



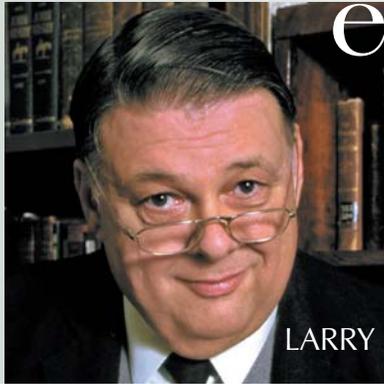
# GOD'S REVIVALIST

November 2009

*a Bible Advocate*

**"For the weapons of our warfare  
are not carnal, but mighty through God  
to the pulling down of strongholds."**

11 Corinthians 10:4



# the editor's view

LARRY D. SMITH

## JOSEPH'S SHIELD

**H**ow then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?" This question by an anguished Hebrew boy in mortal combat for his soul was the shield he raised against the brutal evil that would have destroyed him. Though centuries have passed, that shield is still our great defense when we, like him, are solicited to sin.

You know the story of Joseph. Stolen from a doting father and betrayed by jealous brothers, the bewildered teenager was dragged in chains to Egypt, where he was put up for sale like a pig or a pony. We can only guess what other horrors he endured, but through them all he was faithful to God, and God was faithful to him. Potiphar, the royal official who bought him, soon recognized "that the Lord made all he did to prosper in his hand," according to Genesis 39; and so he made him supervisor of all his household.

Then Joseph was faced by raw and merciless temptation. "And it came to pass...that his master's wife cast longing eyes on Joseph, and she said, 'Lie with me.'" This powerful, pampered woman regarded slaves as property and as playthings, as indeed they were; and the virile youth—"handsome in form and appearance," as the scriptures say—became the object of her raging and possessive lust.

As a slave, Joseph's body was not his own; he was by himself in a foreign country; and his sexual appetite was normal and intense. "No one will ever know," the Enemy surely whispered, as day after day his master's wife tried to seduce him. Her enticements were flattering, but they were also frightening. She could gild his future by her favor; but as he knew, she also could ruin it by her wrath. "Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned!"

Severe agonies tortured the young man's body and ripped his soul. But he was determined to do (p22)➡

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*God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*, the official organ of God's Bible School, is a magazine founded by Martin Wells Knapp in July of 1888. We seek to proclaim the good news of salvation; to stir a revival spirit among Christians; to stimulate Christian growth and responsible Christian living; to present the happenings and interests of God's Bible School.

Please obtain permission before reprinting any articles from *God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*. **Unsolicited manuscripts are welcomed, but not returned.**

God's Bible School and College seeks to glorify God and to serve His Church by providing higher education centered in Holy Scripture and shaped by Wesleyan conviction, thus preparing faithful servants to proclaim Jesus Christ and spread scriptural holiness throughout the world.

God's Bible School and College does not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national or ethnic origin, or against otherwise qualified handicapped persons in its admission of students or employment of its faculty and staff.

Contact us by telephone at (513) 721-7944 (Revivalist Press, ext. 1351); by fax at (513) 763-6649; by email at [revivalist@gbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gbs.edu) or [gbs4u@gbs.edu](mailto:gbs4u@gbs.edu). Visit us online at [www.gbs.edu](http://www.gbs.edu) or [www.godsrevivalist.com](http://www.godsrevivalist.com).

# the president's page



## BACK TO THE BIBLE

by Michael R. Avery, President

In the June 21, 1900, issue of *The Revivalist*, Martin Wells Knapp laid out his case for starting a new school of the Bible. The heart of his argument was the need for a school devoted solely to the study of God's Word because of the "deplorable ignorance" most Christians (including ministers) had of the Bible. He went on to say that in this new school the Word of God "will be honored as the great Mississippi River of research and spiritual culture, into which all others (academic studies) are but tributary streams...." The school's motto, "Back to the Bible," was prominently displayed on every brochure and building alike. It became the central focus of education on the Hilltop.

Knapp was not the first to make this appeal. Erasmus, the great Renaissance scholar and reformer, lifted the cry "*ad fontes*—back to the sources." Erasmus wanted the pure Word of God unencumbered by the abuses of a wayward Church. Other reformers like Martin Luther sought to untangle the Church from unscriptural traditions so that it might once again rest on "*sola scriptura*—scripture alone." These are but two examples of the many who have called the Church back to the Bible in areas of faith and practice.

Historically the Church has always had a tendency to collect extra baggage like a boat collects barnacles on its underbelly. This is not the result of evil intent but of good

people zealously trying to live out their beliefs, pass on those same beliefs to future generations, and protect those beliefs from an ever-encroaching culture. Over time, however, the guidelines and practices that are enacted to accomplish all of this can inadvertently become the primary object of one's focus rather than the scripture itself. If this happens there needs to be a time of going "back to the Bible" so as to prevent the centrality of scripture from being lost under the deadening weight of rules, traditionalism or, worse, just trivia.

As troublesome as this problem may be, it is not the most insidious problem facing us today. The 21st century church isn't as concerned with how to bring the authority of scripture to its cultural context as it is preoccupied with being culturally relevant to the people it seeks to reach. And when culture sets the agenda for the church, it will surely substitute man's interest for God's—creating a deadening indifference to the claims of scripture. Consequently churches may be filled with thousands of people who read the Bible without ever submitting to its authority.

Sometimes the church prays for revival when the real need is a total surrender and commitment to the absolute authority, centrality, inerrancy, primacy and sufficiency of God's Word. I believe we need to go back to the Bible for the purpose of believing and behaving in ways that are in accord with God's revealed will. Scripture is the mind of God; and if we truly want to think and live as Christ, then we must saturate our lives with scripture—and that means taking both our heart and our head "back to the Bible." ■

# Letters

## TO THE EDITOR

Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202, or emailed to [revivalist@gsbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gsbs.edu). Letters reprinted here do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the editor of God's Revivalist nor those of the administration of God's Bible School. Names and locations of writers will be withheld at their specific request or at the discretion of the editor. We reserve the right to edit and condense.

### CONCERNED BY COVER PHOTO

As former dean of women at GBS, I have enjoyed getting the *Revivalist* and keeping up on the news from the school and reading the special articles.

I am concerned with the picture on the cover of the May issue. GBS has always held a good holiness standard and I hope the hairstyle represented on the cover is not the trend the school is taking.



FLORENCE YOUNGBLOOD  
email

*Thank you for your interest in God's Revivalist. As art director, I chose the May cover photo. It should be viewed simply for what it is—a modestly dressed, middle-aged couple enjoying life and nature. No assumption concerning profession of faith by the individuals was intended, and the photo does not reflect changes in lifestyle-issues policies for students or staff at God's Bible School and College. —Kevin Moser*

### HURTING WORDS AND FORGIVENESS

I want to thank [President Avery] for the timely article that [he] wrote in the [September] *Revivalist* concerning how to handle hurting words. I have seen the effects of hurting words that many times lead to the root of bitterness that defiles many. [President Avery's] last insight concerning forgiveness is key. N.T. Wright in his book *The Lord and His Prayer* [writes that the early Christians], "having received God's forgiveness themselves...were to practice it among themselves. Not to do so would mean that they hadn't grasped (p19)➡"

# the world to win

Each month we publish brief "field reports" from missionaries around the world. Missionaries are invited to send us their newsletters and other information about their activities. GBS graduates are especially urged to respond, but we also wish to include others who uphold our vision and our commitment.

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.** "Inhabitants of the village of Hato Viejo are making positive spiritual changes as they move toward God. Many people in the village of K-32 are awakening to their spiritual needs."  
—*Missionary Herald (EFM)*

**INDIANAPOLIS.** "Dr. Stephen Gibson, with his wealth of academic background, is continuing to develop VICM's Urban Ministry Institute. Reading books on urban issues, visiting other city ministries, learning from long-time residents of the city, and building the connections with various Bible colleges and their students are all a part of building a solid, academic approach to Urban Ministry.

"We believe that VICM is becoming a mission-sending organization focused on reaching the urban poor in the major cities of the U.S. with the message of the Gospel and deliverance from sin. Recruiting, training, and equipping teams of individuals who will move to these cities for the cause of the Kingdom is a formidable task. To be ready for this, we must prepare. We have some growing to do as individuals and as an organization in order to see this accomplished, but we are prayerfully proceeding because we believe that this is God's direction for this ministry." —*Eric Himelick, Victory Inner-city Ministries, Inc., email newsletter*

**MONGOLIA. URGENT PRAYER REQUEST:** "It came like a dart in the heart (and while I was away); but it appears as though it's finally happened. Today [October 12] we received a letter from the Foreign Citizens Office (Immigration) telling us that it was decided at a meeting on October 5th to shut down our work in Mongolia. The work of taking back the certificates and stamps [granting permission (p19)➡"

# Trust All Your Failures to Jesus

by the Rev. G.D. Watson

It is necessary always that we must trust God to take charge and rule all of our infirmities, shortcomings, and failures of every sort. For always we must remember that the most thorough salvation does not take from us a humiliating sense of our utter unworthiness. Indeed, the closer we get to God the more keenly we see and feel our demerit and unworthiness. Granted, there are those who distort this truth by insisting that the more God saves us the more we discover the depths of our sin.

Such a statement is false, for both Scripture and experience prove that God can so purify and fill the human soul that it is conscious of being freed from sin and possessed with the living presence and holiness of Christ as a piece of iron in the fire is pervaded with the fire. But even the sweetest consciousness of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit does not destroy, at least in this life, that sweetly sad and pathetic sense of our unworthiness, weakness, infirmity before the ever-blessed God.

Now what are we to do with these manifold thoughts, feelings, depressions, and weaknesses that in so many of us are mingled in our everyday lives? Many good people have adopted all sorts of foolish theories and foolish practices with regard to these manifold imperfections.

There are two extremes in dealing with these. Some people are very thoughtless and pay no attention to their daily imperfections but pass over them carelessly. Others pay them too much attention and keep themselves in a fever of self-recrimination, denouncing themselves, calling themselves all sorts of abusive terms, wearing long faces, as if self-vilification were the path to lofty and beautiful sainthood.

But the only true method for a Christian is in humility to acknowledge every defect, tell it to Jesus in utter self-surrender, and then sweetly, lovingly, peacefully, and constantly leave every one of them in the hands of our Savior God. If you adopt any other method than trusting your imperfections with Jesus, you will engender in your soul either religious recklessness or works of self-righteousness. Of course, this implies that we are to watchfully avoid every defect and imperfection in the jurisdiction of our will power without ever straining ourselves or putting ourselves into bondage. As you exercise your settled purpose to avoid every conscious defect, you must trust yourself to the arms of God. Faith in God is at once the sweetest necessity, the sublimest duty, and the greatest privilege of a creature toward his Creator. ■

*The Rev. George Douglas Watson (1845–1924) was a famous evangelist and author, serving first in the Methodist Episcopal Church and later in the Wesleyan Methodist Church. This selection from his writings, abridged by the editor, is reprinted with permission from The Convention Herald.*

# the power of love

*by Becky Keep*

I discovered her sitting on my back porch one day in early November. She was dirty, pregnant, and carrying a malnourished little boy on her hip. After recovering from the shock of finding a complete stranger sitting there, I asked her what I could do to help. In expressionless tones and without the slightest hint of emotion she said that they were hungry. I left them there and went inside to prepare some food and when I brought it out I could scarcely believe the manner in which her son attacked it. Without a doubt this little boy was starving! Thus began my relationship with Jasmine and Mark.

After that first day, they came often, appearing seemingly out of nowhere and simply asking for food, laundry soap, shoes, or some other necessity. Although I tried to find out where Jasmine was from, she was evasive and never came or went through the gate but always through the back rice field. She never smiled, said "thank you," or initiated conversation. Her son was silent, non-playful, and showed no expression when I tried to interact with him.

Jasmine's eyes captivated me. They were large, round, and emotionally vacant. One day as she prepared to leave, I simply laid my hand on her shoulder to pray for her. The moment that I touched her, she flinched, and I saw the first flicker of emotion in those eyes. I saw fear and extreme discomfort.



Becky Keep holds Jasmine's new baby.

By December Jasmine and Mark were coming to our house every day. Mark began to smile as soon as I would open the door, and Jasmine began to share a little of her life. I learned that her mother was a “hostess” who entertained men. Maybe because she doesn’t know who her father is, she chose to tell us that he was a “rich” American who abandoned her mother after impregnating her. I learned that she is often beaten by her husband who is an alcoholic and gambler.

Jasmine always came at the most inopportune times—6:00 a.m. was her favorite—and her knock at the door would raise the sleeping dead! It was loud and repeated until we’d answer, fearing that she’d awaken our own small children. Honestly, we were irritated by her coming at times. She smelled awful. There was some kind of skin disease covering her arms, and I cringed at the thought of getting too close for fear of contracting a fungus, head lice, or something worse. For some reason, however, Tim and I felt compelled and prompted by the Holy Spirit to meet this woman’s needs, no matter what time of day or night or how often she came. I kept hearing the question in my own mind, “How does Jesus view Jasmine?” As I pondered this, I realized the lack of love in my own heart for the “unwanted” of this world and asked God to help me to love this woman and child as He did.

Christmas came and went, and Jasmine continued to come daily, and many times twice in a day. I knew that her time of delivery must be near as her swollen belly became bigger and bigger. I bought clothes, diapers, blankets, and baby soap for the anticipated baby. She told me one day in early February that she wanted to have a girl because her little girl had died on October 7, 2008. (We later verified that this was true. Her five-year-old daughter had become ill and died within five days.)

One day, shortly after this conversation, Jasmine stopped coming and I knew that she had given birth. I still did not know where she lived, but after some investigation and the help of neighbors we finally located her. A Filipino friend and I went on a Friday afternoon to visit, and I was beyond shocked to find that she lived with her husband and three children in a piggery—a former 8’-by-8’ pig stall with a rough, cement floor and low, tin, slanted roof. From their neighbor I learned that Jasmine’s house had been destroyed in a typhoon so he had consented to clean out his piggery for them. We had some American doctors visiting us at the time, and we took them there. They gave vitamins and needed medicine for Jasmine and her children.

Although I’d invited Jasmine to come to church several times, she had always declined, saying, “I’m Catholic.” I knew, however, that this simply meant that she was un-churched. Two weeks after the birth of her baby, she appeared again, asking for a dress to wear to church. I was surprised and asked, “Do you want to

come to our church?” “Yes, this Sunday,” she replied. I gave her the clothes, and promised to pick her up.

Jasmine did come that Sunday and hasn’t missed a Sunday since. I feel blessed when she walks to the front of the church and sits beside me. She listens with rapt attention as the sermon is delivered. Strangely, since she has started coming to church, she rarely comes to the house asking for food anymore. She only comes maybe once a week to remind me to pick her up for church.

This Sunday morning we were singing a praise chorus that goes like this:

*“At the Cross I bow my knee  
Where your blood was shed for me  
There’s no greater love than this...”*

I glanced at Jasmine and saw tears streaming from her eyes. The knowledge that she is loved seems to be washing away the fear and distrust by which she has been bound for so long! May it also wash away her sin, Lord! As I placed my arm around her, I realized that this “beggar” had probably rarely felt a loving touch, heard a kind word, or received a compassionate deed, but instead had endured countless beatings, sexual abuse, being pulled around by the hair (by her mother-in-law), and many other unspeakable abuses. Now she was able to experience love, possibly for the first time in her life.

In a moment I understood why we had been constrained for the past five months to patiently give, give, and give, even when our selfish hearts wanted to send her away. His love transcends race, class, mental ability, and so many other stipulations that we apply to it. I also realized that just as I had first viewed Jasmine as dirty, smelly, unkempt, ungrateful and even barbaric in her mannerisms, this is exactly how we all appear in the presence of a holy and righteous God. Yet, He loves us! His love breaks through all of our filthiness, failures, unworthiness, and sin, and draws us to Himself.

I know that I can’t solve all of the problems in Jasmine’s life. Most of her circumstances will probably remain the same. She will doubtless continue in her poverty. My prayer, however, is that I can be a bridge of love that will connect her to Jesus. As Christians, isn’t this what we are all called to do? Jasmine said to me yesterday, “I’m sad, because you are going to America, and I won’t have a best friend anymore.” I was so happy to tell her about my Best Friend, who also wants to be her Best Friend. I know that giving her Jesus will be the best gift that I can leave with her so that no matter what happens to her here she has someone to carry her through, walk beside her, and envelop her in His everlasting love. Then at last...Heaven! How wonderful that will be! ■

*Tim and Becky Keep* have been missionaries to the Philippines for the Bible Methodist Connection of Churches since 1996.

# Homecoming

on the Hilltop

October 9 & 10

2009



faculty award



25-year graduates



50-year graduates



Taste of GBS

*Cincinnati Style!*



With the threat of rain in the forecast, 44 brave individuals met at a local golf course on Friday afternoon to officially tee off Homecoming 2009. But even wet fairways and slow greens could not dampen the spirits of this club-wielding group of GBS alumni!

LaRosa's pizza and Skyline chili were the top food items on the menu at the Friday evening banquet. The dining hall was stretched to its limit to accommodate the large number of alumni who had returned home for this exciting event!

The Friday evening program began on the lighter side with skits, comedy, and a foot-tapping, lip-syncing quartet. Alumni Association President Rev. Jack Hooker presented Dr. Marcia Davis with the annual faculty award. Assurance, an alumni quartet, and soloist Mark Dubbeld and the alumni choir led us into worship. Mr. Archie Coons' piano artistry touched the hearts of many. An ice cream social, with Graeter's ice cream for all, concluded the evening.

A reunion breakfast kicked off Saturday's schedule, with tables specially designated for various classes to meet and reminisce about the good old days.

In the morning service there was laughter mixed with tears as former Presidents Sam Deets and Bence Miller shared their memories. Rev. Jack Hooker presented the Alumnus of the Year Awards to Dr. Robert England, Sr., and posthumously to Rev. Tim Dotson. Rev. Ben Durr, Jr., shared a memorable devotional.

Hot dogs and hamburgers were served at the picnic lunch held around the campus fountain. Various organizations sold drinks, desserts, and other items to help fund their projects. Games were available and a dunk tank provided a great opportunity for participants to attempt to drop one of the staff or faculty members into the water!

All in all, Homecoming 2009 was truly a weekend to remember! 📌

**Comments Received from Alumni:**

"Hearing Sam Deets share his story was worth the trip!"

"Having attended Homecoming for 36 years, this was by far the best yet!"

"The Saturday picnic was our favorite part of Homecoming!"

"Do this again and I'll be back next year!"

"I laughed so hard at Anthony Webb that I cried!"

"Assurance Quartet tore it up!"

"We were not planning to come to Homecoming, but when we saw the *Revivalist* brochure, we thought it looked different and like a lot of fun!"





supported by a 129-member choir in Biblical costume and a 39-piece orchestra, all under the direction of Professor Garen L. Wolf.

Tickets are required, and they will be available beginning October 15, 2009, until they are gone. Families may

ask for five free tickets for one night only. After the fifth ticket, the cost is five dollars (\$5.00) per ticket. We cannot accept orders over the phone or via email. All orders must be sent to the Division of Music, God's Bible School and College, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202 with a self-addressed, stamped envelope

## 2009 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM TO BE GIVEN DECEMBER 4, 5, AND 6

GBS's annual Christmas Program, entitled "A Miracle of Love," will be presented at 7:00 p.m., Friday through Sunday, December 4, 5, and 6, in the Adcock Memorial Chapel. Those attending will travel back in time to ancient Nazareth where they will join Mary, Joseph, and their family and friends to share the reality and miracle of Christ's Virgin Birth. The production stars a 14-member cast,



Scene from the 2008 GBS Christmas Program

# REVIVALIST FAMILY

*On these pages, we feature items about GBS alumni, vital statistics, significant events scheduled throughout the "Revivalist family," and brief news notes from across the holiness movement. An item for inclusion in the "Revivalist Family" must be submitted within four months of the event which it reports and should be addressed to the Editorial Office, 1810 Young Street, Cincinnati, Ohio 45202; or [revivalist@gbs.edu](mailto:revivalist@gbs.edu).*

## BIRTHS



To **Jonathan (GBS HS '03; BA in Min Ed '07) and Mary Louise (Hollenbach) (GBS BA in Elem Ed '05) Debolt**, a son **Liam Michael Debolt**, born July 23,

Cincinnati, Ohio. Jonathan is employed at Meyer Tool as a computer technician. Both he and Mary are actively involved in the Kenwood Bible Methodist Church where they especially enjoy working with the teen class.



To **Craig and Tonya (GBS HS '97; BA '01) Lambeth**, a son **Shane Craig Lambeth**, born September 24, 2009, Cincinnati, Ohio. Tonya was formerly the kindergarten

teacher (2006–09) at GBS's Aldersgate Christian Academy.

## MARRIAGES



**Mylon Albright (GBS BA '09) to Ashley Bishop (GBS '06–'09)**, July 11, 2009, Evart, Michigan, Rev. David Ward, officiating. Mylon and Ashley are working with the Hispanic ministries at

Shelbyville Bible Holiness Church, Shelbyville, Indiana. Mylon is currently working at Gibult Children's Services. Ashley is attending Ivy Tech for nursing.

**Wesley Cressman to Janna Hooker (GBS BA '01)**, August 8, 2009, Bucyrus,

enclosed. Please specify the date you prefer and the number of tickets needed. If you are requesting more than five tickets, please include payment for each extra ticket. Since there are a limited number of tickets, please contact the school if you decide not to use tickets you've received.

### CHURCH AND FAMILY DEGREE NOW OFFERED THROUGH ADEP

In addition to its other degree programs, GBS's Aldersgate Distance Education Program (ADEP) now offers a BA in Church and Family Ministry. Approved August 12, 2009, by Association for Biblical Higher Education (ABHE) Associate Director Randy Bell, the new program will offer cognates in subject areas such as Music, Missions, Education, Apologetics, Counseling, and Youth Ministry, unless these cognates are mostly covered with transferred credits. Anyone interest-



ADEP Director Dr. Mark Bird (pictured here) at [mbird@gbs.edu](mailto:mbird@gbs.edu).

### POSITION AVAILABLE AT GBS

We are now seeking applications for the position of Coordinator of Information Technology.

Position will be available March 2010 and remain open until filled.

Applicant must be familiar with a wide variety of technologies and have prior experience in the IT field. A bachelor degree in the information field is preferred.

Responsibilities will include:

- Overseeing two other IT employees: CAMS Manager, IT Support

ed in ADEP's new BA in Church and Family Ministry or in other aspects of this distance education program should contact

- Evaluating, proposing, and purchasing of all electronic and computer-related items
- Serving as primary helpdesk point of contact for both students and employees
- Installing wiring, computers, electronic classrooms, and other hands-on installations (knowledge of fiber optics would be a plus)
- Maintaining a digital phone communication system
- Staying current with information related to Microsoft Server, LDAP, SQL server, IIS server, Linux, Crystal Reports, PHP, among other platforms

Applicant must be able to function as the head of a team, possess good communication skills, be a self-starter, and be responsible. Please send applications to [kfarmer@gbs.edu](mailto:kfarmer@gbs.edu). For more about the technical specifications, feel free to call (513) 763-6653 to speak to the current CIT, Jon Bartolomeo. ➡



Ohio, Rev. Jack Hooker, Rev. Gary Brugger, and Rev. Larry Smith, officiating. Janna is employed by GBS, where she is the Elementary Education Program Coordinator, and by The Christ Hospital, Cincinnati, Ohio. Wesley serves as a teacher at Heritage Christian School, Marion, Ohio.

**Michael Dean Workman to Sheri Annette Smith,** September 26, 2009, Holdrege, Nebraska, Pastor Stan Murdoch and Pastor Paul Bauman, officiating. Sheri is the niece of the Rev. Larry D. Smith, editor of *God's Revivalist and Bible Advocate*.

### DEATHS

**Rev. R.C. Boynton, 84,** New Castle, Indiana, died October 1, 2009. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II, graduated from Olivet Nazarene College

(1951), and received his Ph.D. from Crossroads Graduate School of Divinity. He was a pastor and an evangelist from 1948–1993 and was also founding president of both the Bible Missionary Institute and the Francis Asbury Bible College. At the time of his retirement he was a commissioned evangelist in the Church of the Nazarene.

Preceded in death by his wife of 61 years, the former Naomi June Nelson, he is survived by his children, Linda, Timothy, Mark, Joel, Thadeus, and Rachel; 20 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; and one great-great grandchild. Funeral services were held at Spiceland Church of the Nazarene, Pastor J. Allen Southerland, officiating, with burial in Oakland Memorial Gardens.

**Reba Mae (Canterbury) Holdren, 86,** died September 7, 2009. She enrolled in the Christian Workers Course at GBS in 1943. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. Mark Hunter at St. Albans, West Virginia, with entombment at Cunningham Memorial Park.

**Rev. Berlin Wilhelm, 90,** of Cranesville, West Virginia, passed away September 12. "He and Corile started the ➡

**MUSIC DIVISION ANNOUNCES UPCOMING RECITALS**

**Hunter (15) and Austin (13) Wade (Mason, OH), Piano Concert**, Thursday, November 12, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Adcock Chapel. The GBS Music Division and the Aldersgate Ski Club are jointly sponsoring this recital. The Wade brothers are home-schooled, and both they and their parents are members of the GBS-sponsored Aldersgate Ski Club. These two young men have won numerous local, regional, state, national and world piano competitions. A 3:00 p.m. matinee will be held primarily for the Aldersgate Christian Academy students and their parents. The main performance will be held at 7:00 p.m. All are warmly invited to attend what will be an outstanding recital! A reception in the Miller-Deets Student Center will follow the evening performance.



Lucas Ryder (Neoga, IL), piano, **Junior Recital**, Thursday, November 19, 2009, 7:00 p.m., Adcock Chapel. This recital is in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the bachelor of arts degree with a major in Christian School



Music Education K-12, performance track. A reception will follow in the Miller-Deets Student Center.

**NOTICE:** Some of our subscribers have informed us that they are not receiving the *Revivalist* or have missed several issues. We and the publisher/mailer both have examined our records and are confident the magazine is being sent to all on our list. That is as far as we can go. If you are not receiving your paper or have missed certain issues, please notify the *Revivalist* office immediately.

**Jessica Rose (Gallipolis, OH), voice, and Rachele Wolf (Cincinnati, OH), violin, Joint Junior Recital**, Tuesday, February 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m., Adcock Chapel. Jessica is pursuing the bachelor of arts degree with a major in Christian School Music Education K-12, non-performance track. Rachele is pursuing the bachelor of arts degree with a major in Christian School Music Education K-12, performance track. A reception will follow in the Miller-Deets Student Center.



**GBS Choir and Orchestra at IHC.** The Division of Music also wishes to give our readers advance notice that the GBS choir and orchestra will be performing at the Inter-church Holiness Convention, Dayton, Ohio, on Wednesday evening, April 21, 2010. ■

**REVIVALIST FAMILY** continued

➡ Aldersgate Camp in Cranesville to reach young people and children with a summer program and promote and teach scriptural holiness in and among those who would attend. Their largest outreach was among the United Methodist people of the northern West Virginia area. Corile, my sister and his wife and helper in ministry, passed away a couple years ago. They both were great supporters of Kentucky Mountain Holiness Association and promoters of...God's Bible School and College..."  
—Robert Waybright, email

**ANNIVERSARIES**

**Dr. David Doctorian (GBS '56) and his wife Phyllis**, Macon,



Missouri, have recently celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage at the home of their daughter Susan and her husband, state Senator Joe Kyrillos, Middletown, New Jersey. All three of their daughters and their son were present along with their five grandchildren. David Doctorian is a former Missouri state senator.

**NOTICES**

**Position Available January 2010.** The position of Junior Church

Director will be open at the Pilgrim Holiness Church, Schenectady, New York. A husband-wife team is preferred. Responsibilities include calling on 40-plus junior church families, conducting Sunday morning junior church services, and working with the pastors. Salary, housing, and insurance provided. For information call Rev. Dickerson at (518) 355-2295 or e-mail [the2ladies@juno.com](mailto:the2ladies@juno.com).

**Minister of Music Needed.** This position is for a person who is committed to the holiness message and who has a heart for ministry. Applicants should contact Pastor Stephen Wingate, Norwood, Ohio, Wesleyan Church, [wingatesp@yahoo.com](mailto:wingatesp@yahoo.com). ■



## — Called Unto Holiness —

*In this space we use writers both past and present to discuss various aspects of Christian holiness.*

### HOLINESS IS OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD

*by Bishop Benjamin Titus Roberts*

**T**he Bible has much to say about holiness. It is an attribute of God (Ps. 60:6; Rev. 4:8, *et al*). We are commanded to follow it (Heb. 12:14) and to worship God in the beauty of holiness (Ps. 29:2). Without holiness no one shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14). There are many things which are convenient and useful, but this is indispensable to our welfare both in this world and in the world to come.

It is important, then, that we have correct ideas about what holiness really is. If we would hit a mark we must know where to aim. He who would search for diamonds must know diamonds when he finds them. Unfortunately there is a wide divergence of opinions on the nature of holiness, and too often it is not recognized in the lives of holy persons even when they demonstrate its qualities.

Our Savior exemplified holiness in its most perfect form. He gave the most unmistakable proofs of unselfish love to all mankind. Yet the popular verdict concerning him was “Behold a man gluttonous and a wine-bibber, a friend of publicans and sinners” (Matt 11:19). Jesus told His disciples that they must not expect to be appreciated any better than He was. “If they have called the Master of the house Beelzebub, how much more shall they call them of his household?” (Matt. 10:25).

From that day to the present, holiness in Christ’s disciples has often been mistaken, even ridiculed. What we believe to be essential to holiness in our own day is omitted, and popular sins are tolerated, for the spirit of the world utterly ignores the existence of sins which God’s Word plainly condemns but which the leading churches openly tolerate. To encourage what God forbids is not holiness. Yet in many meetings held for the promotion of holiness, to point out popular sins which hinder the work of God would be considered offensive and even fanatical.

So also the persecution to which the saints of God have been subjected shows that holiness is misunder-

stood. “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution” (II Tim. 3:12). This persecution varies in its form with the prevailing spirit of the age. But whatever shape it assumes, it never admits that its real antagonism is to the godliness of its victims. Other supposed faults—such as obstinacy or disloyalty—are assigned as the cause of their sufferings. Remember that Christ was put to death as an imposter. Luther was excommunicated as a heretic. Wesley and Whitefield were hunted as fanatics. Their foes mistakenly believed that it was a zeal for holiness that caused them to persecute those who were bright examples of real holiness.

It is true, on the other hand, that there are those who make holiness consist of qualities which are entirely beyond the reach of even a sanctified human being. These misguided persons set a standard of holiness higher than the Scriptures do, and so they insist that a holy person cannot make a mistake in judgment either through ignorance or misunderstanding. That person must not only do right as he understands it but as they understand it! They measure others by themselves and make no allowance for lack of judgment or imperfect training. Moreover, they believe that if anyone ever falls—if he should manifest any disposition contrary to his profession—all along he was either deceived in his profession or was a hypocrite. In short, holiness is pronounced unattainable because some who appeared once to have it did not persevere to the end.

Thus, a false standard of holiness is raised. This makes holiness an impossibility because no one is ever found to come up to this imaginary standard. We are told to aim our arrow at the sun, and then we are ridiculed because we fall short of the mark that these critical persons have set. ■

*B.T. Roberts (1823–1893) was founder of the Free Methodist Church in 1860. This abridged selection is from Holiness Teachings.*

Dear Phil

ANGER AND ENTIRE SANCTIFICATION

*I grew up hearing that if I were truly sanctified, I would not struggle with anger. It became one of the primary tests of my walk with the Lord. Unfortunately, it seldom survived the first "hard foul" in a backyard game of ball. I'm sure that I'm not alone. Can you help me understand this problem? —Hal*

Dear Hal,

You're not alone. At the heart of your question is the issue, "What results can I count on after God entirely sanctifies me?" Before addressing your central question, I want to note three significant companion issues.

First, sanctification and entire sanctification are not synonyms and should not be used synonymously. The Bible teaches, as John Wesley recognized and taught, that every believer is "sanctified" at the same moment he or she is justified (1 Cor. 1:2; 6:11). "Sanctification" is not a work of grace subsequent to being born again. "Sanctification" is an indispensable part of the first work of grace.

It is time for Wesleyan-Arminians to bring our use of biblical terms back into line with the Bible. As Wesley noted, the word *sanctification* is never used alone in the NT to refer to entire sanctification. Only when the word "entire" or "wholly" is used together with sanctification does the word sancti-

fication refer to entire sanctification. The only place in the NT where that happens is 1 Thess. 5:23, "May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely..." If we will use biblical terms biblically, we will avoid laying stumbling blocks in the path of those who are genuinely interested in understanding what we believe the Bible teaches about holiness of heart.

Second, there is no difference between being "truly [entirely] sanctified" and being "entirely sanctified." The use of the word "truly" to modify "sanctified" wrongly implies that there is such a thing as being genuinely sanctified entirely, and then there are fake or imitation versions of entire sanctification. Any person whom God entirely sanctifies is entirely sanctified, and none are more entirely sanctified than others.

Third, many confuse heart purity with spiritual maturity. Whatever else God does when He entirely sanctifies us, He does not comb all the kinks out of our minds (Rom. 12:2). He does not rewire our personalities (Acts 15:39). And He does not immediately transform our emo-

tional dispositions. Some have wrongly taught that entire sanctification so renews us in Christ's image that we feel no disturbance in the calm of our soul, but all is love, joy and peace. The Bible does not teach this, the experience of saints throughout all ages does not confirm this, and the life of Christ contradicts it. The sinless Son of God experienced anger (Mark 3:5) and the pull of natural human desires against the will of God (Luke 22:42).

1 Thessalonians 5:23 does not explicitly identify the results of entire sanctification. I am satisfied that the baptism/filling with the Holy Spirit that believers received in Acts (2, 8, 19) is the means by which God entirely sanctifies fully consecrated believers. The primary result in Acts was empowerment for witnessing. That empowerment was not a discernible sense of power, but an enabling to testify for Christ despite intimidation, pain, and persecution. Paul follows up Acts 19 with an admonition to the Ephesian believers to live under the control of the Spirit (Eph. 5:18). In Eph. 5:19–21 he outlines the results of living under the control of the Holy Spirit: (1) speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns, (2) singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, (3) giving thanks always for all things, and (4) submitting yourselves to one another in the fear of Christ. These results are not automatic. They are actions we must engage our wills to perform. The Holy Spirit empowers us to choose them, as we co-operate with Him.

On distinguishing sinful from godly anger, see my column in the summer 2007 *Revivalist* online ([www.godsrevivalist.com](http://www.godsrevivalist.com)).

Blessings,  
Philip

*Dr. A. Philip Brown II is a member of the faculty in the Division of Ministerial Education at God's Bible School and College.*

[pbrown@gbs.edu](mailto:pbrown@gbs.edu)



## mediaminute

Resources for the Christian Family

*Compiled by Robbie and Rachel England, this feature is provided as a service to our readers. The opinions presented here are those of the individuals making the recommendations and do not necessarily reflect an endorsement by God's Bible School or the Revivalist Press.*

### Resources by W. Phillip Keller

One of my favorite authors is W. Phillip Keller. I regret so much that it is difficult to find his books any longer. He is internationally known and loved for his moving devotional commentaries, especially *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*. Few among his readers know the unique combination of influences that have produced this man, one of the world's most fascinating writers. I highly recommend *Elijah—Prophet of Power*, *What Makes Life Worth Living*, *Joshua—Mighty Warrior*, and *Songs of My Soul*. Mr. Keller helps us get a life-grip by refocusing our priorities—reminding us what truly matters. —Ferne Cooper

### Human Interest Resource

*Retained: Love Demands It*  
by Tom Ellis

Any student who has had the privilege of sitting in one of Tom Ellis's classes will certainly enjoy reading this entertaining book. The lessons learned in the school classroom—as well as the classroom of life—have a unique flair when presented by the man known to many as "Mr. Ellis." —Marilyn England

(To purchase this book, contact Tom Ellis at [ellistom86@yahoo.com](mailto:ellistom86@yahoo.com).)

To submit your recommendations for the Media Minute, please send titles, authors, and a sentence or two about each book to [robnrach@verizon.net](mailto:robnrach@verizon.net).

*"All I have seen teaches me to trust the Creator for all I have not seen."*

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

### INDIA ON WATCH LIST FOR NOT PROTECTING RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

According to a report published in *Christianity Today*, the "U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom in August added India to its list of countries it is most closely watching" for not offering sufficient protection for the religious freedom of its citizens. This action grew out of continuing hostilities between Hindu activists and minority Christian believers and the government's alleged unwillingness to protect the latter. Other countries on the commissions's freedom watch list include Afghanistan, Belarus, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Laos, Russia, Somalia, Tajikistan, Turkey, and Venezuela.

### LUTHERANS PROTEST DRIFT FROM BIBLICAL ORTHODOXY

"More than 1200 Lutherans from throughout the United States and Canada took actions Saturday, September 26, that they hope will lead to a reconfiguration of Lutheranism in North America," according to a news release by the Lutheran Coalition for Renewal (Lutheran CORE). "The event became even more significant when the Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America voted to change its teaching to affirm same-sex relationships and to allow pastors to be in those relationships in spite of the Bible's teaching."

According to the Rev. Paul Spring of State College, Pennsylvania, head of the organizing group, "Lutheran CORE will be a free-standing synod for all faithful Lutherans. We are going to do things that synods typically do: strengthening personal faith and congregational life, providing resources for congregational ministry, developing new congregations, supporting global missionaries, providing some forms for theological education for pastors, developing mechanisms for theological reflection and conversation related to Scripture and the Confessions."

### POPE WARNS OF EUROPEAN SECULARISM

Pope Benedict XVI, 82, has warned approximately 120,000 people at a mass in the Czech Republic of the dangers of human life without God. In his continuing struggle against secularism and relativism, the Pontiff reminded them that "history has demonstrated the absurdities to which man descends when he excludes God from the horizon of his choices and actions." Later at Prague, he zeroed in on "attempts to marginalize the influence of Christianity upon public life." He insisted that "Christianity has much to offer on the practical and ethical level, for the Gospel never ceases to inspire men and women to place themselves at the service of their brothers and sisters." ■

NOVEMBER 2009



## READING THE BOOK OF GENESIS



*Justin Singleton*

Who is your God? This is a question that might make one stammer and change positions a few times before attempting an answer. After an initial period of discomfort, most evangelicals would probably give a rather definitive answer as to the nature of God. We know God to be the creator of all things, the divine and intelligent watchmaker. He is called by many names, yet He is specific in His revelation of Himself. Our God, the God of the Christian evangelical, revealed Himself through the Second Person of the Trinity, the man Jesus, as acclaimed throughout the later books of the Bible. As a matter of fact, we have a plethora of information about our God found in both the Old and New Testaments.

Now, place yourself in a different position and time. Think back to a period of history where you find yourself and your entire family as slaves in Egypt. You have heard stories about your family's patriarch, one Abraham, who was supposedly visited by God; but, of course, that was long ago and that God has seemed to have vanished—perhaps He has found another family through which to share His grace. The true reality for you in this position is that you must get to work and complete the task that lies ahead. Will you live long? Probably not! No one really does in these conditions.

Then, through miraculous intervention, the God of Abraham enters into your life and the life of your family. He rescues you from the harshness of slavery, and He escorts you by fire and cloud across the sea and into a desert where your people are to swear allegiance to this new savior. From this perspective—that of being one who has just come out of Egypt—let me ask you again: Who is your God? You would most likely have no idea.

Why was the book of Genesis written? There are many speculations and theories as to the purpose of the book of Genesis, but the one that makes the most sense is that it is

a historical and theological recapitulation of the workings and dealings of the God who rescued the people of Israel from out of Egypt. Genesis is in effect a book of revival sermons meant to revive and enflame the faith of the chosen nation brought about by the faith of Abraham.

Genesis begins with the claim that there is no other God but Yahweh, and it ends with a narrative and explanation as to how the Israelites found themselves in a strange land. But all along the way the reader of Genesis, whether ancient or modern, finds himself enthralled by the wonders of the Transcendent One who bends his knee to the earth. He does this not because He must, but because He chooses to do so. His desire is to see His plans of the salvation of humanity come to fruition. Thus, Genesis is the opening chapters of this grand salvation story.

When we read Genesis, we already know the rest of the story, for we have read the rest of the Biblical account. We know the good guys win and the bad guys lose. But by placing ourselves into the lives of the original readers, we find a grand scheme of hope that will ultimately lead us into the fulfilled hope of God's revelation. Try it for a bit. Try to read the book as it is; read the book of Genesis as if you were one who came out of Egypt. See if God's awesomeness doesn't thrill you. ■

*Justin Singleton is college English instructor at GBS. He is also working on a graduate degree in ancient Near Eastern history.*



Believe God to strengthen your inner man with His Spirit to give you victory over whatever is your problem area until supper time.

3. At **supper time**, read each Scripture and pray each prayer again. Believe God to strengthen your inner man with His Spirit to give you victory over whatever is your problem area until bed time.
4. At **bedtime**, read each Scripture and pray each prayer again. Review your behavior throughout the day. Did you walk the entire day in the power of the Spirit?

5. If you should do or say something that you know the Holy Spirit was not pleased with, immediately ask God for forgiveness. Purpose to never stop seeking God for deliverance and victory over whatever is your problem area. The ultimate goal is to learn to walk moment-by-moment in the Spirit (to live under the guidance and control of the Spirit).

6. Take this Scriptural medicine **for 60 days** and report your progress weekly to someone you trust for accountability.

If, by God's grace, you are willing to follow the prescription directions for the spiritual medicine of God's Word, you will discover God's Spirit, His Word, and prayer can pull down the strongholds from your life.

In our next sermon, I will give you sample sets of Scriptural medicine to use with a sample prayer for each Scripture. I will provide a sample set for victory over carnal anger and temper, and victory over intemperance in eating. These two sets will serve as examples of how to prepare Scriptural medicine to pull down the specific stronghold in your life about which God is speaking to you.



—sermon by DR. ALLAN P. BROWN



"COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE  
IN PREACHING"

## PULLING DOWN STRONGHOLDS IN YOUR LIFE (Part 1 of 3 Parts)

by Dr. Allan P. Brown, Chair  
GBS Division of Ministerial Education

***"For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds"***  
(II Corinthians 10:4).

### INTRODUCTION

The Christian is engaged daily in spiritual warfare. We fight against the world, the flesh, the devil, the belief systems of this world that are appealing but unbiblical, the negative and destructive thoughts that assail us, the habits and learned behaviors that are unbiblical, and the lies of the devil that discourage and depress us.

Scripture reminds us that the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (fleshly). Our fight is not with other people, or with unhappy circumstances of life. Ours is rather a spiritual battle! We are not to use unkindness, criticism of people we don't like, backbiting, slander, party-politics, self-promotion, discrimination, or other carnal methods to accomplish God's purposes—even if we think we are trying to defend the faith.

The weapons of our warfare are the sword of the Spirit which is the Word of God (Eph. 6:17); prayer and supplication (Eph. 6:18); faith in our powerful God; praise to God for His wonderful works, promises, and person; and thankfulness in all things and for all things (Eph. 5:20; 1 Thes. 5:18).

Our spiritual weapons are powerful weapons with divine power that are able to pull down the strongholds that the world, the flesh, or the devil have built in our lives. The goals of this warfare are to demolish in our life, our attitudes, or in our thinking, anything unlike

Christ, and to lead us captive to Christ so that we can please Him in everything (Col. 1:10), bringing every conscious thought into obedience to Christ (Rom. 1:5; 16:26).

The crucial question is "How can I have the strongholds in my life pulled down?" These include strongholds such as bitterness, ill-will, unkindness, unchristlike temper and anger, envy, lust, jealousy, worry and anxiety, addictive habits, a critical spirit, laziness, self-centeredness, compulsive buying, compulsive eating, or other intemperate behaviors.

The answer to this question begins with this promise from God: "The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure" (1 Corinthians 10:13). Because we know that an all-powerful God can instantaneously remove all strongholds from our life, we are frustrated when we ask Him to do so and He does not instantaneously do it. We forget that God did not promise that he would instantaneously deliver us and automatically pull down all strongholds that need to be removed from our lives.

What does God promise His Children? Let's look again at 1 Corinthians 10:13.

**I. THE COMMONALITY OF TEMPTATION. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man" (1 Corinthians 10:13).**

Many other people have struggled with the same problems and weaknesses as you. What a relief to learn that your particular struggle with unbiblical attitudes or behaviors is not unique to you! Know that some people have even faced much stronger and more severe temptations than you in the same areas of life, and they have learned how to be victorious over the temptation.

**II. THE COMMITMENT OF GOD. "But God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure" (1 Corinthians 10:13).**

God's usual method of destroying a stronghold in our life is by means of His Spirit and His Word! God will allow you to be tempted only up to your load limit. He will not allow you to be tempted

more than you can bear (1 Cor. 10:13). Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the life-transforming power of God's Word, your stronghold(s) can be pulled down!

**III. THE OBEDIENCE GOD EXPECTS FROM US**

If we wish the unbiblical strongholds in our life to be pulled down, we must obey all that God tells us to do. Here is a checklist. Have you done the following? God's Word tells us by precept and principle that we must: (1) flee temptation (II Tim. 2:22); (2) put on the Lord Jesus Christ and avoid anything that triggers your area(s) of weakness (Romans 13:14); (3) cleanse your life, your home, and your environment of things that lead to temptation; (4) remove all sources of temptation; (5) create barriers along paths that you know lead to temptation and failure; (6) not do things you know will expose you to your area of weakness and vulnerability; (7) not go places you know will trigger your area of weakness; (8) be careful about the people you continue to have as your friends (if they are spiritually bad for you, don't hang around them); (9) commit to full obedience to God's Word; (10) memorize God's Word so that you will not sin against God (Psa. 119:9-11); (11) learn how to resist temptation by praying the promises of God; (12) become accountable to a godly older saint who will pray for you and daily/weekly ask you how you are doing in the area of your weakness; and (13) learn to use Scripture as spiritual medicine.

The strongholds in your life can be pulled down and destroyed! How badly do you want to be set free? If you are genuinely sincere and truly in earnest about having God pull down the strongholds in your life that you know displease God, are you willing to discipline yourself to take spiritual medicine for 60 days? Before you say, "Yes," please read the following prescription requirements!

**Prescription for Change by the Power of God's Word and Spirit (4 times per day for 60 days)**

1. In the **morning**, read each Scripture and pray each prayer before you begin your day. Believe God to strengthen your inner man with His Spirit to give you victory over whatever is your problem area until noon or lunch time.

2. At **noon or lunch time**, read each Scripture and pray each prayer again.

➡(p4) what was going on.... It was cutting off the branch you were sitting on. The only reason for being Kingdom-people, for being Jesus-people, was that the forgiveness of sins was happening...."

TIM RITTENHOUSE  
email

### WALKING IN THE SPIRIT

I just wanted to say thanks to Dr. Phil for his article, "Walking in the Spirit," in the September '09 *Revivalist*. I'm currently doing a series on Romans on Sunday evenings for our church. But as I came to Romans 8, I was feeling like I needed to dig farther into the verses that talk about walking in the Spirit. I stopped what I was doing, and as I prayed, felt impressed to do a search on the internet specifically for a Dr. Phil article. I typed into the search engine "walking in the spirit revivalist." It was a special moment as the latest *Revivalist* popped up on my computer with Dr. Phil's article. The verse comes to mind: "For your Father knoweth what things ye have need of before ye ask him." The article is a great help.

TITUS BYER  
email

### ALWAYS A WELCOME SIGHT

Thank you for doing such a great job with the *Revivalist*. It is a magazine that is always a welcome sight! The articles are a blessing and encouragement.

GWEN NEWTON  
North Pole, AK

### MESSAGE STILL RELEVANT

May God continue to bless all who labor to make the *Revivalist* what it is today. The truth of the message of holiness is still relevant in this day.

LUCY CREECH  
Indianapolis, IN

➡(p4) for operation] has been assigned to official C. Monkchuluun, who is responsible for permission for branches of foreign organizations and matters related to registering them. Monkchuluun said that they've been checking on us for a while and came to this decision. She does seem sympathetic. A main reason [for the change in our status] is that we didn't get the SWO (Social Welfare Office) certificate. That's because we didn't meet the requirements. The intelligence service found out we do religious activities. Children's homes aren't supposed to be involved in that. The children's rights place is against us. She said that there are good points—caring for these children for 12 years—but we're not keeping some of the laws of Mongolia.

"Some people who live at Gachuurt complained [that the] children are isolated.... It will be the duty of SWO to take care of the children. [The officials] need to get the certificate and stamps back, and since our visas hinge on [these], we have to leave Mongolia.... It's our decision if we want to go to court. We can make a complaint to Immigration and also go to court. [Monkhchuluun] said she knew it would be difficult for the children. The children are used to being with us.

"Honestly friends, we're numbed from head to toe by this situation and don't really know how to pray as we ought, nor how to proceed. So at this time we're broken, and humbly looking to our Father in Heaven for His guidance and direction. Could you please (especially those of you who have stood with us and these children in Mongolia over these past 12 years) join us in seeking God's face, His will and outcome in this matter?"

"Sister Beverly Rhoades and others have been ministering to the women [at the prison located about ten miles from our home at Gachuurt] for a number of years, and in mid-September a baptism service was held at the prison for those professing belief in Christ as their Savior. Thirteen women were immersed in a special pool by Brother Phil Ledger and Brother Byrrah, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Please pray for these recently baptized believers." —*John E. Knight, Far East Mission*

**PHILIPPINES.** "Three back-to-back super typhoons have ripped through the Philippine Island of Luzon! Many homes, and even whole villages, have been buried under landslides or washed away; thousands of homes have been flooded, hundreds of thousands of families have been displaced, and many lives have been lost. Our own Shepherd's College campus, as well as twelve of our sixty-five churches, were submerged in four to six feet of water when the levees along both sides of the Agno River were breached. All of our congregations in the Philippines have been much affected by these three consecutive natural disasters. The suffering is intense. Crops have been destroyed. Food prices have already quadrupled across the island. Typhoid and other diseases are now a major threat.

"Life for our pastors and their congregations will be very difficult over the next few months, but we are endeavoring to respond to their crisis by raising funds for rice, drinking water, and medicine. If you, too, would like to share with your brothers and sisters in the Philippines please send financial donations to our BMC Missions Treasurer, Monte Stetler, PO Box 18128, Elsmere, KY 41018." —*Tim Keep, Bible Methodist Missions* ■



compiled by Rev. Jack Hooker, President,  
National Alumni Association of GBS

### JEFF SNYDER (GBS '01-'02)

Jeff Snyder is now ministering and traveling full-time with The Greenes, a Southern Gospel musical trio of Indian Trail, North Carolina. He was featured in the July 2009 issue of the *Singing News*. Jeff was a part of Heritage, a GBS quartet, along with Mike Mater,



Eric Nichols, Mark Foster and accompanist Jessica Smith, and he recalls his days at GBS as "...some of the greatest times of my life...I loved traveling with Rev. Larry Smith and President Avery to revivals and camp meetings..." Jeff is married to Dr. Melissa Snyder, pediatric resident of East Tennessee State University in Johnson City, TN. You may find more information at [www.thegreenesgospel.com](http://www.thegreenesgospel.com).

### ALUMNI SERVE ON MISSION TEAM TO MEXICO

On June 23, 2009, a group composed mostly of GBS alumni left Cincinnati for a one-week mission trip to Mexico. Participants were Bradley and Jackie Bishop, Ed Durham, Mark and Kristen



Foster, Chris Lambeth, Matt Linko, Arlette Makcen, Alicia and Paul McIntyre, and Craig McLaughlin.

Their goal was to complete several construction projects, administer a medical clinic and participate in ministries wherever needed. Almost as soon as they arrived, they went to work. In Saltillo, where the Stetler and Sankey families live (also GBS alumni), the group laid 300 cement blocks and painted the interior of the sanctuary and the exterior of the guest house, and that was just the first day!

They then went to a small village in northern Mexico, where they rebuilt a church that had extensive termite damage. "We removed all of the siding, replaced the plate and about one third of the wall studs. We then resided the building, replaced the soffit and some of the trim. It was hot there and we were glad for air conditioning and a shower that night."

In another location up in the mountains to the south, they added supporting structure to the church roof to keep it from flapping in the wind and built shutters

for the windows to keep the chickens from roosting on the benches during the week.

The medical clinic under the direction of Jackie Bishop was a "first" for this Mexico field and a huge success. Over one hundred people came to the church where it was held to receive medical check-

ups and wellness training. Each person also received vitamins, dental hygiene items, over-the-counter medications, and a gospel tract. "With tears in his eyes, the pastor of the church thanked us for helping him reach out to the people of his village, many of whom had never attended the church."

They also enjoyed worshipping at the Saltillo church on Sunday where Ed Durham taught the Sunday school lesson, and Craig McLaughlin preached the Sunday evening service. After the evening service, Kristen Foster taught a basic music class that was well-attended and well-received. One of the things Kristen did was teach them some new songs. They were so excited, they wanted to sing every song in the book!

"On behalf of everyone on the team, we would like to thank the area churches and several individuals that gave generously toward airfare, medical supplies, tools and building materials. It was an exciting and rewarding privilege for us to be 'workers together in the Harvest.'"

## JENNEE HARTKOPF (GBS BA '04) OPENS COUNSELING CENTER

GBS alumna Jennee Hartkopf has teamed with a colleague, Stephanie Young, to open Cincinnati's first Christian Counseling Center for teens and families. Having worked with adolescents and families



for 15 years, Stephanie Young is an experienced Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor and a devoted Christian. Jennee Hartkopf is a

Licensed Professional Counselor specializing in child and adolescent counseling and assessments. Jennee received a Bachelor of Arts in Church and Family Ministry from GBS in 2004 with a minor in counseling and a minor in intercultural studies. She went on to study at Cincinnati Christian University where she earned her Master of Arts in Counseling. In addition to her work at Youthworks, Jennee practices as a school-based counselor for Aldersgate Christian Academy and serves as an adjunct professor at Cincinnati Christian University. Jennee is married to Ronald Hartkopf, also a GBS alumnus, who works as a mechanical engineer for General Electric.

The counselors at Youthworks have a compassionate heart for adolescents and realize that while the teen years are a time of discovery, excitement, and development, these years can also be confusing, frustrating and painful. Youthworks is committed to sharing God's grace with those who are hurting, wounded, and without hope. It is the prayer of Jennee and Stephanie that Youthworks will be a safe place for teens and families—a place of hope and support during difficult times. Services provided include individual, group, and family counseling, as well as educational seminars. To contact Youthworks Counseling call: 513-661-TEEN. ■

# the Christian Year 2009-10

To help pastors and other church leaders as they plan the months ahead, as well as to enrich your personal devotional life, we list the most significant dates of the Christian Year 2009–10, which begins on Advent Sunday, November 29. The historic Christian calendar has developed through many centuries and continually reminds us of God's mighty acts on our behalf.

**November 29, 2009. ADVENT SUNDAY.** The first day of the season of Advent, which is the Church's time of preparation for Christmas. Advent continues through Christmas Eve, December 24. *"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."*

**December 25, 2009. CHRISTMAS DAY.** The Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The season of Christmas continues for 12 days through January 5. *"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us."*

**January 6, 2010. EPIPHANY.** The revelation of Christ to the Gentiles; the coming of the Wisemen. The season of the Epiphany continues through February 16. *Christ's unfolding revelation of Himself to the world.*

**February 17, 2010. ASH WEDNESDAY.** The first day in Lent. The season of Lent is the Church's period of preparation for Easter and continues through April 3. *Reflection, fasting, and spiritual renewal.*

**March 28, 2010. PALM SUNDAY.** Jesus' Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem and the first day of Holy Week, which continues through April 3. *"Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"*

**April 1, 2010. MAUNDY THURSDAY.** Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper as the sacrament of our redemption and His new commandment that we should love one other. *"This do in remembrance of Me."*

**April 2, 2010. GOOD FRIDAY.** Jesus' death on the cross for our salvation. *"He was wounded for our transgressions."*

**April 4, 2010. EASTER SUNDAY.** the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Eastertide, the season of Easter, continues through Pentecost, May 23. *"The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!"*

**May 13, 2010. ASCENSION DAY.** Our Lord Jesus Christ returns to His Father. *"Seeing that we have a great High Priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God ...."*

**May 23, 2010. PENTECOST SUNDAY.** the Holy Spirit's descent upon the Apostles and the birthday of the Christian Church. The season of Pentecost continues through November 27. *"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you...."*

**November 21, 2010. CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY.** This marks the completion of the cycle of the 2009–10 church year and emphasizes that Christ is Lord of time and of creation. *"Every knee shall bow...."*

**November 28, 2010. ADVENT SUNDAY** for the Christian Year 2010–11.

### OTHER SIGNIFICANT DATES 2010

President's Day, February 16  
Mother's Day, May 9  
Memorial Day, May 31  
Father's Day, June 20

Independence Day, July 4  
Veterans Day, November 11  
Reformation Day, October 31  
Thanksgiving Day, November 25

➡(p2) what was right with men and right with God; and this is why he was so magnificent in his triumph. After all, he was bound in honor to her husband, as he told his seething temptress; and that must have been a painful reminder that she also was bound in honor to him. But this was not all that Joseph said. For now he asked an unanswerable question—a question that became his shield against the brutal evil that would have destroyed him. Let us hear it again and let it ring in our ears and echo in our hearts: *“How then can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?”*

## **Joseph revered God and loved Him above all else; and with that commitment, he could not sin, because he would not.**

For this is still the shield which we must raise when we, too, are tempted to sear our conscience and sell our soul. Used by all the saints in their bitter conflict, it is a protection sound and sure, forged in that principled allegiance to God Himself which underlies all holy character. That allegiance is unalterable and absolute, and it determines everything that we are and everything that we do.

Thus, Joseph revered God and loved Him above all else; and with that commitment, he could not sin, because he would not. To be sure, adultery with Potiphar’s wife was a vile sin against Potiphar; but far worse, adultery with Potiphar’s wife was a vile sin against God. Joseph’s loyalty was absolute, and he would rather have died in an Egyptian dungeon than to have offended God.

Most of us are not like Joseph. Except for regenerating grace, it is not God but ourselves whom we love and revere above all else. It is true that by nature, we are religious; but it is also true that by nature we are sinful. This means that we want God, though on our own conditions, but that at the same time we want the false value system which continually wars against Him. This system is what the Bible calls the “world”; and because the world panders to our self-centered desires and plays to our self-centered loyalties, we are easily seduced by what it has to offer—“the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life.”

So often this happens, even within the church. At first we murmur soft objections to what we find uncom-

fortable; but in time our resistance is swept away in the torrent of sensual pleasure, high-sounding excuses, and spiritual compromise. “Vice is a monster of so frightful mien, / As to be hated needs but to be seen,” wrote Alexander Pope. “Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face, / We first endure, then pity, then embrace.” So we excuse sin, trifle with it, and then indulge it, even though informed conscience cries out that it is an outrage to God and a violation to our own integrity.

Our real problem, though, is not so much a lack of holy conduct as it is of holy character. Everyday we make choices about doing right or wrong, but these choices are all based in a prior and far more basic choice to be the kind of people which we have become. Character determines choice, and principle determines purpose, as our Methodist forebears knew. This is exactly why they were so fervent when they sang these solemn words of Charles Wesley: *“I want a principle within / Of jealous godly fear, / A sensibility of sin, / A pain to feel it near. / I want the first approach to feel / Of pride or fond desire; / To catch the wandering of my will, / And quench the kindling fire.”*

For they knew, as we must know, that it is this “principle within” which is the foundation for all that “holiness of heart and life” which they continually pursued and which we must continually pursue if ever we are “to see the Lord.” This is the basic direction of the heart for all those who would be godly in Christ Jesus, and it continually re-enforces their purpose to do what is right and to renounce what is wrong. *“That I from Thee no more may part, / No more Thy goodness grieve, / The filial awe, the*

## **Because the world panders to our self-centered desires and plays to our self-centered loyalties, we are easily seduced by what it has to offer.**

*fleshly heart, / The tender conscience give; / Quick as the apple of an eye, O God my conscience make! / Awake my soul, when sin is nigh, / And keep it still awake.”*

But what does this mean? Really, it is very simple and very basic. The “filial awe” is that profound respect which we as His children have for our Heavenly Father, who also is our God. The “fleshly heart” and “the tender conscience” refer to that quick sensitivity which causes us to love what God loves and to hate what God hates. Walking



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# THOUGHTS

for the quiet hour

by Sonja Vernon

## HARVEST

*“Give ear and hear my voice, listen and hear my words. Does the farmer plow continually to plant seed? Does he continually turn and harrow the ground? Does he not level its surface and sow dill and scatter cummin and plant wheat in rows, barley in its place and rye within its area? For his God instructs and teaches him properly. For dill is not threshed with a threshing sledge, nor is the cartwheel driven over cummin; but dill is beaten out with a rod, and cummin with a club. Grain for bread is crushed, indeed, he does not continue to thresh it forever. Because the wheel of his cart and his horses eventually damage it, he does not thresh it longer. This also comes from the Lord of hosts, Who has made His counsel wonderful and His wisdom great.”*  
**Isaiah 28:23–29 NASB**

Harvest time is here with its eye-catching colors and mouthwatering aromas. Long days in the fields have resulted in bounty on the table, and once again we will give thanks. Let us be grateful this season that the God who knows exactly how to harvest grain, dill, and cumin in a way that will produce the best crop also knows us. He knows just how much threshing we require before we are damaged by the cart wheel. He knows that, left inside the husk, we would be of limited use; but when the rough exterior is smoothed away by the right methods, we bring flavor and nourishment to those around us. We can rest and rejoice in the wisdom and love of the great Harvester. Truly “His counsel [is] wonderful and His wisdom great!” ■

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carefully with Him by faith in His Son Jesus Christ, enabled by His Spirit and guided by His Word, we are so transformed by “the renewing of our minds” (Rom. 12:1) that we readily react as He reacts.

Without this “inner principle” in the soul, external conformity to denominational rules, tribal taboos, and traditional “holiness standards” becomes a hollow and dreary performance. Granted, we may tenaciously hold on to inherited patterns as a sort of grim and gritty duty, determined to “preserve our heritage” as a sort of “living history” re-enactment. But this soon becomes a brittle shell with a rotten core; and in time it will crumble under the crosscurrents of intellectual challenge and contemporary pressures.

Laments are heard increasingly now among us that our people—and especially our youngsters—are no longer committed to the lifestyle issues which the holiness movement has embraced from its beginning. Frankly, there is cause for these concerns. Laxity in the use of music and entertainment, decreasing respect for the Sabbath, and increasing worldliness in dress must be identified and confronted. For they are all symptoms of the same disease which has brought havoc to great spiritual movements.

But treating the symptoms without healing the cause is as futile as dowsing malignant infection with Dr. Hokum’s Snake Oil. Too often we have done that, trying to shore up the tottering timbers of our spiritual subculture by fiery exhortations and enacted decrees rather than by sound Biblical application and renewed emphasis upon “the filial awe” and “the tender conscience” which is the basic motivation for all holy living.

This appeal comes from a deeply-committed conservative who is as distressed as anyone in our movement by the erosion of our landmarks of Christian lifestyle. But we will continue to see them topple unless we see a revival of a thorough-going and authentic Christianity which will reconnect holy conduct with holy character and the outer life with the “inner principle.” *“If to the right or left I stray, / That moment, Lord, reprove, / And let me weep my life away / For having grieved Thy love; / O may the least omission pain / My well-instructed soul, / And drive me to the blood again / which makes the wounded whole.”*

We, too, are in mortal combat for our soul. Around us everywhere is the brutal evil that would destroy us, and Joseph’s shield is the one defense that will deliver us. Used by all the saints in their bitter conflict, it is a protection sure and sound, forged in that principled allegiance to God which underlies all holy character. So we lift up Joseph’s shield—carefully, courageously, and confidently—when we, like him, are solicited to sin. “How can I do this great wickedness and sin against God?” ■



*Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*

Come, ye thankful people, come,  
Raise the song of harvest home;  
All is safely gathered in,  
Ere the winter storms begin;  
God, our Maker, doth provide  
For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,  
Fruit unto His praise to yield;  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
Unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear,  
Then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,  
And shall take His harvest home.  
From His field shall in that day  
All offenses purge away;  
Give His angels charge at last  
In the fire the tares to cast;  
But the fruitful ears to store  
In His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come,  
Bring Thy final harvest home.  
Gather, Thou, Thy people in,  
Free from sorrow, free from sin;  
There, forever purified,  
In Thy presence to abide;  
Come, with all Thine angels, come,  
Raise the glorious harvest home.

—Henry Alford

*National Thanksgiving Day*

Thursday, November 26, 2009