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Broken Promises

See Editorial on page 4

FROM:

Gospel Herald Foundation

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A New King for Israel

Earle Rattai

Why did Israel want a King so badly during those last days of Samuel? (Read 1 Samuel 8:1-5). On a quick read, one might determine that since Samuel's sons (whom Samuel appointed as Judges over Israel) were corrupt, that the Elders of Israel were choosing a better option in asking for a King. After all, it would be better to roll the dice with an unknown King than to suffer under the hands of corrupt or incompetent Judges; wouldn't it? That is simply good worldly wisdom. And in terms of human governments and organizations, a simply carnal and seemingly pragmatic approach is often justified. After all, Samuel was aged and his sons were unfit to lead.

The elders of Israel were wise in their rejection of a Godless leadership. However, they made a grave error in relying on human wisdom to select an alternative. Somehow they seemed to miss the obvious. Take a moment and read 1 Samuel chapter seven.

Who saved Israel from the Philistines at Mizpah? Was it a human King? What landed Israel in trouble and under the cruel tyranny of the Philistines in the first place? Was it the fact that Israel was militarily or numerically inferior to the nations around them? No, no, no!

Israel's trouble began by prostituting themselves with the nations around them and incorporating unauthorized elements into their worship. And now they want a human king... like the nations around them!

The children of Israel were the most "God-savvy" people on earth

in those days. If anyone could, they should have been able to connect the right dots, especially right after the battle of Mizpah. So Samuel was aged and his sons unfit. How does that justify their request for a human King? They missed the obvious. What is quite interesting is both Samuel and the Lord took the request for a human King personally. Another sub point is that Samuel is one of the most righteous and Godly persons in all of Scripture.

Now we know that nothing appears in Scripture without a good reason. In this case, that is to state a fact of history, but also for a perpetual example. That lesson and example would serve Israel for the next one thousand years as a reminder of what could have and should have been had they chose correctly.

Secondarily however, this example of Israel asking for a King out of envy toward the nations around them benefits every successive generation of the Lord's people, including us today. And before we get too judgemental of what Israel was doing in those days, let's remember that they had far less information to work with than we do.

Samuel told Israel exactly what would happen with a human King, but that wasn't good enough. They had to "experience" it. And they did!

So, now, what about us here in 2012 with all the information laid out by hindsight in God's perfect and complete revelation? What can we do? What do we do? After all, are we not the "New Israel" or God's new chosen people? Are we dupli-

cating the grave error of the ancient Israelites? Yes, indeed we are.

How, you ask? Congregations of the Lord's Church are dropping like dead flies in North America when it comes to being distinct from the denominations around them. It seems that the envy ancient Israel had for the nations around it has reared its ugly head in the form of approval for denominations which we know to be teaching error. What was Israel's purpose anyhow? Read Deuteronomy 7, because there is a principle there. Moses told the Israelites that God chose them as a treasured possession on account of grace, and not because of anything special Israel had done. Moses told them they were to act like a peculiar people by obeying the Lord's ordinances with authorized behaviours especially as it applied to worship. Moses told them that if they obeyed the voice of the Lord they would be blessed and if they disobeyed, they would be treated like the pagan nations they were supposed to witness to.

Is there an application for the New Israel which is the Church? Absolutely! God has chosen the Church as His modern "peculiar people" by grace through faith and not by any special quality we may possess (Ephesians 2:8-10). God has laid out entrance requirements to this Kingdom that seem to puzzle and aggravate the denominations (Galatians 3:26). This we know by the myriad of "gospels" taught out there and the particular disdain shown for the true Gospel.

And while the Lord has not given the same level of "Thou Shalt

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and Thou Shalt Not" in regard to New Testament worship, He has laid out specific examples for acceptable worship (Eph.5:19; Acts 20:7; Heb. 10:25). The Lord Jesus Himself, through the Apostle John, has told us that if we obey His voice and remain faithful, we will be blessed (Rev.2:8-11). However He also said that if we are cool to His Word as evidenced in our behaviour, we would be rejected as vomit (Rev.3:15,16). The similitude between Old Testament Israel and the Church is poignant and striking.

How does it play out? Well...the denominations have rock bands leading worship, so we want one. The denominations have a "repeat after me sinner's prayer" plan of salvation, so we want one. The denominations have unqualified elders

and ladies leading the worship, so we want that. The denominations strive to be "seeker friendly", which often is code for politically correct, so we want that. Regrettably, the list is very long, but you get the point.

I am not trying to villainize our denominational friends and neighbours. I have many. Many are good, honest and sincere with a heart for God. God loves mankind equally not wishing anyone to perish, but for everyone to come to repentance. However, it seems to be human nature to want to fit in; to be accepted and to mimic the majority. This we cannot do and remain the Lord's Church simultaneously.

We have a King. He has spoken. There is no need here for another.

Kenora, Ontario

Pictures and Reports

We are always looking for items concerning outreach and service activities of congregations across Canada. Pictures are worth a thousand words, they say, and we like to have pictures we can publish on mission outreach and service projects in evangelism, teaching and doing service. These may be of work done in Canada or by Canadian congregational groups who travel and serve outside of Canada. Good quality digital photographs allow us to see, be encouraged by and praise God for these activities of our fellow Christians. We look forward to being able to share these "good news reports" with readers of the Gospel Herald.

— The editors

Career Opportunity in Health Care Administrator (CEO) Position

In 1968, the Barrie Ontario Church of Christ opened what is now a not-for-profit, long-term care continuum which includes a 143 bed nursing home, a 14 unit retirement area and a senior's day program. Led by an independent Board of Directors, the Home operates on the Biblical principles espoused by the Church of Christ. The Board is therefore looking for an active member of the Church of Christ to become the Home's next Administrator in 2014.

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Terry Codling, Administrator: (705) 792-7393
tcodling@grovesparkhome.on.ca
www.grovesparkhome.on.ca



Broken Promises

Wayne Turner



Back in the 1960's, Burt Bacharach wrote, in *Promises, Promises*, "... their kind of promises can just destroy... those kind of promises, take all the joy." In the movie *Mary Poppins*, Mary told the children about a "pie crust promise." That's a promise that is "easily made and easily broken." The sad reality, countless references could be cited that would show how disillusioned and disappointed our culture is with the idea of promises. It boils down to the fact that while people make promises, they often feel no obligation to keep them.

We've gone a long way from the day when a person's word was his bond. It used to be that a verbal agreement and a handshake were sufficient. Today, lawyers (and courts) discuss the enforceability of an agreement or contract. (We might spend some time here considering the idea that it is even necessary in many cases to go to court to get a person to keep their word!). In some areas of business, it has been necessary to have legislation to protect people from unscrupulous individuals who, in the past, felt free to dishonour their promises while taking the money attached to that promise.

Personally, many people base fulfillment of a promise on their feelings. Essentially, they say that they don't feel the way they did when they made the promise so they no longer believe it necessary to keep their word. This attitude lies at the heart of our current divorce rates. Despite the fact that they have promised to remain together "for better or worse, in sickness and in health" and to remain faithful to each other until death, many people believe that if feelings or circumstances change, they are entitled to break this covenant. Their promise means nothing.

The same thing sometimes happens spiritually—people "quit the church" as we often put it. In reality, they are walking away from Jesus. They don't like to admit it and often choose to rationalize by saying that they are still "spiritual" but they no longer need or want to be part of Christ's family, body, community. Again, they don't recognize that they are under a covenant that they voluntarily entered when they were baptized into Christ.

In a lesser way, there are those who, while maintaining the externals of going to church no longer have the desire to follow scripture. They want church and their "spiritual life" to conform to their tastes and expectations, and are fully prepared to walk away if their desires are not met.

Try to imagine where we would be, eternally, if God were like this—if He felt He could change His mind, His word and His covenant with us based on whim or preference. In the ancient world, the deities of the Greeks and Romans were portrayed as petty, often mean-spirited, and changeable. Their mythologies (as we would see them) showed beings that did not even deserve the term deity because they were captive to the same desires and behavior as mortals. Ultimately, they could not be trusted. How sad.

It is important for us to realize that we serve a God who makes covenants and gives promises to His people, and who is faithful in everything. One of the most significant affirmations of this is found in Hebrews 6:16-18 where the writer speaks of God's "unchangeable purpose" and that it is impossible for God to lie. "God did this so that by two unchangeable things" we can have hope. He has given both His oath and His promise. Given the nature and character of God, either one of these gives us complete security. However, in case there is any doubt, God has given us both.

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The Question of the Ages

All down though the history of mankind, since Jesus walked this earth, the question that faces every person is, "What do you think about the Christ? Whose son is he?" (Matthew 22:41-42 ESV). They said to him, "The son of David." No question is of more importance to every living soul, however, many wish to ignore it and are not willing to give serious attention to this eternity determining question.

Many have failed to see and accept who He really is, even those who lived to see His miracles and hear His teaching with authority. While the question is not directly stated in the text, John records an example of this question being asked and answered, "So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, 'Behold the man!' When the chief priests and the officers saw him, they cried out, 'Crucify him, crucify him!'" (John 19:5-6a ESV).

Many who do not believe in Jesus as the Christ, will admit that He was a person of history. This is pretty hard to deny, since there are historical writings, outside the Bible, that speak of Him and His work. Josephus was one such writer. Born, Joseph ben Matthias in Jerusalem, he is said to have commanded Jewish forces in Palestine during the great Jewish revolt that broke out there against Roman rule around A.D. 66. The

Jews were defeated in their efforts but Josephus did not die and later became a Roman citizen.

Josephus knew about Jesus and is one of the historians who speaks about Him. Remember that he was not a Christian and had no reason to be supportive of the claim of Jesus Himself that He was the Son of God, nor to be supportive of the Christian community in their proclamation of this truth. However, he did write about Jesus in very strong and supportive terms (intending to or not) in the Antiquities.

For example: "Now, there was about this time Jesus, a wise man,

if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works—a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews, and many of the Gentiles. He was (the) Christ; and when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men amongst us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for he appeared to them alive again the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold these and ten thousand other wonderful things concerning him; and the tribe of Christians, so named from him, are not extinct at this." (The Antiquities of the Jews, 18.3.3). This sure sounds like an endorsement of Jesus by an unbeliever. Sadly, it would appear that he never allowed the truth of his statement to touch his heart and turn to God.

Not only do we have the statements by the Jewish historian, Josephus, but people like Philip Schaff, a church historian, quotes an interesting statement by Flavius Claudius Julianus, also known also as Julian the Apostate. He was the Roman Emperor from about 361 to 363. He was non-Christian and expended a great deal of energy during his reign attempting to destroy the growing power of "Christianity" within the empire by attempting to revive traditional Roman religious practices in the empire. Schaff records: "Jesus, having persuaded a few among you, and those of the worst of men, has now been celebrated about three hundred years; having done nothing in his lifetime worthy of fame, unless anyone thinks it a very great work to heal lame and blind people and exorcise demoniacs in the villages of Bethsaida and Bethany."

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Where's the Grace? (JOHN 1:14)

Eugene C. Perry

Some of our older readers might remember the advertisement frequently aired some years ago in which an elderly lady exclaimed, "Where's the beef?" Such an exclamation does not seem at all strange if, having ordered a hamburger, one was served the buns, vegetables and condiments but found little or no meat in his sandwich.

All too often a similar exclamation seems called for when one finds little or no grace showing in relationships among those who are identified as disciples of the One who is described as "full of grace and truth" (John 1:14). John's inspired description of Jesus should remind us of the qualities that ideally dominate the characters of those who strive to progressively grow into His likeness. Am I full of grace and truth or am I strong on "truth" and neglectful on "grace"? **Where's the grace?**

Both history and experience reveal

a lack of balance in reference to these two. Religious wars such as the Crusades, the often unpleasant relationships between differing religious groups and the estrangements between individuals who differ in their faith show the tendency to lean more heavily on truth than on grace. Historically, one of the problems with religious debates was that debaters handled the truth so ungraciously as to lose the debate.

Being right, knowing, teaching and practising the truth are important. The truth saves, it frees us. (John 8:24). But how free is the person who harbours ill will towards another? How free is the person who refuses to greet or shake the hand of another because of differences in beliefs or personal differences? Have you witnessed the depth of ill will that often results when brethren differ? **Where's the grace?**

Sometimes congregations splinter over matters of doctrine and those

who appear to hold to the truth are so much less gracious in attitude towards their "erring brethren" as to appear far less "Christ-like", so that one is attracted to the side appearing to be in error regarding the truth. In such a case grace wins over truth.

It is understood and expected that our religious views are very precious to us and are held close to our hearts. Hence it is not surprising that we tend to react strongly when they are questioned or challenged. Likewise when our personal conduct, actions or lifestyle is questioned we are likely to be hurt to the point of responding with malice or even violence. In fact since we tend to be more sensitive in these areas we put off or avoid examination and discussion of the problem and fail to exercise the grace that could lead to reconciliation and freedom from the bitterness, estrangement and ill will that controls us.

We cannot over-emphasize the importance of each of us daily striving to be more like Jesus. The "What would Jesus do in these circumstances question" continues to be valid and useful. In considering this in our decisions, attitudes and relationships we need to remember John's characterization of Jesus as "full of grace and truth". To be true disciples of Jesus we will strive to balance these in our relationships, words and actions.

We are to love and pray for our enemies and those who persecute us. A big order, but Jesus set the example and we have personal problems to deal with if we are unable to do the same. Is there anyone whom you would be disappointed to meet in heaven?

A balance of grace and truth in our lives is needed in all of our relationships but especially when our personal actions, attitudes and religious beliefs are questioned or challenged.

Where's the grace?

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While their testimony may be of little value, historically, many world leaders have spoken of Jesus with respect and, perhaps, belief. One can go to any book of quotes and find comments that have been made by leaders about Jesus and His influence on history. For some, He is the Christ, for others He is simply a person of history. Perhaps no quote is more accurate as to the power of Christianity than that of Napoleon, himself an important figure in the shaping of world history.

Maybe in self-pity for his own lack of importance he said, "But can you conceive of a dead man making conquests, with an army faithful and entirely devoted to his memory? My armies have forgotten me, even while living, as the Carthaginian army forgot Hannibal. Such is our power! A single battle lost crushes us, and adversity scatters our friends. Can you conceive of Caesar as the eternal Emperor of the Roman senate, and from the depths of his mausoleum governing the empire, watching over the destinies of Rome? Such is the history of the world by the invasion of Christianity. Such is the power of the God of the Christians. Nations pass away, throne crumble, but the church remains. Christ speaks, and at once generations become his by stricter, closer ties than those of blood. He lights up the flames of a love which condemns self-love, which prevails over every other love."

The question of the ages, "Who is Jesus?" It is nearly beyond belief that anyone would say that Jesus did not exist. It is nearly beyond belief that anyone would admit that He did indeed live, but all those "stories" about Him in the Bible are made up lies by His followers in an attempt to

gain power or prominence in the world. As noted, non-Christian historians and world leaders acknowledged His power and importance. Their belief did not seem to get past the point of simply seeing Him as someone worthy of note. Certainly not being seen by them as the Christ!

Yes, based on history we can have full faith that a man did walk the earth a little over two thousand years ago and that He did some things at were worthy of note. Even, as Napoleon said, a person

who had powerful influence in the world of his (Napoleon's) day and who continues to have great power and influence in the world today. But, is He the Christ?

This is, of course, a question that must be answered as a result of faith. Next month we want to look further into this question and consider some compelling reasons for seeing Jesus as more than just a good man, excellent teacher and even more than simply a miracle worker.



Seeking Volunteer Board of Directors Applications

Grove Park Home in Simcoe County, winner of the "People's Choice Award" for Long Term Care Homes is seeking applicants for the position of Volunteer Board of Director.

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Further information about Grove Park Home is available at www.groveparkhome.on.ca

For enquiries or more details contact a current board member or send a resume and letter of interest to:

Marvin Johnson, Chairman of the Board of Directors
Grove Park Home, 234 Cook St., Barrie, Ontario L4M 4H5

Questions People Ask

Bill Craddock

At funeral services of those thought to have lived a “faithful Christian life,” we hear such statements as “he/she is now with the Lord,” “they have now received their final reward” etc. When a person dies do they go to their final reward? What about the Judgment Day?

When I was a boy and even after I began preaching, you never heard a preacher say that a person was “with the Lord” or “had received their final reward.” Why? It was because people were not sure of their relationship with God. The common statement about the departed was, “We cannot say or do anything that will help or hinder the departed who is now in the hands of a just God who does all things well.” That was saying, “We don’t have a clue whether they are saved or not.”

Over the years we have come to better understand the grace of God and realize that we can know our relationship with Him. But we need to say that we, as humans, cannot look into the heart of the departed to know beyond a shadow of a doubt that they have lived

their life in accordance with God’s will. But as far as “we” can tell they lived as a child of God and are now in that spirit world where the redeemed will live for eternity.

That brings up the next question, “Where do the dead go when the spirit leaves the physical body?” Again, there is much discussion about that. There is no question that the Bible speaks of “Hades” as a place where the dead go. Hades is used for the general abode of the dead whether good or evil. Jesus affirmed that He possessed the Key of “death” and “Hades” (Revelation 1:18). The Bible teaches that Hades will be emptied at the time of the judgment. “The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death” (Revelation 20:13-14).

Hades is described as having two parts, **paradise** and **torment**. Hades is best described in Luke 16:19ff in the account of the rich man and Lazarus. Lazarus, the righteous man, was comforted in Abraham’s bosom (v. 22a). The rich man, the unrighteous man, died and lifted up his eyes in torment (v. 22b).

If Hades is the dwelling place of the dead until judgment, it no doubt is divided into “paradise” and “torment.”(Saved and lost).

Most biblical scholars accept the idea that the dead go to Hades to await the judgment. If that is true, how can it be said that the saved are with the Lord? Is the Lord in Hades? **Many times we speak of being with the Lord to indicate the individual’s relationship with God. Point:** Your spiritual condition at the time of your death is the condition of your spirit throughout eternity. Abraham said that a great gulf separated paradise and torment and no one could cross from one to the other. **There is no change in our spiritual state after death!**

I grew up thinking that we would not find out our final estate until the final judgment. When people were asked if they were saved, the most common response was that they would not know until the final judgment. **Folks, that is too late!** Our salvation is not based in a “final test” that the Lord will give us on judgment day, but on how we live our “**daily lives**” every day we live as a child of God.

So when we speak of our loved ones “being with the Lord,” we are really speaking of the way we saw them live daily. The Apostle Paul looked forward to that crown the Lord would give the faithful (2 Timothy 4:6-8). We can look forward to that same crown.

The point we need to see is that God will take care of where we go when we die. We must be concerned about getting ready to go!

Canton, Ohio

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Apology To Port Credit Congregation and Our Readers:

In the September issue of the Herald the new congregation at Port Credit, ON, placed a full page ad announcing their beginning service on October 7, 2012. In transferring the material from myself to Steve for layout, I somehow deleted the date!! Then, on top of that, when proofing the copy I missed seeing the mistake. I apologize to the congregation for this deletion and am thankful to hear that some called the brethren there to find out the date after seeing the ad.

– Max Craddock



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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

NEWS

- EAST -

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

ONTARIO

Hamilton (Fennell Ave.): Our hearts were filled with joy as Katy Merling and Rene Boyer were baptized at Camp Omagh on Wednesday, August 8. Rene is a sister of Sylvie Stevens.

Owen Sound: The church here enjoyed a great summer meeting with Bruce Morton as he shared lessons with us from the book of Ephesians. Rejoice with us as Helaena Hartung was baptized into Christ on September 9, 2012. Doug Wheeler will conduct a Gospel Meeting here on October 12-14 entitled, "Salvation by God's Grace."

Stoney Creek: This fall the church is resuming small group studies on Wednesday evenings in Burlington and in

East Hamilton. Youth meetings under the direction of Brent Olson are also resuming in the fall. In September Blake and Marion Gieg moved back to the area and are planning to once again be a part of the Stoney Creek church.

Toronto (Strathmore Blvd): Santiago reported that the campaign in Central America at Managua, Nicaragua, went well. There were 5 baptisms and 3 restorations. A Spanish group from Venezuela worked in a campaign in Waterloo in September. On September 8, the group came to Strathmore and presented a program of praise in song. It was very excellent. September 14 - 16, the annual Filipino weekend retreat was held at Camp Omagh. Several of the young men took leadership in this activity. Key filming was done at the Bayview building in Toronto and at the Bramalea building in Brampton on September 15. Key To The Kingdom will have a booth again this year at the ZoomerShow on October 27, 28. This lifestyle show is held at the Direct Energy Centre, 100 Princes Blvd., Exhibition Place, Toronto, Ontario. Anyone who is interested in attending should contact us for a free pass for admission to the show.

Waterloo: On Sunday, August 5, three of our young people were baptized into Christ. The angels rejoice with us for the commitment Juliette Melchor, Julio Melchor and Julian Montenegro made to God! The elders are currently reviewing reports on potential neighbourhoods for our church plant.

Windsor (West Side): September 30 was Back to Church Sunday. This was a special day to invite those who had attended church in the past to join us again. Also, we took advantage of inviting friends and family members that we were working with to "try church".

Bramalea: Sheila Alave placed membership with the Bramalea congregation on September 2, 2012. Formerly from Strathmore, Sheila is now living with her uncle Danny Sabio and family in Brampton. Kwadwo and Rebecca Kusi from Ghana, who were married in Brampton in May 2012, placed membership on September 9, 2012. Some of the congregation's ladies meet for prayer on the first Sunday of each month at 9 a.m. before morning worship begins. Twelve Ontario congregations were represented at Dr. Garry Bailey's August

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Newmarket Church of Christ **50**th Anniversary

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by Marion Waugh
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Edmonton, AB T6K 0G7
Phone: (780) 637-0867
E-mail: waughr1@shaw.ca

(BC news supplied by Barbara Lewis)

ALBERTA

Edmonton (northside): There was a good turnout at Family Camp. Garth Johnson and Evered Butler gave lessons based on Jeremiah 17:7-8. "Students of Christ" classes taught by Gerry Bibaud have started. Care groups in various homes throughout Edmonton and surrounding communities have begun. Two sunset courses are being taught: "Excellence in Leadership" by Richard Rogers and "Sacrificial Systems" by Gerald Paden. Welcome to Jeremy Bibaud who has identified with our congregation. The ladies class "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus, A study of how Jesus valued women" by Linda Smith is attended by 20 ladies. The building renovations continue.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Abbotsford(Central Valley): "One has never experienced 'lively and active' until they have done day camps in Fort Ware and Tsay Keh! " Jen Weir wrote in her report about this year's in the two Northern BC First Nations villages. The first thing done upon arrival is to clean their living quarters, both in the annex in Tsay Keh and the church building in Fort Ware. Then the Day camp is set up and the village walked with a new flier as reminders. "We never know what to expect on the first day—then they come! We did have lots of kids, with the highest number of those just 'passing through' than in any other year. These are the result of logging camps contracting out for 'brushing crews', to get rid of undergrowth in the replanted areas of the forest, and alongside logging roads to make driving more visible. Provided are cooks and tents for the crews, who spend several weeks earning an extra summer wage. In Fort Ware there were 37 for the first day, with the numbers declining a bit as families moved on. The four who came from the Tintern, ON, congregation were Beth Whitehead and Eartha Zilla (their fourth year) and Lynette Meecham

and Wayne Whitfield, teacher at Great Lakes Christian igh School for many years, newcomers. They had chosen an 'Olympic' theme, which was apropos for August, and made applicable to the 'spiritual life' in many ways! The Weirs had managed to get medals and first place ribbons (there is no 'second' or 'third' place with God). We also had give-away bracelets that read 'God's Team', pendants to make up and T-shirts for the children to colour and wear, again brought by the Tintern team. (They just love those! Some even wore last year's T-shirts when they came the first day.) Along with all the groceries, we also brought baby blankets, cartoon DVDs with Christian content which had been requested, and items for the 'chippy store' (Value Store) to sell. The black bears were again hassling the Tsay Keh village, so Norm drove some of the children home at the conclusion of our day. The evening devo's in Tsay Keh brought a good number to sing and pray. A newcomer was a white lady, the Community Health Representative, who had been in the village only three weeks." – Thanks to Jen Weir for these highlights

Burnaby: Our ladies were joined by a few from other congregations to enjoy a Ladies Retreat in B.C.'s Columbia Valley Sept. 28-30. With several speakers, the theme "Come Into His Presence" was a re-assuring and rejuvenating experience. Our Youth minister, Connor Wilkerson, spoke for morning assemblies while the Ruch's were on holiday. Erol and Debra Dogan were expected to return from their trip to Israel on Oct.1. It has been an exciting month for them to be in a place where Muslims are being taught and baptized into Christ.

Chilliwack: Velma Forman made an unscheduled trip home from Papua New Guinea in August to see her mother, Margaret, who was in the hospital for several weeks. Sister Forman was moved to a Rehabilitation Facility in Abbotsford to gain strength and get therapy in September. Due to government business, Velma had to be back in Lae by Sept. 20. Two ladies from Chilliwack have asked for baptism after

having correspondence and personal studies with Norman Weir. They are Maryellen Lehman, who has been attending the Abbotsford congregation, and her friend, Petra.

Oakridge: The church that meets here rejoiced at the baptism of our own Annette Hidalgo on Sept. 9. Annette is 18 and has been part of our youth group since her family arrived here from Guatemala several years ago. Our bulletin for the first Sunday in September featured the occasional "KID'S KORNER". It was written by Joseph Diaz, age 10: "This week I would like to talk about Life. The reason I want to talk about life is because about a week ago or so I was swimming and something happened. I'm not going to say what, but because of it I almost drowned. 'While I was under the

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

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along with program notes on our website

MISSION NEWS

Barbara Lewis
4920 N. Penn Ave.
Spokane, WA 99206-4475
e-mail: ray-bjl@comcast.net



NASHVILLE, TN: – As Hurricane Isaac made landfall, and continued to hang over the Gulf Coast, relief organizations in Tennessee waited for the call to head south to help. Crews at the Churches of Christ Disaster Relief had hundreds of boxes of supplies ready to take into areas affected by the storm, and several truckloads of family food boxes loaded for the hardest hit areas. As soon as Isaac came on the radar, Joe Dudney, executive director of the relief organization, called to let affected towns and areas know they were available as soon as they were told where to go. Their Oklahoma-based Medical Group traveled to Haiti in October to hold remote clinics as they deliver and administer medicines and education to churches in Lomas and St. Marth, Haiti. Because of the visit of tropical storm Isaac which brought extensive flooding and damage to the many “tent cities”, a spike in cholera was anticipated.

ETHIOPIA: On a trip last April, John Ed and his son Kevin Clark, who are overseeing the deaf work being done by the Woodward Park church in Fresno, CA, noticed that several children in the Mazoria School for the Deaf seemed to be tired and listless. A deaf teacher told them he had noticed 15 children living in areas that he passed in walking the 12 miles to school every day. He had convinced the

parents to let their children walk with him, but some of the extremely poor had nothing to give their children for breakfast. Upon learning this, the Clarks initiated a breakfast program for all of the school's students. The quickly noticeable result is that all are alert and able to learn!

UKRAINE (SHAVENCHENCO, KIEV): “I pray that your heart and mind endlessly mature in the Lord and that you are being confident of your own reward from Christ, who knows that you are walking in the world, but acting as He did. May God bless you to continue walking the way Jesus walked. I am sure you witness how the world is changing, especially when we look at our societies, their spirituality, priorities and, what is more frustrating is that it was foreseen by the Lord. How many churches begin to resemble the world but not the Messiah! I see that in Ukraine where we live many, many churches become social clubs of common worldly interests with some addition of the filtered Word of God. And many preachers cease to help their flocks, not leading them to the Lord and a holy life-style. They put the accent on God's love but rarely remind people that God is also the Judge, and that we need to be HOLY as He is HOLY! The worst thing about it is that people LIKE IT. They like it because it is easier to live such “Christianity” than the kind of Christian life Jesus, the apostles, Timothy, Titus, and other servants of God, lived. They are afraid of putting themselves at risk by telling people the truth about their sin and condemnation and that the only way is through Christ, in whom they must believe as well as repent in order to avoid that eternal destiny. We live in the final time when and where the “spirit of anti-

christ”, dwells and continues to spread. So we need to stand even stronger when our testimony and evangelism cease to bear desired fruits... This is my pain and joy at the same time. The people here in Ukraine do not react to Christ's will as they used to, even five or 10 years ago. It has become unexciting for unbelievers here to come to church to hear God's wisdom and will. Today everything must be done in an exciting way to keep people's attention on Christ. Christ can become an addition to their lives, but is not the main goal and reason for life. I ask you to pray for our nation, especially for people to open their hearts to our evangelistic efforts. I praise God that most members of our congregation strive to live a Christian life that is filled with evangelism at work, speaking to their neighbors, etc. But seldom is there someone who accepts Jesus as their Lord and becomes a Christian. Today in Ukraine, people are attracted by entertainment ‘ministry’ in the church but rarely by the true Gospel of Christ that leads to sanctification as the apostle Paul encouraged in 1 Cor.9:26....” – From Report by Yuriy Anipur, minister for the Shavechenco church of Christ in Kiev, Ukraine

JAPAN: – Joel Osborne (Mito) – 200 people gathered from 10 nations for the 51st Asian Mission Forum in Kuching, East Malaysia on Borneo Island. Japan had a record attendance of 19 people and most served in some way. Program included Jim McGuiggan as the keynote speaker, powerful testimonies by Asian Christians, as well as testimonies of the disaster relief staff and a report during the final evening. Joel led worship and hosted the event. Along with Jonathan and Michiko Straker (Ishinomaki) and others working in Ishinomaki, the Mito congregation and Ibaraki Christian University helped complete a park project and to help host a neighborhood festival. About 400 people were there. As of now, Healing Hands International plans to support Jonathan and Michiko Straker only until November. (For Jonathan's report, go to www.strakerhouse.com)

CAMBODIA: – Joel Osborne recently made his 11th trip to Cambodia where they prepared for the opening of the new Banyan Community School, did an

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In the Old Testament, a person was bound to carry out his oath. A careless or thoughtless oath could have serious and sometimes tragic consequences. The seriousness of keeping one's word was demonstrated in the making of covenants in the Old Testament world. The literal expression was to "cut a covenant." When a covenant was made, an animal was cut in half, then laid on the ground with both pieces separated. The parties to the covenant then passed between the parts of the animal. The symbolic meaning was to say, in effect, "May I be treated like this dead animal if I fail to keep my promise." (We might wonder what would happen to marriage ceremonies if this became part of the promises.)

It is sad to think that there are church members who hold their promises very lightly. Jesus told his disciples not to swear but that their yes should be yes and their no, no. They should keep their word, regardless.

That's our challenge. We shouldn't be people who leave a trail of broken promises and commitments behind us. We need to avoid the legal view of marriage in our society to recognize that it is not merely a piece of paper, but rather a covenant made in the presence of God. We need to keep our commitments to our families, work and church. We need to be a people known for keeping our word. We are to be a people shaped by the nature and character of God who is always faithful to His word.

official opening and two open houses for the school. Named Banyan Community School, it had its ribbon cutting ceremony at the beginning of August. This school's purpose is "to teach language and instill a love for learning but also to grow people with a vision to help their own people and minister to them." Relief work continued in Tohoku over the last four months in conjunction with those working in Ishinomaki and other areas of Japan.

(For Joel's reports, go to joelosborne4@yahoo.com.)

24-26 weekend series on "Strengthening Church Leadership and Solving Problems: Training for Peaceful Congregations." At least 15 of the congregation's youth, under the leadership of Matthew Burrows, put on a yard sale on September 1 and raised \$763 for the Japanese relief work that Jonathan and Michiko Straker are involved with in Ishinomaki, Japan. Jonathan's nephew, Keenan Gates, age 21, is also involved with the Ishinomaki work for three months. Keenan can now understand and speak Japanese well enough to "get on" in Japan.

water I was thinking about three things: 1) It can't end this way, 2) I needed to see my mom and dad again—I love them, and 3) I just made a bucket list- I need to do at least one thing on that list!' I am ok as you can see and well. Anyway the moral of the story is, life is like a glass ball—if you're careless, it will drop and break. So don't treat it like a rubber ball. That's it for this Kid's Korner—Bye, Adios, and Aloha. Proverbs 4:23: 'Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of love.'

Surrey: We've added Bill and Sheila Roberts to our prayer list since he was here to preach for us in August.

Vernon: After our first Wednesday Daytime Class, the ladies packed hampers for Neighborhoodlink. Sarah Mehain had the exciting experience of participating in the Paralympics in London.

MANITOBA

Winnipeg: Former campers and staff volunteers of Camp Jubilee held a reunion on September 8. Our annual Canoe/survival weekend was held August 25-28. Welcome to Graham and Wendy Bell. Welcome to Lingling Lu who was baptized. The youth rally was September 21-23. Jovan Barrington, Youth minister from the Westgate church of Christ was guest speaker.

SASKATCHEWAN

Weyburn: Wednesday evening devotionals were hosted by various families during the summer months. The fellowship was much enjoyed. A team from Winnipeg came to Weyburn to assist us with our VBS in early August. We had 58 children attend and an average of 15 adults per day attended the class taught by Paul Birston. It was an excellent week. We rejoice with 4 new souls who were baptized this summer: Starlet Peterson and Kelly Oberkirsch both of our congregation; also Louise Calderon (Brantford) and Diona Workman (Trenton) who have returned to their homes in Ontario. Wednesday evening classes will be held at 6:30 beginning September 5. Preparations continue for the lectureship planned for October 19-21.

– (Submitted by Laura Knibbs)

Church of Christ
765 Welland Road
Fenwick

is pleased to welcome Jack Abels
of Circleville, Ohio, to speak about

Our Christian Assurance

Join us on:
Sunday, October 21 at 9:45 & 11:00 a.m.
 Sunday evening, Fenwick will be hosting
 the area wide worship at 6:00 p.m.
Monday, October 22 through
Wednesday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m.

Jack says:
The theme could best be summed up by saying that God is absolutely amazing and our primary task is to become absolutely amazed. His creation, His holiness, His word, His Salvation are all well beyond anything we could imagine. If we will give Him our attention, then our lives will be so blessed by Him.

Bailey, Bethel Ward

(A tribute to the life and work of Bethel Bailey by Allen Bojarski, Evangelist, church of Christ, Cornwall and a son-in-law to Bethel)

“Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!” Matthew 25:21



Though it is not for us to judge in such matters, I do believe this scripture aptly applies to Bethel Bailey, who passed away this year in Sudbury, Ontario, in the midst of a work he both started and loved. In fact, his life can best be defined by scripture as he firmly lived by it. He preached the Word both in season and out of season and especially the latter when it was unpopular even in

the brotherhood. (2 Timothy 4:1 – 3).

Some people are ‘risk takers’. They love to play near ‘the edge’. They love to ‘push the envelope’. Bethel would not ‘risk’ salvation by playing near the edge of the spiritual abyss pushing the gospel’s envelope once for all signed, sealed and delivered by the Holy Spirit, through Christ by the power of the Most High. When pushed with the point of life’s challenges on his back he walked the plank of faith. Bethel was led by the Spirit, walked with Christ and the Father always had his back.

“Have I now become your enemy by telling you the truth?” Galatians 4:16. This was the kind of risk taker he was. “Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear-hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh” Jude 22-23. This was the kind of edge he would engage. “I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile” Romans 1:16. This was the kind of envelope he pushed.

If Bethel, and his wife Blanche, paid you a visit, you soon knew what he was there for and what you were in for. At some point and in some way he would find or make opportunity to open the gospel door and he was no quitter. Where and when others wouldn’t even start, he would never give up because he understood 1 Corinthians 9:16 “Yet when I preach the gospel, I cannot boast, for I am compelled to preach. Woe to me if I do not preach the gospel!”

Have you ever heard the phrase, ‘leave no stone unturned’? This expression alludes to an ancient Greek legend about a general who buried a large treasure in his tent when he was defeated in battle. Those seeking the treasure consulted the Oracle of Delphi, who advised them to move every stone. In modern idiom terminology, if you look everywhere to find something, or try everything to achieve something, you ‘leave no stone unturned’. That was Bethel when it came to the gospel, you and your salvation; no stone left unturned and no pieces missing. Bethel didn’t have a crush on the gospel. He was head over heels in love with it. He loved the church, he loved souls and many, many times he walked through life’s storms to deliver ‘all the pieces’. ‘For I have not shunned to proclaim to you the whole counsel of God’ Acts 20:27.

The legacy he has left should be readily understood not only by his children and family, but by anyone who truly knew him. The preacher who studied to show himself approved unto God, after his children were in bed. The husband who kneeled at his bedside to pray with his wife. The Christian whose prayers ‘you could feel’ when he prayed in public. The man who knew his weaknesses and was not afraid to ‘fess up’. He knew his strength was in the Lord whom he served. He realized in life that love is, ‘having to say you are sorry’ and that it also means a lesson taught and a lesson learned. In that, he was a great student. To be an effective leader you need to be an effective student. An effective servant is an effective leader.

In my early Christian years often the things he taught me ‘in the moment’ were for ‘the rest of my life’. The times my wife Bev (his daughter) and I would accompany him to homes and hospitals for Bible studies. The times we would travel hundreds of miles to meet and break bread with

new Christians or attend preachers' meetings or host and/or set up weekly television programs promoting the gospel. He knew what it was like to reach out to those in prison. Bethel and his wife Blanche epitomized Matthew 25:35-36 (I was sick and...). When I was a college 'kid' and new in town, I fit in there somewhere.

Of the many things one could learn from him was 'how to wait upon the Lord', how to 'hope in the Lord' Isaiah 40:31. Before becoming a Christian, we would have some amazing religious discussions. He had this thing for taking the salvageable parts of what I said and building upon them constructively. He did this all with a disarming smile. I soon realized the bigger the smile, the more 'off base' I was.

In my years in media I met many Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers, business and religious leaders and scholars from all walks of life, secular and non-secular, in and not of the church. I never met anyone, any better than he at practicing 2 Timothy 2:15 (approved unto God... rightly dividing) and believing 2 Timothy 3:16, 17 (God-breathed... fully equipped).

As my wife Bev puts it, Bethel and his wife Blanche's 'living for the Lord', was the hub of the family. All spokes ran from that center and made the wheel of their lives go 'round. The discipline of Bible reading and prayer was part of the chassis of daily life after every supper before going out to play. Many, many children were 'fostered' into and through their lives and while they didn't have a lot, they shared what they had. Nobody was turned away. They were the 'welcome mat' to their home in word and in deed. Whether Cornwall, Kingston, Sudbury, Ice Lake, Selkirk and many other places in Ontario and

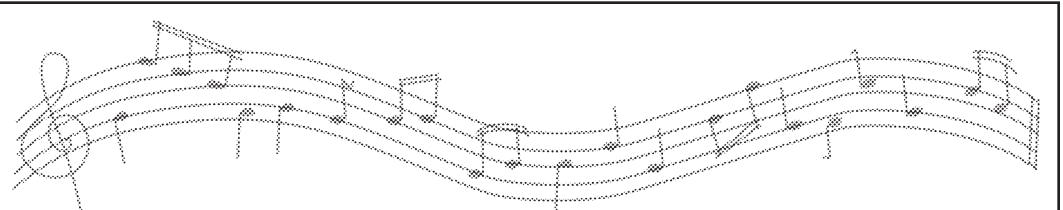
the West, many of you reading this, know this well. They went out to you and they welcomed you in.

There's so much more that could be said, but I'm sure many of you have your own good memories. I pray that the churches 'present' learns from the churches 'past' and those servants like Bethel who lived and breathed by 'Thus says the Lord', for 'futures' sake.

**In loving memory of
Bethel Ward Bailey, 89 years,
Monday January 30, 2012**

Beloved husband of Blanche Pearl Bailey (nee Crawford), predeceased. Loving father of Dianne Robertson (Russ) of Manitoulin Island, Danny

of Sudbury, Bob of Calgary, Stuart (Laurie) of Oklahoma, Bev Bojarski (Al) of Cornwall and Wesley (Rose) of Sudbury. Cherished grandfather of 14 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren. Dear brother of John Carlos, Nelson, Cecil, Lloyd, Florence, Alice and Della, all predeceased. Son of Thomas Ward Bailey and Edith Clementine Cann. While Bethel is truly missed by his family and the many he and Blanche befriended over the years in this life, we rejoice that by God's grace, he has been called home to be re-united with his soul mate. The service was led by Stuart Bailey, Wesley Bailey and Allen Bojarski. Interment was conducted by Edward Klym.



Niagara Area Wide Worship

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

October 7th - Thanksgiving Weekend

October 14th - Beamsville Church of Christ
4900 John St., Beamsville

October 21st - Fenwick Church of Christ
765 Welland Ave., Fenwick

October 28th - Tintern Church of Christ
4359 Spring Creek Road, Tintern

BOOK REVIEWS

Godly Conversation: rediscovering the Puritan practice of conference by Joanne J. Jung, Grand Rapids; Reformed Heritage Books, 2011. (179 pages, \$25.00)

When there will be both good news and bad news, I prefer to get the bad news out of the way first. So here it is. This book is a lightly revised version of Jung's dissertation, and, at times, it reads as such. Many readers will find the first six chapters slow going. I found it slow, but I kept going, and I am glad that I did.

The Puritans have taken a bum rap. Most of what the average person believes about the Puritans is wrong. My first insight into that fact came in the late 1970s when Christianity Today published an article titled (if I remember correctly) "Were the Puritans Right About Sex?" The author concluded that the Puritan attitude toward sex was not at all what we imagine it to have been. It was, in fact, very similar to what most of us would teach today.

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Closing date for applications is
November 30, 2012

Most Puritans were much more open and honest on this subject than those who have never read their writing imagine.

In 1991 Leland Ryken published a book, *Worldly Saints: The Puritans As They Really Were*. His intent was to explain the Puritan position on a number of subjects where they are commonly misrepresented. What Ryken did for the Puritans in general, Jung has sought to do for them in regard to their use of small group meetings to strengthen the church. That's right, small group meetings are much older than we tend to think. The Puritans were promoting small groups 300 years before we were born. Of course they did not call their meetings by the names we use. Puritans would have been confused by our terminology (what do we mean by a cell group, anyway?).

The Puritan term was "conference." We may think of a conference as a large meeting that takes place only on rare occasions. But, for the Puritans, one should be in conference often—daily with one's household, weekly with others, perhaps monthly with still others. Jung makes several suggestions, based on her study of the Puritan practice of conference, that might improve our small group meetings, or perhaps our Wednesday evening Bible studies.

Jung bemoans the fact that modern small group meetings, even when Bible study is supposedly the purpose, are often very poor in biblical content. She cites one researcher as finding that in modern small group Bible studies the Bible is actually discussed, on average, about 15 minutes out of two hours (162). Not surprisingly, Christians participating in small group Bible studies are no more likely to give correct answers on factual biblical questions than those not participating in such meetings.

The Puritan practice of conference was generally much more biblically focused. One common approach to

conference among the Puritans was to expect everyone (young and old) to take notes on the sermon and to meet in small groups later in the week to discuss the sermon, the scriptures used in the sermon and the application of the sermon to their lives. For example, the head of each household might examine the notes taken by his children and servants, and discuss, with the entire household, how the lesson applied to them. Thus practical application and biblical grounding were twin foci of such conference.

Jung also calls modern small groups "too polite" (160). This is perhaps the most challenging observation in Jung's work. One of the purposes of small groups is supposed to be to make ourselves accountable to others. But, because people are free to come and go as they please, group participants and group leaders are often afraid to challenge anyone to godly living. One thing we may have right about the Puritans is that they were not people who worried overmuch about giving offense. They believed that they had not only a right but a responsibility to challenge one another to holy living.

These are just a couple of the areas where, Jung believes, we could enrich our small group efforts by taking a cue from the Puritans. The first 150 pages of this book can be slow going, but the final chapter is very worthwhile. Perhaps someday the author will publish just that final chapter as a booklet. This would be welcomed. But, in the meantime, I am afraid you will have to buy, or borrow, the whole book. I found it to be a good investment to cost (of time and money).

— Reviewed by
Thayer Salisbury Toledo, Ohio

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Spirit-controlled Temperament:
by Tim LaHaye;
Tyndale House Publishers Inc.,
1994, 251 pages, \$14.00

This is the second edition of a book originally published in 1966 and which has sold over one million copies in the English language alone. The author's primary purpose is to help readers understand that they can overcome their failings through the power of the Holy Spirit. To this end, he provides an analysis of the four basic temperament types and offers suggestions on how to access the Spirit's power to live above our in-born weaknesses.

Contents and Argument

LaHaye proposes that since the fall of man, we are all born with one of four basic temperaments, and that each has its inborn weaknesses that prevent us from living as God intends. The main thesis of his book is that God provides help for the Christian in overcoming these weaknesses through the work of the Spirit in our lives.

Temperament is our basic way of relating with the world and it is something that we are born with (as opposed to personality, which is how we project ourselves in dealing with others). LaHaye states that our basic temperament is developed through our childhood education and life experiences to produce our basic character, or inner person. Each of the temperaments has its own particular strengths and weaknesses, and although we cannot change our temperament, we can modify it through God's help.

Going back as far as Hippocrates, the four temperaments have been classified as:

- sanguine – the warm, buoyant extrovert who lives for the moment;
- choleric – the hot, strong-willed extrovert who thrives on activity;
- melancholy – the analytical, perfectionist introvert who wants to save the world;
- phlegmatic – the slow, easy-going introvert who prefers to watch life go by.

While each temperament has its strengths, each also has serious weaknesses that threaten to destroy us. The sanguine, while optimistic and friendly, is restless and weak-willed; the choleric is a practical leader, but also cruel and impetuous; the melancholy is sensitive and capable of self-sacrifice, but is self-centered and pessimistic; and the phlegmatic, while dependable and efficient, can be lazy and stubborn.

The author recognizes that everyone does not fit neatly into one of these four molds. Indeed, we are invariably a mixture of at least two temperament types, if not more, and each mixture can be of varying proportions. This, along with life experiences and education, modify each person's unique character and personality. To illustrate, the book provides descriptions of the 12 possible double temperament mixes.

LaHaye offers the cure for all of our weaknesses through the nine-fold fruit of the Holy Spirit, where the virtues of love, joy, peace, long-suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and self-control overcome the natural tendencies that often control us. The key is in allowing our inner lives, and consequent behavior, to be controlled by God's Spirit rather than our natural inclinations.

At the bottom of all of these weaknesses, however, lies the same basic cause – selfishness. Each weakness and sin is essentially a selfish expression in which we see our own desires as paramount. LaHaye shows that such selfishness is expressed in two primary ways – through either anger or fear, and that each of these prevents the Spirit from accomplishing His pur-

pose in our lives: anger grieving the Spirit and fear quenching His work.

LaHaye provides the Christian with a way forward—to follow the Scriptural injunctions of being filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18) and walking in the Spirit (Gal. 5:16). As we allow the Holy Spirit to control our inner lives (being filled with the Spirit), we will live as God intended (walk in the Spirit). He concludes the book by showing how such a life would be expressed in each of the four temperament types.

Evaluation

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and have benefitted from LaHaye's insights. His descriptions of the various temperament mixes and the strengths and weaknesses of each were very helpful. I also find myself in agreement with his basic premise: that our weaknesses can only be overcome through the work of God in our lives – particularly the development of the nine-fold fruit of the Spirit.

Although the author does recognize the filling of the Spirit as his control over our inner person rather than some miraculous event, it seems to me that his understanding represents a rather static and locational view of what takes place, as opposed to a more dynamic and relational one. He simply suggests that we ask God to fill us with the Spirit, and that this then occurs. I would see this as much more of a process that occurs as we live in fellowship with God, where the degree of "filling" (the Spirit's control) fluctuates according to our surrender to God. Our development of the Spirit's fruit and victory over our weakness (our success in walking in the Spirit) follows on from His degree of control in our lives.

Despite this minor disagreement, I believe the book provides much-needed insight into the whole question of sin and spiritual growth in the life of the Christian, and I heartily recommend it.

– Reviewed by David Dunn
of Waterloo, Ontario

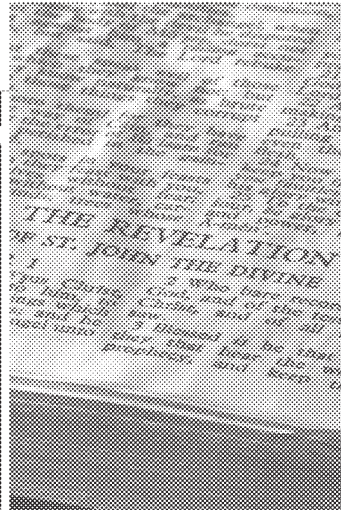
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Abilene Christian University

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- Spiritual Warfare (How to Survive in an Unfriendly World)
- The Theme of Victory in Revelation

The program will commence at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday and conclude on Saturday at 4:00 p.m. To view a detailed schedule for the weekend, please visit our website at www.glbc.ca. If you have any questions about the Lectureship or would like more information, please email lectureship@glbc.ca or call 519-342-3040.

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