as an example of why they are not godly.

it is in Canada eh?, only a couple or three short months for holidays and fun, so make the best of it by putting everything on the back burner, including worship, Bible study and service to God.

God has always expected His people to share the message about Himself with family. Parents are given instruction to teach children about God and His works and to give children the proper perspective of what is important in life through direction from God's Word. Sadly, some appear to follow the "fractured" versions of some scripture. I am not sure who is the "fracture" of these but they are worthy of consideration.

The fractures are in bold: "These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home, **except**

in the summer when life is so laid back and when you walk along the road **except in holiday time when enjoying the beautiful outdoors**, when you lie down and when you get up, **except in the summer when you are so tired at the end of a busy day of recreation in the sun, water and sightseeing and when it is important to get on the road to take advantage of the short holiday time one has**" Deuteronomy 6:6,7.

"Train a child in the way he should go, **during the school year when they are receiving training in the three Rs** and when he is old he will not turn from it" Proverbs 22:6.

From the New Testament, "Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord, **except in the summertime... after all everyone needs a break!**" Ephesians 6:4.

Overstated? Maybe, maybe not. However, understand that children are more likely to remember what they see than what they are taught if the teaching and the example do not match. Anyone who is an observer of humankind has seen children following the example of the adults around them. Parents should be the first adult example to influence their children. Will the example they see be one of consistent Christian commitment to God in word and deed or will it be the example of people who: (1) Say one thing and do another when it comes to high Christian principles? (2) Put the Lord and His work first all the time; most of the time; some of the time or only when nothing else is interesting to do? (3) Perform for other Christians to gain their respect but not live the Christian lifestyle at home behind closed doors?

It is true that parents can do their best to live the Christian life

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You Be the Judge

Peter Morphy

Living in the promised land was neither real living nor did it have a promising future, because while God and Israel were living in a covenant relationship, Israel was unfaithful, rebellious and disobedient. In fact, the headlines of the day may have read “These are the worst of times.” The book of Judges describes some of the darkest days of Israel, yet a flickering light was still shining.

This was not what God wanted for the people, but He did warn them through Moses what would happen if they didn’t do exactly as He said. “I will hand over to you the people who live in the land and you will drive them out before you. Do not make a covenant with them or with their gods. Do not let them live in your land, or they will cause you to sin against me, because the worship of their gods will certainly be a snare to you” (Exodus 23:31-33). In addition God said, “Be careful not to make a treaty with those who live in the land where you are going, or they will be a snare among you” (Exodus 34:12). The outcome would be arduous, “But if you turn away and ally yourselves with the survivors of these nations that remain among you and if you intermarry with them and associate with them, then you may be sure that the Lord your God will no longer drive out these nations before you. Instead, they will become snares and traps for you, whips on your backs and thorns in your eyes, until you perish from this good land, which the Lord your God has given you” (Joshua 23:12-13).

At the end of the first chapter of Judges we learn that Israel did not drive out the Canaanites from the land. The reasoning was both reasonable and expedient. Why kill or expel all these godless

people, when they can keep them as slaves to do all the hard work in the land? (Judges 1:28, 30, 33, 35). I’m sure the plan seemed good to everyone... except God. The workers were free, but their association was costly. Eventually the gods of Canaan would be set up in the homes of the Israelites. We also are reminded that our close friends will influence us for good or evil.

The book of Judges gives us an idea of what God’s people are capable of when they wander away

Paul said, “Do not be misled: Bad company corrupts good character” (1 Corinthians 15:33).

Many today are being slowly influenced by the way of the world. The process of conversion may begin with becoming friends of the world (James 4:4), which leads to loving the world (1 John 2:15), then we are polluted by the world (James 1:27) and finally we are conformed to the world (Romans 12:2).

It wasn’t too many years earlier that our fathers made a solemn oath with Joshua to fear, follow and be faithful to the Lord. Now Joshua was dead, so was Moses and there was no leader in Israel. “In those days Israel had no king; everyone did as he saw fit” (Judges 17:6; 21:25 NIV). The NASV translates this summary, “everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” This ideology has permeated our society. Today there is such a void of strong leadership and a people willing to follow that we wander aimlessly away from God’s blessing and salvation. We see the devastating results in the nation, in the schools, in the church and in the home.

This was in part because of a failure of the father’s to teach their children and the younger generation’s interest to learn about the Lord. “After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the Lord nor what he had done for Israel. Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord and served the Baals” (Judges 2:10-11). God has placed a great responsibility on parents, especially fathers, to teach their children about God’s love, faithfulness and promises that they too can be blessed in a relationship with Him (Deuteronomy 4:9-10; Psalm 78:4-8).

The book of Judges gives us an idea of what God’s people are capable of when they wander away. Ignoring and rebelling against God not only makes Him sad, it also makes Him angry (Judges 2:14). God uses strong language to describe the heart of the people He is in covenant with. More than unfaithful or adulterers, He calls them harlots. “Yet they would not listen to their judges but prostituted themselves to other gods and worshiped them. Unlike their fathers, they quickly turned from the way in which their fathers had walked, the way of obedience to the Lord’s commands” (Judges 2:17).

It is shocking how far God’s people can wander from their commitment. Judges reveals attitudes and actions of idolatry, deceit, bitterness, revenge, adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, rape and murder. In a similar way, Paul lists sins of both attitude and deed of those who do not honour or give thanks to the Lord (Romans 1:18-32).

The Hebrew word for Judges can also include the idea of deliv-

erer or saviour. Most of the judges were military or sometimes political/civic leaders. The last two, Eli and Samuel, also held a spiritual leadership responsibility. Spanning about 350 years the cycle was fairly consistent: (1) the Israelites would neglect the law and covenant of God, worshipping idols and living immorally like the people of the world; (2) God would discipline His children in order that they would repent and return to Him; (3) Israel would cry out to the Lord for deliverance; and (4) God's compassion and grace would raise a judge to set them free.

The book of Judges also reminds us that God can use people to accomplish His will in spite of their faults or faithlessness. Even our cherished Vacation Bible School (VBS) characters had their own personal struggles to deal with.

Barak would not lead the army into battle without Deborah (Judges 4-5). Gideon asked for a lot of reassurance from God and needed confidence before fighting against the Midianites (Judges 6-8). Jephthah made a deal with God which would eventually cost him his daughter (Judges 10-12). Samson let his passion and desires for war, food and women rule and tarnish his rule and his reputation (Judges 13-16). All of these were used by God for His purpose of deliverance and salvation to fulfill His promise and so that His people would acknowledge and worship Him.

The outcome of our faithfulness or rebellion toward God has immediate and long-term consequences; physical and spiritual judgments; it will bring reproach or honour to God by a world that is closely watching us; and it deeply affects

our family, especially our children.

These events are written for our learning and encouragement (Romans 15:4). We must look at our own life to see where we are in our relationship with God: (1) wandering away from God and worshipping and living like the ungodly; (2) calling out to God with repentance, seeking reconciliation and restoration; (3) listening to and obeying the Word of God, even when it is difficult or unpopular; and (4) allowing God to use us to lead others back into a relationship with Him.

Judges continues to give us hope and confidence that God is gracious, loving and willing to forgive all those who turn or return to Him. He has given us a Saviour and promises us a wonderful future regardless of our past.

Royal Oak, Michigan

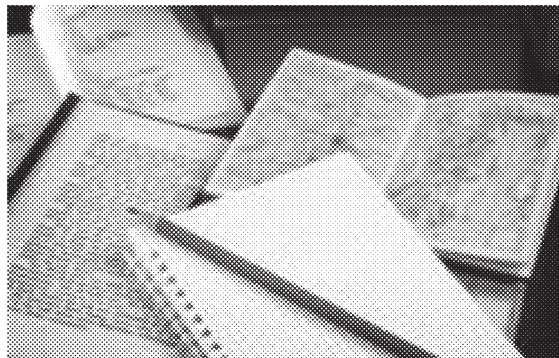
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Seeing God's Redeeming Work Every Day:

Learning from Boaz, Ruth, Naomi and Their Community of Faith

Paul Birston

Stresses and Joys in Everyday Life: Ruth's Times

In an agricultural economy in times of political upheaval, famine is equivalent to modern recession and depression. Elimelech and Naomi survived famine by moving their family from Bethlehem to Moab, across the mountains and valleys of the rugged Judean wilderness to the opposite side of the Dead Sea for a decade. The hardships of moving involuntarily increased for Naomi when Elimelech died a foreigner. Joy from the marriages of her sons Mahlon and Chilion was quickly overshadowed by losing them prematurely.

Good news finally arrived about food back home. Naomi set out to return with her daughters-in-law but had second thoughts about putting them through the same experiences of loss she had in leaving her home (Ruth 1:8). She could not have further offspring from her bloodline. Naomi lost a daughter-in-law when Orpah turned back but experienced the comforting support of Ruth's devotion and faithfulness to go on with her to her land, her people and her God. Naomi left as a family of four and returned as two. Nevertheless, there was love waiting for her in Bethlehem where "all the city was stirred because of them" (1:19).

Naomi's family was a great relief. Boaz, who must have experience the stress of famine at home with many to provide for, proved to be a wise employer for his harvesters and caring provider for Ruth and Naomi. He saw Ruth as "a woman of excellence" (3:11) even though she saw herself as an unworthy foreigner (2:10). Naomi was joyful over learning Boaz cared for Ruth as she had for her mother-in-law. Ruth trusted and obeyed Naomi.

Tense family dynamics and further uncertainty surfaced when a

close relative more concerned about his own inheritance (4:6) declined to redeem Elimelech's and marry Ruth. Boaz met with the elders and community at the gate, a place of meeting, governance and decision (4:1, 11). He stepped in to literally redeem Naomi and Ruth's past and future and preserve Elimelech's name and honour. The community leaders and witnesses wished them success, honour and a good name. Amidst the ebb and flow of life's stresses and joys, in the days of the Judges when "everyone did what was right in his own eyes," Boaz and Ruth bore a child to a family line with a bright future.

Our Times

We live in times of political and economical upheaval and uncertainty. Famine is still a reality. Recession forces people to move great distances to find work. Elimelech's family moved about 100 kilometres, today many move thousands more away from their families.

On the plus side, families and friends can stay more connected than ever now across distances. We live in a time of separation and connectivity. Though parts of the western world have aging populations, some countries in the developing world have young populations.

It is a surprisingly contemporary phrase: many still "do what is right in their own eyes" at the expense of others. God is not on the horizon of many as He was frequently absent from the minds of Israel's leaders in the days of the Judges. Yet every day in our time, every month and every year, archaeology in Israel unearths more evidence proving the accuracy of the Biblical record. God's fingerprints are all over the history of Ruth's time. He is present in our time as He was in Ruth's.

Seeing God's Redeeming Work Every Day

One of the most beautiful and intriguing dimensions of the powerfully and clearly written book of Ruth is the intertwining of the stresses and joys of everyday life with people's perceptions about what God is doing. Boaz, Ruth, Naomi and their community of faith all make profound statements about God's providential redeeming and disciplining work and, by extension, what He is like.

Naomi credits God with visiting His people and giving them food (1:6). She must have heard this through the grapevine of the community of faith in Israel extending to Moab. Naomi believes that God can "deal kindly" with her daughters-in-law as they have with her (1:8). The Lord can "grant that you may find rest" (1:9). Coincidentally, the judge Gideon called the altar he made, "the Lord is peace" (Yahweh Shalom; Judges 6:24).

Naomi also believed "the hand of the Lord has gone forth against me" (1:13). He had sent her out "full" but "the Lord has brought me back empty" and "the Lord has witnessed against me and the Almighty has afflicted me" (1:21). Themes of discipline, emptiness and fullness are present, as is the bigger picture of what God is doing, but this is harder for Naomi to see in her loss and pain. Ruth also perceives God's power to discipline in her vow of faithfulness until death (1:17). She sees the bigger picture of God's sovereignty over the community of His faithful people: "your God" will be "my God" (1:16).

Boaz knows the Lord is with His people and tells his harvesters/reapers so they in turn say, "The Lord bless you" (2:4). In three key verses (2:11-13) where Boaz acknowledges Ruth's faithful love, he sees that God repays people and richly rewards their work. The God of Israel gives

them refuge under His wings (2:12). When she learns of Ruth connecting with Boaz, Naomi also acknowledges that the Lord blesses people and “has not withdrawn His kindness to the living and to the dead” (2:20). Her hope is redeemed. Boaz wishes further blessings from the Lord upon Ruth (3:10) and acknowledges the Lord as the living God (3:13). He sees God’s ability to redeem situations and is willing to assume for himself the role of kinsman redeemer. Redeeming is a key theme of Ruth and the verb is used twenty times in this short book.

The elders and all the people of the community at the gate perceive that it is the Lord who enables women to conceive and bear children who are His offspring (4:11-12). They pray God would make Ruth as fruitful as Rachel and Leah, the “builders” of the house of Israel (i.e. the house of Jacob’s family of the twelve patriarchs) and as fruitful as Boaz’s fifth-great grandfather Perez. The narrator affirms the Lord enabled Ruth to conceive (4:13). In a powerful foreshadowing, the faithful women acknowledge God’s hand in providing a redeemer for Naomi (4:14) and the grandson she had given up on seeing. The narrator concludes by recounting the importance of Ruth’s new family’s line that leads to David, king of Israel and forefather of Jesus Christ, God’s ultimate Redeemer.

Living a Redeemed and Redeeming Life

Slowly but surely in the midst of the stresses and strains of everyday life, God can redeem hopeless situations, bring good out of bad and replace emptiness with fullness. He brought Naomi and Ruth through famine and Jesus to eternal joy after the cross. The same perceptions of God that saw Boaz, Ruth and Naomi through their challenging times can see us through today.

God is the one who provides relief for our physical and spiritual famines. He often uses people close to us to do it. He may use foreigners. We can also be his agents of redemption

for others near and far away. God redeems people and makes them part of His scheme of redemption. He has a worldwide network of people to restore others whose immediate pain and loss blur the bigger picture. He deals kindly with the broken hearted (cf. Psalm 34:18) and provides rest for the weary (cf. Matthew 11:28-30). The God of Israel is still a refuge today. His promise, “those who honour Me I will honour” (1 Samuel 2:30) is true in Ruth’s life and today.

God disciplines for the purpose of salvation and spiritual growth. Truthfulness to one’s word, faithfulness, fidelity and commitment are essential to solid relationships with God, family, friends, fellow workers and community. The bigger picture of God’s providence and eternal purposes should drive the desire to be the best and do the best we can. Ruth shows there is always a path of righteousness and love even

through tense family politics and in unrighteous times when everyone does what is right in their own eyes instead of God’s.

God is the living God who lives with His people corporately in the community of the faithful. Elders and the wisdom of age are as important now as in Ruth’s day. God uses them to guide His people and make decisions for their spiritual growth. God works through the body of Christ and families, the two most enduring circles of spiritual and social safety He has established. The principles of redemption in Ruth parallel many in the New Testament in all arenas of life: our churches, families, workplaces and schools. Living a full redeemed life has redeeming effects in the situations we live through while looking forward to our ultimate redemption in Jesus, the Saviour from Bethlehem and the offspring of Boaz and Ruth (Matthew 1:5).

Winnipeg, Manitoba

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NEWS

- EAST -

by Don Hipwell and Harold Bruggen
Church of Christ, Box 416
Fenwick, ON L0S 1C0
Email: donhipwell@aol.com
or Harold Bruggen at hbruggen@gmail.com

NEW BRUNSWICK

Saint John: The congregation designed newsletters to send out into the community near our meeting place. We sent some out on April 3. We delivered our second batch of newsletters on May 1. Please pray that our efforts will yield good results. Also on June 8 and 9, the Leblancs hosted a Men's Retreat for the Moncton and Saint John congregations. The topic was "Leading in Worship". It was a lesson that Walter Hart did in Waterloo and gave Shawn Leblanc permission to use. The congregation is also looking forward to a visit from Roy Graneau, evangelist for the South Edmonton church of Christ, from June 8 to 12.

NEW YORK

Sardinia: Eleven "Sardinians" were a part of the 80 plus that enjoyed the 5th Sunday Fellowship held at the Southtowns congregation on April 29. On May 6, eight of us travelled to enjoy the Brockport church's annual Singing Day. It is hard to put into words the joy and happiness of those hymns of praise! On July 17, Jerrod & Shelby Doss will leave Austin, TX, to come to Sardinia for three weeks of evangelistic work in this city.

ONTARIO

Bramalea: On April 15, the Great Lakes Christian High School sang for the congregation during the Bible class hour. This was followed by a potluck for the chorus and the Bramalea congregation. On May 4-5 Debbie Whittington hosted a teen girls' retreat at her home in the country. It was entitled, "What's In Your Christiani-tea?" and was attended by 10 of our teen girls. Reports were that discussions and fellowship were good. On May 12, the men of the congregation held a worship training class. Guest speakers in May were Angelo Aiello and Santiago Molina. Kevin and Bob Hunter

took a two-week tour of Paul's travels through Turkey and Greece. On May 25, an adult dinner was scheduled at the Liaison Culinary College, with Beth Cowan, chef-in-training, hosting.

Brantford (North Park): The congregation continues to deposit spare change in a collection box in order to help families in need. The knitting of hats, mitts and scarves by the ladies was greatly appreciated by a number of school children.

Beamsville: Duane May, a board member for Strawberry Point Christian Camp, was here March 25. He taught the adult Bible class, brought the morning sermon and shared regarding the camp during Family Time. We took a special collection and raised \$965 for this incredible ministry on the Manitoulin Island. There was a combined worship service on April 29 at the GLCHS gymnasium. The Providence church had been using the GLCHS gym for their worship on Sundays as their auditorium was under construction. April 29 was their last Sunday worshipping at GLCHS, so as a token of appreciation and Christian love invited our congregation and the Tintern congregation to worship with them. We celebrated our mutual love for Christ and enjoyed worshipping together as we honoured God. Noel Walker, Steve DeBoer, and Don Smith helped in leading the service.

Fenwick: On April 20-22, Max Craddock held a meeting for us entitled "Taking Advantage of Advantages". It was well received by the congregation with an average attendance of 44 people. The congregation is again collecting change in baby bottles in support of Elisha House. Caleb Miller declined our offer to be our minister. He has decided not to go into full-time preaching at this time so we are still searching. Ralph Perry, Harold MacDonald and Don Hipwell were installed as deacons on April 15.

Kids For Christ wrapped up for another year with the Awards Night on June 1.

Owen Sound: We now have a church website. Check us out at www.owen-soundcofc.com. Marilee Tait placed her membership with the church here in early May. The Lord willing, brother Bruce Morton will speak here July 7, 8. He is the author of the book "Deceiving Winds" which looks at Christians Navigating the Storms of Mysticism, Leadership Struggles and Sensational Worship. The Ladies Renewal Weekend this year is scheduled for September 14-16 and registration can be done on line through the church's website Brother Doug Wheeler of Norman, Oklahoma, is to conduct a Gospel Meeting here October 12-14.

Stoney Creek: June 13 is the 30th anniversary of the Stoney Creek congregation's move from Ivon Avenue in Hamilton to the present location in Stoney Creek. A special weekend is being planned for September 22-23, to celebrate these 30 years and to thank God for His continuing blessings during these three decades. Some in the congregation are planning to be involved in a Habitat for Humanity housing project May 28 - June 1. Stoney Creek young people continue to plan and conduct a worship period the first Sunday evening of each month.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd.): The congregation welcomed Ana Corpus, wife of Terence, on her arrival from the Philippines to join her husband here. Also welcomed to Strathmore was Eric Dlamini, who recently arrived from South Africa. A big Thank You to all the congregations and brethren across Canada who joined in prayer and giving for the Key Ministry on Key Day, May 6. The encouragement and support received is greatly appreciated.

Waterloo: We welcome Wei Yi, our newest brother, who committed his life to the Lord in baptism April 22, 2012. Javier Cuarezma and his wife, Isabel, were here on April 22 as well, and Javier presented the morning sermon, as well as a report on his work/ministry over the past 8 years in Detroit's Mexicantown. We took up a special collection for the ministry and raised \$2,012.71. We had a delightful evening for the Great Lakes Bible College dinner and graduation. Over \$26,000 was raised for the Bible College.

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(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Edmonton North Side: A warm welcome to Nelson & Cecile Carpio and daughter Neariah, who have moved here from Toronto. The Ladies Retreat was held April 20-22. This year's theme was "What Your Biblical Heritage Can Mean To You" based on Isaiah 40:31. Guest speaker was Marie-Claire McDonough. A potluck followed by a time of singing to learn a couple of new songs will be held the last Sunday of each month. Paul Rasmussen, student of Great Lakes Bible College, has been hired as Youth Minister Intern for the summer. The Kids Club held A Strawberry Tea to honor their parents and the leaders of the congregation and their wives. Sean McCartan gave the sermon on May 6. He spoke about the mission trip he and Heidi took to Haiti. "The Truth About Origins" seminar was held May 11-13. Dr. Brad Harrub was guest speaker.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford (Central Valley): Although hearing that the road has been washing out in parts, along with mud holes and spring breakup upheavals, the Weirs still expect to be visiting Fort Ware and Tsey Key this month. They say these are normal occurrences for this time of year. In getting ready for the trip, they have printed fliers advertising the Bible day camp in August and several big fliers for the two church buildings and store fronts. Norm also prepared his evening talks for the week. They hope to check in with every child who attended last year, and enjoy their delight when they are presented with their pictures that were taken last summer.

Burnaby: Since the New Year, copies of the free magazine, "Thriving Family", have been available to help families solve some of the problems they may have in married life. Chapters include articles about: "On Raising Kids Who Reach Out," "How My Wife Saved Our Mismatched

Marriage" and "Managing the Blame Game." It is highly recommended as there are many useful, practical ideas about how to follow Jesus in the way you live, as well as improve the quality of family life. For those who could stay an extra day, the Men's Retreat at Spruston Road Bible Camp June 1-3, finished up on Sunday afternoon following a morning service and lunch. Keith Shields brought lessons from Genesis on how men could take their place as co-workers with God.

Delta: On a recent Friday afternoon, a number of people gathered at the Burnaby building to celebrate the baptism of Jen Close, whose husband, Ian, the son of John and Alice Close, helped her complete her obedience.

Oakridge (Vancouver): As Richard Virrea was immersed into Christ after the service on April 15, he was warmly welcomed into our fellowship.

Surrey: As a means of enhancing our homepage, we began video-taping the sermons of our preacher, Ron Beckett, and others who spoke on various occasions in April.

Salmon Arm: Called an "amazing day", the workshop for ladies entitled "Once Upon a Time", took place on Saturday, May 5. Leaders were Janelle Ross, Dawn Mitchell and Lorna Bell, all from Southern Saskatchewan. The workshop was designed to help women realize their faith-story, and learn how to share it with others. There were visitors from the community and a great representation from the Salmon Arm, Kelowna and Vernon churches for a total of 33. Along with devotionals, singing and fellowship, there was soul searching to find out how God can be represented throughout their life journeys. Our four ministry teams met last month to review existing team responsibilities and the current needs of the church. Their function helps to assure that everyone uses their talents in whatever ways they are gifted. Groups include 1. Discipleship/Education, 2. Service/Fellowship/Evangelism, 3. Administration: Building/Finances and 4. Worship. Former missionaries to Belgium, Blair and Susan Roberts, who have longed to return to that work for years, are realizing their dream this summer. Blair left in early May and Susan will join him at the end of June when her current teaching contract expires. Questioning Aslan - Broadview Church in Salmon Arm hosted "Questioning Aslan: An Evening with C.S. Lewis", a play based on the life of C.S. Lewis and presented by Searchlight

Theatre Company. The production was given the last Sunday in April, and provided a good event for Christians to bring along friends, as it followed discussions between Lewis and his protégé, who was searching for meaning in the world.

Vernon: As one of the stops on their final tour, the Western Christian College Sunshine Choir gave a great performance here on May 21. Families are filling baby bottles with spare coins between Mother's Day and Father's Day to contribute to a Care Centre that provides help for mothers.

MANITOBA

Carman: (submitted by Don Jenkins): Carman's 60th Spring Lectureship, held April 6, 7 & 8 on the theme, "Praise Him, Praise Hymn", was well attended. Excellent lessons were provided by the featured speaker, Hugh Gannon of Kentucky, USA, and by Vince Anderson and Wayne Turner from Winnipeg, Dan Wieb from Dauphin, Earle Rattai from Kenora & Dale Elford, Randy Foss and Cory Taylor, from Carman. Chad Celaire from Winnipeg led the singing. Following the services Sunday two young ladies, Madie Gylywoychuk and Jodi Ezekiel, gave their lives to the Lord and were baptized. The ladies are planning the "Rest & Renewal Weekend", June 1-3 with Diana Turner from Winnipeg as the featured speaker. Kyra Taylor was baptized into Christ.

Manson: Max Craddock was here on the evening of May 6, to share information on the "Key to the Kingdom" T.V. program. The entire congregation gathered for a worship service, fellowship and a report of the Key Ministry.

Winnipeg: May 6 was "Key Day". Max Craddock, the host of the "Key to the Kingdom," was here from the Strathmore Blvd. congregation in Toronto, to bring a presentation about the Key to the Kingdom Program. Over the month of May, donations were collected for the program. We rejoice with Pat Land who was baptized into Christ. The Young African Concert was held May 16. The Young Africans are a gifted group of singers, musicians, and dancers who were all once a part of the world-renowned African Children's Choir.

SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn: The Mom's Pantry Fundraiser for WCC Alumni Chapter was successful. "Care packages" were packed and sent to students at WCC. Appreciation night was held for Scott and Michelle Wade.

MISSION NEWS

Barbara Lewis
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Spokane, WA 99206-4475
e-mail: ray-bjl@comcast.net



CHINA: Christians are asked to pray for peace, boldness and encouragement for Chinese Christians who worship in unregistered house churches as the government begins implementing a 10-year plan to eradicate unregistered churches. House churches will be investigated and strongly encouraged to affiliate with the Three-Self Patriotic Movement, the only government-approved protestant denomi-

nation. Those who refuse to comply will be shut down.

ETHIOPIA: John Ed Clark and his son, Kevin, were in Ethiopia for the opening and dedication of the new Level One "Shone School of Preaching" in April. The school will add 20 new preachers each year to the more than 1500 which have been trained over the years in the three other Level One Schools. (We have one Level Two School in Addis Ababa.) The town of Shone is the "county seat" of the Badewatcho district and the heartland of the churches established where almost 200 water wells have been completed. Several hundred brethren from area congregations came to share in the "Grand Opening". Among them were over 100 preachers, who filled the 125-seat auditorium. When asked to stand according to number of years they

had been preaching, most arose at the figure 20. At 35, five preachers remained standing, and at 40, there were three, the latter a moving experience for John Ed, as he had been their teacher! The school consists of four very simply designed buildings and an outside baptistry built in the ground, something the Shone Christians felt was required. On the back of the baptistry Mark 16:16 and 1 Cor. 1:18 were printed, and on the opening day, 48 responded to the invitation, with another 11 the following day. All of the teachers in the schools of preaching are Ethiopian and graduates of the Level Two facility, with congregational teaching experience. This is a big advantage, as each can teach in his own dialect those who come from their areas. (Condensed from Woodward Park church report, Fresno, CA).

HAITI: As many non-government organizations are now pulling out of Haiti, Healing Hands International in Nashville, TN, continues to help Haitians change their future. In 2011, more than 500,000 lbs of food was provided, hundreds of children received a new change of clothes, and many patients made comfortable on hospital beds in place of cold hard floors. Along with short-term needs, Healing Hands has been finding ways to transform the culture

by teaching women how to earn livings for their families through food production and preservation. They have been taught how to make shea butter lotion, marketable around the world, and given skills in jewelry ornaments and sewing. Sewing machines and material with which to work have been shipped as women learn that they can be the chief care-takers for their families. They are also being trained in basic business practices to sell their products and enable their children to attend school. Another project last year was to rebuild the Lillivois orphanage where over 60 children had lived in constant danger since the earthquake. A team of doctors and nurses conducted two medical brigades, treating several hundred children on each trip, many of whom had never had any type of medical care before. For a nursing school in Port au Prince, medical and educational supplies were sent, as well training given by nurses willing to go make them acquainted with modern sanitation and care practices. (From Healing Hands International Annual Report for 2011)

JAPAN: Healing Hands also realized that some response must be made to Japan's needs after the tsunami, yet knew it would be different from past disasters. Their efforts were to identify a team of missionaries with prior relationships in Japan. Through this group, thousands were provided with basic needs like food, clothing and clean drinking water. The next step was to rebuild hundreds of homes and businesses, opening doors to sharing the gospel. Recently, the need for counseling has been apparent, and HHI has sent two teams of five counselors to meet with people in need of emotional help, and show them ways to heal. Programs for these and 10 other countries to whom containers were shipped consumed 88.3% of Healing Hands funds last year. (Also from 2011 HHI annual report)

JAPAN Mission work updates: – Sasha Ingle (<http://sashainsendai.blogspot.com/>). On April 29 Sasha was recognized and blessed as a full time missionary with the Mito church after patiently serving as an apprentice with the Mito church. She is also a member of the East Japan Relief Committee in Mito. A big part of their work in the last 4 months has been a park project in Ishinomaki. A year ago a group worked for several days to clean a park in one of the local neighbourhoods. Since then it has been the place where they have gathered for several events. For more information about the relief work, go to

Key to the Kingdom™



Friday @ 8:30 AM (Eastern)
(Check local listing for Vision channel #)

Joytv 10

CHNU Channel 10
Vancouver, BC
Sunday @ 11:00 AM (Pacific)

Rogers channel – 173
Sunday @ 2:00 PM (Eastern)

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Programs available on video or MP3
along with program notes on our website

<http://eastjapanrelief.wordpress.com>. Joel Osborne (joelosborne4@yahoo.com) is a chief organizer of the 2012 Asia Mission Forum, to be held this year in Kuching, East Malaysia on Borneo Island from Saturday, July 28 to Wednesday, August 1. Jim McGuigan, a well-known man of God, will be the keynote speaker. Joel requests prayers that this event will be a time to encourage and refresh the hearts of Christians in Asia. (Christians outside of Asia are also invited to this event.) In his work in Mito, Joel reports that over the past 4 months God has sent another group of seekers to them—university students as well as middle-aged women and men. Recently a new group of American English teachers have arrived from the US to work in Mito. Jonathan Straker (www.strakerhouse.com). Repairs on the tsunami/earthquake damaged house they bought are complete, thanks to the assistance of many Christians, and all their belongings have now been received from North America. Michiko and other Christian women participate in a regular prayer walk in which they walk and pray for the people in their neighbourhood. Christians from around the world have been involved in the relief work. Jonathan said it reminded him of the scripture in Revelation—people gathered from every tribe and tongue. Healing Hands—the group that oversees their work and will support them through November 2012—has produced a new video chronicling the current state of Ishinomaki (where Strakers live and the Mito church does relief work). The link can be found on Jonathan Walter Straker's Facebook page. The relief teams travel all over Ishinomaki cleaning and repairing houses and other buildings, visiting and counselling with those who lost belongings and family. For example, the school where their son Hijiri would normally have attended was devastated by the tsunami in 2011 and 75 people—children, teachers and staff—died. So Hijiri attends a different school. For further information on the Japan relief situation or for missionary reports of the Japanese work, go to:

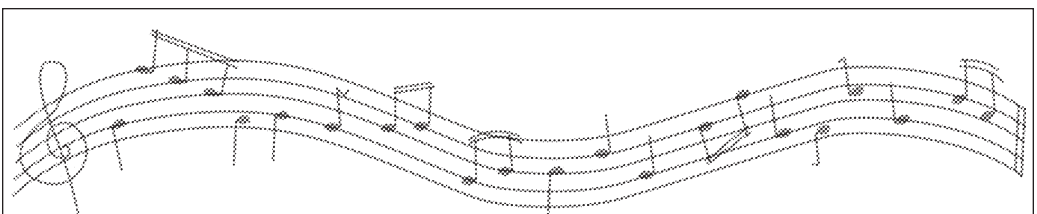
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Joshua, Judges, and Ruth... continued from page 2
 at Purim and Lamentations at the anniversary of the destruction of Jerusalem.

Ruth is a very beautiful short story, but it was not written to entertain. As to why it was composed, scholars have made many suggestions, but the author's most obvious motive was to trace the ancestry of David back to Perez, a son of Judah (the remainder of his ancestry was already well known to his readers). There are many lessons to be drawn from

the story, whether or not they are part of the book's original purpose. It teaches the importance of piety and devotion in family relationships and uses a non-Israelite, a Moabite woman, as its example. The book also shows that a pious foreigner who accepts Israel's God is worthy of acceptance with God's people. Finally, it illustrates God's covenant faithfulness to His people like Naomi who remain faithful to God even through prolonged disappointment and adversity.

Burlington, Ontario



Niagara Area Wide Worship

During the month of June
 (at 6:00 p.m.)

- June 3rd - Tintern Church of Christ
 4359 Spring Creek Road, Tintern
- June 10th - St. Catharines Church of Christ
 439 Ontario St., St. Catharines
- June 24th - Grimsby Church of Christ
 63 Casablanca Blvd., Grimsby

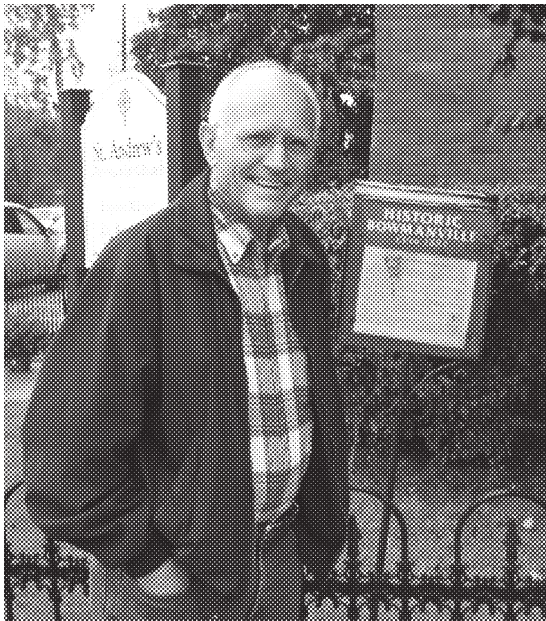
New this year – the Niagara Area Wide Worship will also be held in October. Further details will be provided in September.

- October 14th - Beamsville Church of Christ
- October 21st - Fenwick Church of Christ
- October 28th - Tintern Church of Christ

Jerry Rushford Honoured

Geoffrey Ellis

Dr. Jerry Rushford was recognized on Friday, May 4, 2012, on the final night of the 69th Bible Lectures of Pepperdine University on the Malibu, CA, campus. His remarkable achievement is that for the past thirty years he has directed this event—and with great effectiveness. Considering this prospect three years earlier, Jerry had said, “When the closing prayer ends on Friday evening, May 4, 2012, I will know that I was uniquely privileged



Jerry Rushford, visiting the 1892 Disciples building, Bowmanville, ON

to set the table for the annual feast for one entire generation. That’s a humbling thought.”

Plaudits from around the world are being received for Jerry Rushford’s vision, his significant abilities, and his accomplishments. This year 5,000 attendees and speakers gathered for the annual lectures from 45 states and 35 countries. Four hundred presenters including 84 couples taught 288 classes.

Jerry’s evident love for the church and its recent Restoration history was fueled in his early days in Ontario. In a 2009 interview Lynn McMillon noted, “You have taught the history of the Restoration Movement

for nearly 40 years. When did you develop this passion? Jerry, who grew up in Detroit, MI, responded, “During my high school days at Great Lakes Christian College in Canada we studied the history of the Restoration Movement, and for me it was life-changing. I had never studied my spiritual roots before.”

After graduating from Great Lakes, Jerry went on to study at Rochester College, Oklahoma Christian University, and Abilene Christian University where he received his M.A. and M.Div. degrees. Describing his years at ACU, Jerry went on to say, “In my graduate years at ACU, I was enriched by studying with outstanding church historians like Everett Ferguson, Bill Humble, J. W. Roberts and Thomas Olbricht, but the person who had the greatest impact on me was a librarian named R.L. Roberts. His encyclopedic mind and contagious passion for Restoration history kindled a fire within me that has never died out.” Jerry received his Ph.D. in American Church History at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

In the intervening years, Jerry has relished returning to Ontario. And with each visit he has extended his knowledge of the historical developments in this region—his enthusiasm sparking deeper interest among those of us who reside here! Jerry was the featured speaker at the 1982 Great Lakes lectures, the theme, “The Restoration Plea,” and that year he requested an opportunity to tour the Restoration sites in Eramosa Township. In 2007 when Jerry was the guest speaker for the Canadian Churches of Christ Historical Society at the Fenwick Church of Christ—Jerry has been a member of the CCCHS from its beginning in 1999—he asked to visit Meaford and the Cape Rich location. In 2009, when Jerry celebrated his first sermon, given fifty years earlier

at a Great Lakes chapel, by returning to GLCHS and speaking to the Lakers of that year, he requested a tour of Restoration sites in the region east of Toronto. Bowmanville was visited as well as Port Hope where the Joseph Scrivens (“What a Friend We have in Jesus”) memorial is located.

Jerry Rushford joined the Pepperdine University faculty in 1978 while preaching for the University Church of Christ. He served as professor of Church History, director of Church Relations, editor of the *Pacific Church News* and director of the annual Bible lectureship beginning in 1982. His special interest is in hymnody and he leads an annual “Literary and Hymn Pilgrimage” to the British Isles.

In recognition of Jerry Rushford’s leadership in these many facets, Pepperdine University has established the Jerry Rushford Center for Research on Churches of Christ and the Stone-Campbell Restoration Movement, to be housed in Payson Library. This will include as well the Churches of Christ Heritage Center that Jerry established in 2009.

In researching for his book, *Christians on the Oregon Trail: Churches of Christ and Christian Churches in Early Oregon, 1842-1882* (1997), Jerry became impressed by the oft repeated phrase, “The Glorious Cause.” Jerry’s consistent teaching about “the glorious cause,” in his words, has emphasized “the cross-centered life-style and counter-cultural teaching” of the New Testament.

Jerry, who will be 70 on December 12 of this year, and his wife, Lori, have two daughters, Hilary and Ashley.

P.S. Jerry began subscribing for the Gospel Herald while a student at Great Lakes Christian College in 1959 and has continued that subscription to this day. In fact he has in his library a complete collection of the Gospel Herald beginning in 1955. He says, “I am still a subscriber although I haven’t lived in Canada since 1962.”

Joshua: Letting The Lord Lead... continued from page 3

The Gibeonite deception, in chapter 9, is a prime example. The Gibeonites pretended to be from a distant country. They disguised themselves by wearing old clothing and carrying stale bread (which they said had been hot from the oven when they started their journey). The leaders of Israel, and this would have included Joshua, examined the Gibeonite's provisions, but they did not take counsel from the Lord (9:14). The result was an improper alliance that they should not have formed.

In this instance, Joshua failed in his duty as a leader. Unfortunately, his failure on this occasion (and a few others like it) seems to have become the model for the people as a whole. Rather than trusting the Lord and sticking to the Lord's plans (as ridiculous as those plans may have seemed at times—as at Jericho), the people came to look to themselves. Too often they consulted their own wisdom. As a result, they often lost courage (a key concept in Joshua's commission, 1:1-9) and failed to accomplish what the Lord would have accomplished for them if they had trusted him more.

In the end, although much of the land had been claimed, but many areas were not (13:1-7). Although, to the end of his life, Joshua appealed to the people to trust the Lord and take full possession of the land (chapter 23), they did not do so. The nation as a whole needed the same dependence on the Lord that Joshua had been called upon to exhibit—as a comparison of 1:1-9 with chapters 23 and 24 will show. Joshua had not been perfect in his reliance. The nation as a whole was much less dependent on the Lord, and consequently much less successful.

The Lord In The Home

Joshua's final address to the people includes one

of the most memorable exhortations to decisiveness ever recorded. It is not an exhortation to decisiveness based on self-confidence, but an exhortation to decisive dependence on the Lord.

“Now therefore fear the Lord and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness. Put away the gods that your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (24:14-15).

Joshua could not control the response of others. He could not force the nation to trust the Lord, to feed on his word, to depend upon the Lord. But he could commit himself, and those immediately under his direction, to do so.

His dependence upon the Lord—this is the greatness of Joshua. Such dependence will produce great results today as well—in our lives, in our homes, in our churches, and in our nations. To the extent we attempt to use our own means, we will fail, as Joshua failed when he relied on his own judgment. To the extent we fall on our face before the Lord, we will rise to unexpected heights.

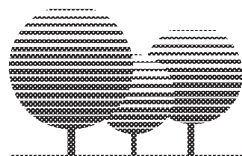
Toledo, Ohio

Max's Musings... continued from page 5

before their children and yet see them reject the Christian life. This is sad and hard to accept. However, it happens far too many times. Yet, it is always a surprise to see parents who are nominal Christians and focused on material living who are surprised at the fact that their children have no real love for Christ and the Lord's Church. “I just don't understand why they don't go to worship and have no interest in the church”, they say.

Be honest parents. Is there any reason, based on your example, why they should? Don't live in such a way that your children can use you as an example of why they are not godly.

A young man, who had spent some of his life trying to be an unbeliever, decided to become a preacher. When asked why he had changed his view he said, “There was one argument in favor of Christianity which I could never refute—the consistent conduct of my father.” What praise! May it be the goal of every parent to be such an example. Then perhaps it can be heredity and environment that make the difference in your children.



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Ralph and Joyce Perry

Receive the Glenn and Shirley Boyd Award for International Christian Service

In 1971, at the end of the Biafran War, life was difficult in South East Nigeria. People were starving. Our Nigerian brethren were overwhelmed with opportunities to share the gospel of Jesus Christ. There was help available through interested brethren in the United States, but pre war missionaries from the States could not get visas to re-enter Nigeria. Yet, God had prepared. As Eno Otoyoye, a Nigerian church leader discerned, British Commonwealth citizens could get visas, as Canada was a part of the British Commonwealth.

Ralph Perry was a Canadian brother. Ralph's mother had instilled an interest in sharing the gospel in each of her four sons. Ralph's brothers later served as missionaries in Zambia and India. Each of the four has served as an elder. Although Ralph was raised on a farm in Canada, he completed his last two years of high school and his college education at David Lipscomb in Tennessee. There, in the years following the end of World War II, Ralph heard calls to mission from Otis Gatewood, Reuel Lemmons, Marshall Keeble and others. In 1951, when he graduated with a Bachelors in Bible from Lipscomb, Ralph expressed an interest in going to Nigeria. He was told he needed a wife and good health. Having neither, Ralph returned to serve with congregations in Canada. Ralph met Joyce at a youth activity at the Strathmore congregation. They were married in 1953. By the end of the Biafran War in 1971, Ralph and Joyce were experienced church workers and the parents of five children aged 6 to 17.

Roger Church, in Nashville, remembered Ralph's interest in Nigeria. As Canadians, Ralph and Joyce could get visas to enter Nigeria. And the Perry family accepted the challenge to

enter war ravaged South East Nigeria to assist in training evangelists and church leaders at Nigerian Christian Bible College at Ukpom near Abak. Joyce taught ladies Bible classes in the



Ralph and Joyce Perry

Photo by Harold MacDonald

early morning before the ladies went to market, during weekly assemblies and in special events.

Ralph taught Bible to the college's students and engaged in the weekend evangelism efforts used by the Nigerian church to plant new congregations. Each Sunday involved preaching in multiple congregations. For two years, Joyce and Ralph dealt with daily requests from visitors for food and other assistance. After their two year commitment, Ralph, Joyce and family returned to work with congregations in Canada.

The sharing of the gospel continued and multiplied in Nigeria. By the late 1970's, the Bible study program of World Bible School (WBS) resulted in hundreds of thousands of WBS students—not only in the south where there were hundreds of congregations of the churches of Christ, but also in the mid-level and northern states

where there were few congregations. After two years of persistent requests by Jimmy Lovell and WBS, in 1980, Ralph agreed to return to the Nigerian work to organize and implement a WBS follow up program. With the sacrificial consent of Joyce, Ralph agreed to another two year commitment to travel to Nigeria two times each year for three months each trip to organize Nigerian evangelists to contact, baptize and disciple WBS students. Fifteen years later, in 1995, Ralph retired from his WBS service.

For fifteen years, Ralph worked with dedicated Nigerian evangelists to establish a system of contact with WBS students to baptize them into Christ and to encourage service with congregations - often having to start a new congregation as WBS had penetrated into areas where none previously existed. Ralph knew the leaders

of all congregations in the mid-level and northern states of Nigeria. Tens of thousands were converted. Hundreds of congregations were established. Many of the converted WBS students themselves became involved in evangelism among WBS students.

Reviewing this service of Joyce and Ralph Perry, two points come into focus.

First, the Perry's service is very much the product of the combined efforts of many in the Lord's Church. Ralph was influenced at an early age by his mother and by his education at Lipscomb. The post-World War II missionaries encouraged others to follow. The Nigerian congregations were evangelistic even following horrible war. The Bible schools in Nigeria worked together and not in conflict. Ralph taught at Nigerian Christian Bible College in the South East, but he embraced the creation

of the School of Biblical Studies at Jos in the north. Ralph encouraged Nigerian leadership, and he notes, most clearly, that the fifteen years of WBS follow up could not have occurred but for the tireless work of the Nigerian brethren. May we, today, learn to work together and encourage each other in the Lord's work.

Second, the Perry's service resulted in the spreading of the gospel in Nigeria- from the south into other areas and especially into the northern states. It was Ralph Perry who devised and implemented a plan of cooperation among Nigerian evangelists, Nigerian congregations and American congregations to move church leaders into and plant congregations in the Moslem north of Nigeria. Ralph was involved personally in the efforts to plant congregations in the ten northern states of Nigeria.

Because of their trust in God to bring fruit from their cooperative service with others in the Kingdom, and because of their personal sacrifices as Christians from Canada to the people of Nigeria, International Health Care Foundation is pleased to present the Glenn and Shirley Boyd Award for International Christian Service to Ralph and Joyce Perry.

As an indicator of Ralph's spirit of inclusion and cooperation in his service, please accept this personal comment. Literally on the first day of my first visit to Nigeria, Ralph and Wendell Broom happened to visit the compound at Nigerian Christian Hospital where I was to stay for two months. They invited me to travel with them. I accepted. We visited a congregation of hundreds in Calabar, engaged in open air evangelism in a remote village with no electricity late into a dark night, and visited the Ukpom compound of Nigerian Christian Bible College. In my first three days in Nigeria, Ralph had introduced me to the results of the service of many for decades. When my

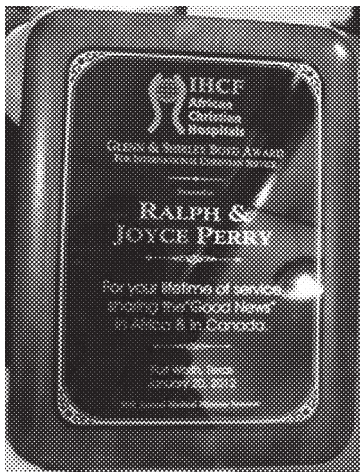
family next visited Nigeria for three months in 1983, Ralph again encouraged our becoming acquainted with the Nigerian Church even to sharing a vehicle which enabled us.

By 1986, Ralph was in the midst of implementing the plans of taking advantage of WBS to strengthen the few congregations in the mid-level and northern states. The WestArk Church of Christ in Fort Smith was interested. Ralph informed us of the requests for assistance coming from the small number of congregations in Benue State, a mid-level state. Ralph introduced to us to Paul Oputa, a brother in Makurdaï, the capitol city in Benue State. Following the established plan of assisting Nigerian evangelists to relocate, WestArk worked with five evangelists from the south who moved to Benue to work with the then existing Benue congregations. Together they identified indigenous men who could be educated in the Bible and then returned to their home cities to provide leadership. After several indigenous men were trained, the workers from the south returned to

their home areas. In ten years from 1986 to 1995, approximately twenty Benue natives were trained at three different Bible schools and more than fifteen new congregations were established in Benue State. After ending the ten year Benue program and waiting a short period of years, West Ark has repeated essentially the same

program in Kogi State and in the Mbaise region of northern Imo State and a somewhat different program in Anambra State. The second ten years of programs were the result of the interests of the evangelists who originally went to Benue or of Benue Christians who subsequently moved to the other areas.

Jerry Canfield, Board Member
African Christian Hospital Board



Owen Sound Ladies Renewal

Date:

September 14-16, 2012

Theme:

"Bloom Where You're Planted!"

Speakers:

Sally Cleary, Dianna Johnson and Nancy Moore

Location:

Riverview Bible Camp near Chesley, ON

Cost:

Full weekend:
\$40 per person

Optional:

5km walk/run to support Haiti Mission/Orphanage

REGISTRATION

DEADLINE: Aug. 31

Accommodations are limited

NEW THIS YEAR:

Register online at
www.owensoundcofc.com

or

Contact Debbie Kennedy at
boonies_1@hotmail.com

If your mailing address changes,

please inform us so we can make the needed adjustments to our mailing list. Be sure to include apartment or unit numbers if needed in the address as Canada Post returns copies to us—at a significant cost—if the address is not complete. Contact us at:
The Gospel Herald, 5 Lankin Blvd,
Toronto, ON M4J 4W7
Phone – 416-461-7406
email – maxc@strathmorecofc.ca

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

This listing includes most but not all of the churches of Christ in Canada along with a few in bordering states. Please help us to keep it useful by updating the information regularly. Listings are \$9.00 per year and changes are \$4.50 each. The information, unless otherwise specified, is in the following order: Place of meeting; times of Bible Class, Worship and mid-week gatherings; mailing address if different from meeting place; (Post Office is at the beginning unless otherwise indicated); preacher; phone.

The Gospel Herald Publication exists to serve the non-instrumental Churches of Christ. The church directory is included as a service to the congregations. It should be understood that inclusion of a congregation in the church directory does not necessarily imply complete endorsement, by the editors, of all practices of those listed.

PROVINCE OF ALBERTA

CAMROSE: 4901 42 Street T4V 1A2;
Sunday AM Bible study 10 am; Sunday AM worship service 11 am; Thursday Bible Study 7 PM;
Phone: (780) 672-1220 (Office);
Evangelist: David Friesen;
Email: info@camrosechurchofchrist.ca

EDMONTON Church Of Christ: Meeting place in NW of city; 13015 – 116 Avenue, T5M 3C9;
Office 780-455-1049; Fax 780-454-9545;
Sun. 9:30 am Bible classes; 10:30 am Worship;
Wed. 7:00 pm Bible Study CAREgroups in office base-ment and in various homes (phone for locations & other times); Elders: Henri Bouchard, Walter Hreczuch; Evangelist: Gerry Bibaud;
Web: edmontonchurchofchrist.org
E-mail: church5@telus.net

SOUTH EDMONTON: Southwood Community Centre 1880 – 37 street NW, Edmonton, AB;
Minister: Roy Graneau; Contact: 780-902-1329

MEDICINE HAT: Crescent Heights Church of Christ, 655 Stewart Dr. NW, T1A 7C2; Sun. 10, 11, 7;
Wed. 7; Jamie Lobert, ev. (403) 527-7346 or (403) 527-7311 (off)

RED DEER: 68 Donlevy Ave., T4R 2Y8; Sun. 10, 11, (evening • call for information); John Smith, ev. (403) 347-3986

ST. ALBERT: Sunday Worship: 10:15 a.m. at the St. Albert Seniors Center at 7 Tache St., St. Albert; Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 at – call for address, Mailing Address: 20 Desmarais Cres., St. Albert, AB T8N 5X7; (780) 690-9947, E-mail: stalbertcofc@hotmail.com, webpage: www.stalbertchurchofchrist.org

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

ABBOTSFORD (Central Valley): Sun. 10, 11; Thur. 7 PM, Meeting at: Suite 200 - 2445 West Railway Street, Abbotsford, BC; Mailing address: #4 – 3292 Elmwood Dr.; V2S 6B2 Norm Weir, ev. 604-850-8670 (off); 859-5973 (res). If no answer 604-850-9001; email: normjen@shaw.ca

CAMPBELL RIVER: 226 Hilecy Road V9W 1P4
Contact: Off (250) 923-5233; Charles Witty (250) 923-6396; Jim McGeachy (250) 286-3780; besijim2@hotmail.com

CHILLIWACK: Senior Citizens Bldg. Br 24, corner of Cook and Victoria St.; PO Box 327; Sun. 10:30, 11; Mid-week, call - John Forman 604-792-7806; Al McCutcheon, sec. 604-824-6703

CRESTON: Call for service times and place:
David & Diane Phipers: 250-428-5937

CROFTON: 1288 Smith Rd. Box 45, V0R 1R0;
Phone for time: (250) 246-3659.

DELTA: Delta Christian School, 53rd & Ladner Trunk Road, Ladner; 9:45, 10:45; Midweek: Call for times; PO Box 18623, RPO Ladner, Delta, BC V4K 4V7; contact Jim Hawkins, (604) 581-2169.

CARMAN: Main Street S.; Sun. 10, 1:15; Wed. 7 PM;
Box 955, R0G 0J0; contact Ray Winkler (elder), 204-745-3226; Randy Foss, ev, 745 6969 (office)

DAUPHIN: 220 Whitmore Ave. W; Mailing address: Box 70, Dauphin, R7N 2T9; Sun. worship 10:00; Sun. & Wed. nights call for details; 204-638-6321 (off), Fax: 204-638-0872

MANSON: Box 2, Manson, MB, R0M 1J0, Meeting Sunday Mornings – 10 & 11, (most Sundays) at Elkhorn Leisure Centre, 10 Richhill Ave E, Elkhorn, MB; Call to confirm meeting place or other information: Wilf Rogers, 204-722-2293 or Ken Starnes, 204-722-2085; email: kastar@xplornet.ca

PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE: Contact Gerald Mccutcheon, 239-1817.

WINNIPEG (Central): Sun. Worship 10, Bible classes 11:15, Eve. 6 p.m., Wed. 7 p.m.; (204) 475-6462; Fax: (413) 677-6165;
Mail: 170 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg, MB R2H 1H9; website: www.winnipegchurch.ca;
Jim Hobbs, sec. for elders (204) 261-9861; Wayne Turner, ev. (204) 257-7926 (res); wayne@winnipegchurch.ca; Chad Celaire, youth min. (204) 284-6280 (res) chad@winnipegchurch.ca

PROVINCE OF NEW BRUNSWICK

MONCTON: 365 Pine Glen Rd., Riverview (Moncton), E1B 4J8; Sun. 10, Wed. 7:30 p.m.; (506) 852-4143; Contact: Kenny Woodman (506) 380-4852; email: moncton.churchofchrist@gmail.ca

SAINT JOHN: Carleton Community Centre, 82 Market Place, Saint John, NB, E2M 1B5; Mailing address: P.O. Box 23021, 407 Westmorland Drive, Saint John, NB, E2J 2S0, Worship 10:00 a.m., Bible study follows. Thursday night Bible study at 6:30 p.m., call for location. Contact Shawn Leblanc at (506) 832-5230 (Ev.) OR Fred Nelson at (506) 847-2802.

NEW YORK STATE

NIAGARA FALLS: 2011 Tennessee Ave., Niagara Falls, NY, 14305; Off (716)285-6534, Home (716) 297-6563; Sunday Bible study 10 am, worship 11 AM, evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 PM. Minister Eddie J. Cornelius; cell:716-478-5278, e-mail: niafallscoc@aol.com; website: www.niagarafallscoc.com

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX: 48 Convoy Ave., B3N 2P8; Sun. 10, 11; Midweek, check for day and place; ev. (902) 443-9628 (off), Wayne Taylor, sec. (902) 876-7402

SHUBENACADIE: 3557 Indian Road, Mill Village B0N 2H0; Sun. 9:15 Fellowship Time, 10:00 Youth Classes, 10:15 Adult Bible Study, 11:00 Worship; Mon. 12:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study; Tues. 7:00 p.m. Bible study (call for location) Church building (902)758-4252 (leave message); J. Mackey (902)758-2633; email natbrown@ns.sympatico.ca

PROVINCE OF ONTARIO

AURORA: 15216 Yonge St. S.; (entrance beside Benjamin Moore Paints); Sun. 9:30, 11:00, Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 71523, L4G 1L9; Contact: Scott & Linda Harvey, (905) 473-5631 or leave message; e-mail: auroarachurchofchrist@hotmail.com or Clare Preston, (905) 895-0954

BARRIE: 345 Grove St. E. (at Cook), L4M 2R6; Sun. 10, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:00; (705) 722-7155 (off.); Tim Johnson, ev. 705-718-0017 (cell); email: minister@barriechurch.ca

BEAMSVILLE: 4900 John St., L0R 1B6; Sunday 9:30 am Bible classes and Discussion Groups, 10:30 worship, 6:00 pm Contemporary worship, Small groups meeting throughout the week.; Don Smith, ev. 905-563-7655 (off); e-mail: beamsvillechurchofchrist@bellnet.ca website: www.beamsvillechurchofchrist.ca

BRAMALEA: 750 Clark Blvd., (south of Hwy. 7 on Finchgate Boulevard), L6T 3Y2; (905) 792-2297; mail@bramaleacocf.ca; Sunday worship 10:00, 6:00; Bible class 11:15; Thurs. 7:30; Kevin Hunter, ev (905) 455-5796 (res); Walter Straker, ev (905) 789-1632 (res); www.bramaleacocf.ca.

BRANTFORD: 267 North Park St., N3R 4L2; Sun. 10, 11, Mid-week, call for times; contact Ray Knight (519) 754-0401; Mike Gray 905-387-5680, email: thegrays1@shaw.ca office (519) 759-6630

CAMBRIDGE: Meeting place is across the street from 45 Brierdale Rd. Sun. 10:30, call for midweek small groups; Evs. Greg Whitfield (226) 338-6720, www.cambridgecocf.ca; Mailing address: 2-120 Dudhope Ave, Cambridge N1R 4T7

CHESLEY & AREA: Call for time and place of meetings. Padfield: 519-934-0441; David Vance: 519-507-5070; Ron Zavitz: 519-363-6952

COLLINGWOOD: 494 10th Street, Collingwood, Ontario L9Y 2H1; Email: cchurchofchrist@bmts.com; Phone 705-444-0010; Minister: Les Cramp, Phone 519-538-5184; Cell 519-375-0559; Sunday Study 10:00 a.m. & Worship 11 a.m.; Study Tues 2 p.m.; Please join us for worship, Bible study or fellowship at any time.

CORNWALL: 105 third St W, K6J 2N9; Sunday Bible Study 10 am, Service 11am; Mid-week study Wed 7 pm; Allen Bojarski: evangelist/secretary, ph: 613-933-1825; Joel Bojarski: chairman; Mark Duperron: treasurer, ph: 613-932-3701; Fax: 613-933-2464; Mail: 1702 Dover Road, Cornwall, ON, K6J 1W1; email: abojarski@cogeco.ca; website: www.home.cogeco.ca/~abojarski/index.html

FENWICK: 765 Welland Ave.; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6:30; Wed. 7:30; P.O. Box 416, L0S 1C0; (905) 892-5661; email: cofcfenwick@gmail.com Website: www.fenwickchurchofchrist.ca

GRIMSBY: 63 Casablanca Blvd., south of Q.E. exit; Sun. Worship 10 am; Bible classes 11 am; Sun evening 6 pm, Wed. 7 pm; Box 181, L3M 4G3; (905) 945-3058 (off); George Mansfield, ev (h) 289-566-8963; website: www.grimsbycocf.org

HAILEYBURY: Meeting at 607 Christian Avenue, usually Sundays at 4 PM but call to confirm place and time. Week day Bible studies by appointment, Mailing address: Box 702, POJ 1K0; Mike & Judy Tinney 705-672-9241 or e-mail: can@parolink.net

HAMILTON: Fennell Ave. Church of Christ, 321 East 27 Street (at Fennell), L8V 3G8; Sunday 10:00, 11:00, 6:00; Wednesday 7:00; (905) 385-5775 (off.); Art Ford, ev., art@churchofchristhamilton.com; Chris Gardner, sec., (905) 388-9174; Website: www.churchofchristhamilton.com

NORTH HAMILTON: YMCA building, 79 James St. S.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7; c/o Joe Sandassie, 286 East 26th Street, Hamilton ON L8V 3E1; 905-389-8308, email: rjwss@cogeco.ca

HUNTSVILLE: Huntsville Public Library, 7 Minerva St. E., Sun. 10:00, c/o Dave Preston, (705) 789-7697, 491 Fowlers Rd., R.R.#5, Huntsville, Ont., P1H 2N5. Other contacts: Ken Smith, (705) 789-8292

HUNTSVILLE: 36 Hilltop Dr., P1H 1C5 (off Hwy. 11BN); Sun. 9:45, 11, 7; Ken Skinner, 705-382-2283 or Evelyn Preston, sec. 705-767-3237.

ICE LAKE: (Manitoulin Island) (1-1/4 miles South of Hwy 540, Ice Lake, ON); Mailing address: Site # 2, Box 3, Gore Bay, ON POP 1H0 Sunday: classes 10 am, worship 11 am; midweek - call for information: 705-282-2908 or 705-377-4019

KENORA: 101 Norman Dr.; Sun. 10, 11; P.O. Box 2905, P9N 3X8; Phone 807-468-7523 Earl Rattai, ev., 807-548-2245; email: erattai@sympatico.ca

KINGSTON: 446 College St., K7L 4M7; Sunday worship 11 AM; (off) 613-546-5409

LONDON: 1750 Huron St., N5V 3A2; (519) 455-6730; Sun. Worship 10 AM, Bible Study 11 AM

MEAFORD: 113 Nelson St.W. N4L 1G3; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7:30; Kevin Cleary, ev.; (519) 538-1750; e-mail: meaford-cofc@brucetelecom.com website: <http://www.meafordcofc.ca/> Check website for monthly changes

MISSISSAUGA: Mail address: Mississauga Church of Christ; PO Box 42264; 128 Queen Street S., Mississauga ON L5M 5Z5; Place of Worship: McKinnon Public School, 3270 Tacc Drive, Mississauga (10th Line & Tacc Drive); Worship: 9:30 AM; Bible Class 10:45; Contact name: Tony Lourenco (905) 829-8312; tlourenco@coceco.ca; Bill Currie, 905-826-4816, Email: wjc@7leaf.ca

NEW LISKEARD: 554 Helmer Pedersen Drive, New Liskeard; Sun. 9:30, 10:30; Wed. 7:00; Contacts: Jim Robertson, PO Box 1556, New Liskeard ON; POJ 1P0; (705) 647-5488, Email: ccstone65@hotmail.com

NEWMARKET: 230 Davis Dr.; Box 21581, L3Y 8J1; Sunday 11:15 am Bible classes, worship 10 am, Wednesday, please call for time and location; Nathan Pickard, ev.; 905-895-6502 (off); email: pickardnathan@hotmail.com www.newmarketchurchofchrist.ca

NIAGARA FALLS: 3901 Dorchester Rd. N., L2J 3A8, (905) 356-3412 (turn E. on Thorold Stone Rd. from Q.E. and left on Dorchester Rd.); Sunday Worship 10:30 AM, Sunday School 11:30 AM Wed. 7:30 Adult & Children's classes; Darrin Douglas, (minister) 905-356-3412, darrin@niagaracoc.com; Bruce Boland (youth/involvement minister) 905-356-3412, bryce@niagaracoc.com, website: www.niagaracoc.com

NORTH BAY: 73 Gertrude St. E.; Sun. 10:00; Box 745, P1B 8J8; (705) 472-7040 (off.); email: church@northbaycoc.com Website: www.northbaycoc.com

OMAGH: 9850 Britannia Road, Milton, L9T 7E8; 10, 11; website: <http://omaghchurch.n3.net>, Harold Ellis, Sec., 7435 Twiss Rd., RR # 3, Campbellville, ON L0P 1B0.

OSHAWA: Cedar Park Church of Christ 566 Simcoe St. N, Oshawa, L1G 4V3 Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 7; Wed. 7:30 pm; Steve Chubry, Minister 905-434-1258 (Church) 905-728-6125 (res) 647-378-7231 (cell) e-mail: steve.chubry@sympatico.ca cedarparkchurchofchrist@gmail.com Shig Oikawa 905-420-8414 (res) Find us on face book-Cedar Park Church

OTTAWA (Riverview Park): 1515 Chomley Cres., K1G 0V9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7; Robert J. MacRury, ev. 613-737-0701, 613-733-2580 (off); www.ottawachurchofchrist.ca

OTTAWA (West): The Olde Forge Community Resource Centre, 2730 Carling Avenue, Ottawa; Mailing Address: West Ottawa Church of Christ, c/o Bill Schlarb, 361 Viewmont Drive, Ottawa, ON, K2E 7R9; Sunday morning: 10 am. Bible study, 11 am; Worship service Contacts: Bill Schlarb, 613-224-8507; Bruce Veinot, 613-592-0291 email: westottawacofc@gmail.com

OWEN SOUND: 35 10th Ave. E., N4K 3H8; Sun. 9:45, 11:00, 2pm; Thurs. 7; Brian Thompson, ev. (519) 376-6702 (off.). 372-2155 (res.); email: oscoc@wightman.ca website: www.owensoundcofc.com

PETERBOROUGH: The Board Room, Parkway Place Mall, Landsdowne Street W.; Mailing Address: 323 Lindan Ave., K9L 1K9; Sunday 10 & 10:45; Wed. The Board Room, 7:00 pm, Peter McPherson (705) 742-5349

PINE ORCHARD: 16716 Warden Ave (just south of Vivian Rd.) 3 km east of Newmarket; Sun. 10, 11; (905) 953-9386. Mailing address: Bruce Brandon, Sec., RR 2, Uxbridge, L9P 1R2 (905) 852-5026

PORT COLBORNE: 700 Steele St., L3K 4Z2; Sun. worship 10:00, SS 10:15, Adult SS 11:00; (905) 834-5775 (off)

ST. CATHARINES: 439 Ontario St. N., L2N 4M9; Sun. 9:30, 10:30, 6; Wed. 7:00; 905-9581 (off.); Jeremiah Cisco, ev.; email: churchofchrist@bellnet.ca; WebSite: www.stcatharinescofc.ca

ST. THOMAS: 60 S. Edgeware Rd, N5P 2H6; 519-633-2210 Sun 10,11 Call for midweek date and place; Bob Jackson, 519-633-1123.

SAULT STE. MARIE (Pinehill): 132 Cunningham Road, P6B 1N4; (705)949-4988; Sunday 9:40AM, 10:40AM; call for Sunday PM time; Wednesday 7PM; Elders: P. Bailey (705) 256-6789), L. Hotchkiss (705) 759-0649, C. Whitfield (705) 254-6153

SELKIRK: 1/2 km n. of village, 58 Haldimand Road 53, Sun. 10 & 11. Wed. 7:00; PO Box 247, Selkirk, ON N0A 1P0; Michael Toby: 905-776-0015; medt@xplornet.com

SOUTH RIVER: Jaspar St. S.; off Ottawa St. W.; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7:00; Box 549, POA 1X0; Jim Nicholson, ev. (705) 384-5215

STONEY CREEK: 105 King St. E., L8G 1L1; (905) 664-1130 (off.); Sun. 9:45, 11; Sun.; Brent Olson, minister, Robert Priestnall, sec.; email: emailus@sccoc.ca; website: www.patchworkinthecreek.com

STRATFORD: 478 Brunswick St., N5A 3N6; Sunday Worship 10:00, Wednesday - various activities 7:00 pm, please call for details; Voice mail (519) 273-5280; Greg Toohey, ev, 519-635-5921; Contacts: John Brush (519) 625-1054; Charles Kippax (519) 539-6931

SUDBURY: 2663 Bancroft Dr. P3B 1T7; Sun. 10, 11, 6; Wed. 7 PM; Edward Klym (ev), 705-560-3964, email: edklym@unitz.ca, Elders Wes Bailey, Don Stringer

SUNDRIDGE: Hwy. 11 N.; Sun. 9:30, 10:30 Wed. 7:30 PM; P.O. Box 927, POA 1Z0; (705) 384-5214

THESSALON: 8 Albert St. off Hwy. 17; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7 PM; Mailing address: Jim Kent, sec, Randy Morrilt, ev; Box 708, POR 1L0; (705) 842-2344 (H), (705) 842-3340 (O/Fax); Email: randy.lois.church@sympatico.ca

TILLSONBURG: 1 mi. N. on Hwy. 19; Sun. 9:30; Wed. 7:00; Box 331, N4G 4H8; 842-7118.

TINTERN: 4359 Spring Creek Rd. Vineland ON LOR 2C0; Worship at 9: 45a.m. with classes to follow; Sunday pm call for times and locations; Wed. 7:00 pm; Noel Walker ev., Dylan Pyeatt ev.; (905) 563 6311 (off.).

TORONTO (Bayview Ave.): 1708 Bayview Ave., M4G 3C4 (1 block S. of Eglinton); Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 7; Michael Hilborn, mhilborn@rogers.com; 63 Campbell Ave., M6P 3T9; (416) 489-7405 (office)

TORONTO (Scarborough): 2035 Kennedy Road, Toronto, Ontario M1T 3G2 DELTA Toronto East Hotel, (Leaside Suite) Kennedy & 401 East; Sunday 10:00am; 11:00; Thurs. 7:00pm (in homes)

(Mailing Address: 300 Borough Drive, P.O. Box 47011, Scarborough, Ontario M1P 4Z7) Church Phone: 416-970-3835; Website: www.scarboroughchurchofchrist.net Devon Bennett, Minister, 905-686-2486, Cell: 416-970-3835; Fax: 905-428-1579; email: devonben@gmail.com Phillip Brown, Minister, 905-686-4067; Cell: 289-200-9160; email: phillkare@gmail.com

TORONTO (Harding Ave.): 47 Harding Ave., M6M 3A3; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; 416-244-9152; contact; Aikins Wiredu, 905-216-6896; Kaso Ramcharitar, 416-652-7266; Twi service available

TORONTO (Strathmore Blvd.): 346 Strathmore Blvd. M4C 1N3 (across from Coxwell subway station); 416-461-7406; Sun. 9:45, 11, 6; Wed. 7; Elders: Marvin Johnson 416-752-0325, Stephen Gill 416-265-2496, Peter Dwomoh (416) 462-3616; Jean Volcy 905-237-3312; Max Craddock, ev. 416-461-7406, e-mail <maxc@strathmorecofc.ca>; Marlon Molina, ev., marlonm@strathmorecofc.ca; Fax 416-424-1850; Santiago Molina (Spanish) ev, 416-751-6879, website: www.strathmorecofc.ca

VANDELEUR: E. off Hwy #10 (2 km S. of Markdale) along Artemesia Township sideroad 10 7 km; Sun. 10, 11; Ian Boyce, sec., PO Box 1196, 450 Countess Street S, Durham ON N0G 1R0; Phone 519-369-1731; Gordon Dennis, Box 274; Mount Forest, N0G 2L0; (519) 323-2424

WATERLOO: 470 Glenelm Cres., N2L 5C8; (519) 885-6330 (off); Sun, 9:30, 10:30, and 6:00 (except 4th Sunday), Wed 7:30; David Dunn ev., 519-669-4319; Jamie Azzoparde, 519-578-8553 (res), e-mail: azzoparde@gmail.com

WINDSOR (West Side): 2255 Totten St., N9B 1X6 (E. of Huron Church Rd.); 254-6262 or 945-4851; Sun. 9:45, 11, 5:30; Wed. 7:30; Drew Chapados, ev., 785 Sandison Ave., Windsor, N9E 4T3; (519) 250-4407; Email: westsidechurch@live.com

PROVINCE OF QUEBEC

MONTREAL: (South-West • English/French/Spanish): Ville Emard Church of Christ, 6259 Monk Blvd., Montreal, QC, H4E 3H8 (2 streets east of the Monk subway station, 10 minutes from Downtown); (514) 765-8919. Simultaneous electronic translation: Sunday 10, 11, Wed. 7; Website: www.vecoc.org; Roger Saumur, ev. (514) 602-5105; e-mail: rogersaumur@sympatico.ca

PLESSISVILLE: Centre Communautaire, André Côté, CP21, G6L 2Y6; Sun. 6 & 7 pm; Yvon Beaudoin, (418)728-5240; email: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca.

QUEBEC CITY: 2980 De Verteuil St (corner Jean-Noel St); Mailing address: PO Box 9041 STN Sainte-Foy, Quebec, QC G1V 4A8, Sunday School: 9:30 AM; Sunday worship: 10:30 AM (French); Wed. 7:00 PM (Phone in Summer) 418-651-3664 (of); Yvon Beaudoin, ev. 418-728-5240; email: ybeaudoin@oricom.ca; Roger Paradis, ev. 418-831-8690; email: rparadis1518@videotron.ca

PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

BENGOUGH: E. side Hwy. 34; Sun. 10:30, 11:15; Norman Kemp, Box 134, SOC 0K0; (306) 268-4522.

ESTEVAN: 1302 8th St., S4A 1H6; 634-3116; Sun. 10, 11, 7; Wed. 7; Tim Pippus, ev., 634-8195, res. E-mail: estevan.cofc@sasktel.net website: www.estevanchurchofchrist.org

GRAVELBOURG: 300-2nd Ave. E.; Sun. 10:30, Box 507, S0H 1X0; Wendell Bailey, ev; (306) 648-3435

KENOSE VILLAGE: Moose Mountain Church of Christ, Mailing address: PO Box 184, Kenosee Village, SK SOC 2S0; Sunday 10:00, Mid-week: call Jim Sedor, (306) 453-2088

LLOYDMINSTER: 56 Ave. and 47 St., Box 88, S9V 0X9; Sun. 10:00, 11:00; Off (780) 875-4056; Lee Patmore, ev.; res: (306) 825-2505 call (306) 821-7446 e-mail: patmores@sasktel.net

MOOSE JAW: 901 James Street, Moose Jaw, SK S6H 3H5; (306) 693-4064 (off.); mjccoc@sasktel.net Website: <http://mjchurchofchrist.blogspot.com>; Call for times of worship, Darrell Buchanan, ev

SASKATOON: Sunday, Worship 10 AM, Wed.7 PM; Phone for summer schedule; Office:343-7922; Lead Minister: Mike Parker; Senior Minister: Bob Parker; Location & Mail: 134 Cardinal Cres. S7L 6H6; Fax: 343-1589; Bob Parker: toonchurch@live.com and Mike Parker: mike@skchurch.ca

SWIFT CURRENT: Church of Christ, Box 1103, Swift Current, SK, S9H 3X3; Sun. 10, 11; Wed. 6:30; Susan Eidem, sec., 306-741-9925; (call for location of meetings).

Advertising Rates

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www.glbc.ca

Great Lakes Bible College invites applications and nominations for the Position of President.

Great Lakes Bible College is operated by members of the Church of Christ to offer a post secondary education in Biblical studies, theology and ministry. The Bible College is a degree granting institution and has a growing student body with the equivalent of 6 full time students. The Bible College is located in Waterloo, Ontario.

Because of the size of the school and the resources available we need someone who could dedicate 2.5 days per week to the leadership of the college to, with the assistance of the Board of Trustees, accomplish the following:

- Support the mission, vision and values of Great Lakes Bible College
- Maintain effective communication with all stakeholder groups
- Define and execute a funding model that serves the schools' purposes and attains financial viability
- Staff Management
- Liaise with staff members of GLCHS who provide some support services
- Produce an effective plan for recruiting and fundraising for the College
- It is anticipated that some travel will be required.

Qualifications

- A personal commitment to Jesus Christ and the advancement of His Kingdom
- A passion for building faith in young people
- A member of, or able to become a member of, the Corporations of Great Lakes Bible/Christian College
- Experience in creating and executing financial plans
- Fundraising or ministry experience is considered an asset
- Post secondary education in any discipline. Advanced degree is considered an asset

Target start date of January 1, 2013

Application deadline September 30, 2012.

Additional documentation describing the role is available and may be obtained by sending an email to PresidentSearch@glbc.ca

To apply send resume and cover letter to PresidentSearch@glbc.ca

Please allow several weeks to receive response to any communication