

said unto the servant, Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled." Go out, this is God's way. Most don't realize that soul winning, door knocking, visitation, and whatever you want to call it, is not just for the lost. We don't just get a burden by praying, we must also GO. When we go door to door we begin to see what those that are without Christ are really like, and thus, we get a burden. Through door knocking we develop a burden for our community and thus when a missionary comes by we can have a genuine burden for his field. Jesus had a genuine burden for Jerusalem, Mat 23:37, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" but He also must needs go through Samaria, John 4:4.

We too must needs go to, "all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." If we don't we cannot be a scriptural church. The great commission was given to the church, Mat. 28:18-20. In Mark 16:15 Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." That is the church's commission to go into all the world. If we are not reaching out to a lost and dying world, we are just playing religious games. The Lord does not start churches so they can sit back and get rich and increase with goods. Once a church ceases to be a mission sending station they have lost their reason for existing and are on the way down.

Many young preachers are told to go out, get a few families, get a building, get a salary, and then get involved with missions. I'd rather meet in a community center and support missionaries than have a building or a salary. Because you see, when a church gets involved in missions, its greatest mission, the Lord will add everything else. Mat. 6:33 works for the churches also, "But seek ye first..." I have never heard of a church that has missions at the heart, lack of anything. Most don't realize that God doesn't have a bank account. But He is looking for churches He can trust to send money through for the cause of missions.

Someone who says they cannot afford missions just doesn't understand faith promise. God is a debtor to no man and that goes for churches also. The 100,000's of dollars we have given to missions, God has given it back to us in buildings and goods. We, at the Bible Baptist Church in Brandon, Manitoba, cannot afford not to support missionaries.

Conclusion

I have no desire to be like the church in Laodicea. A lukewarm, complacent church does not appeal to me in the least. They can have their big fancy buildings with its plush carpet, padded pews, and vaulted ceilings. I would rather have a church that has power to shake the house as that early church did, than to be lukewarm and religious. But if we don't keep our eyes on the Lord and on the fields we will go the way of the Laodicean church. I'd rather be like the church as found in II Cor. 9:6-16, "But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully. Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work: (As it is written, He hath dispersed abroad; he hath given to the poor: his righteousness remaineth for ever. Now he that ministereth seed to the sower both minister bread for your food, and multiply your seed sown, and increase the fruits of your righteousness;) Being enriched in every thing to all bountifulness, which causeth through us thanksgiving to God. For the administration of this service not only supplieth the want of the saints, but is abundant also by many thanksgivings unto God; Whiles by the experiment of this ministration they glorify God for your professed subjection unto the gospel of Christ, and for your liberal distribution unto them, and unto all men; And by their prayer for you, which long after you for the exceeding grace of God in you. Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift." □

DEAR SIR,
I JUST FOUND THIS WEBSITE ON 7-1-99. IT IS VERY INTERESTING AND VERY, VERY GOOD. I HAVE READ MANY OF THE ARTICLES ON BAPTIST HISTORY SINCE I FOUND YOUR SITE. ALSO,



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I Timothy 3:15



CANADA'S ONLY TRUE BAPTIST PAPER

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CHURCHES IN NEED OF EYESALVE

By Pastor John Reaves Sr.

"And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent." Rev. 3:14-19.

"...anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see."

When the name Laodicea is spoken, the first thing that pops into mind is, "lukewarm," which is true. The church in Laodicea was neither cold nor hot, they

were lukewarm. The Lord says, "...because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth." Their lukewarmness had made God sick and they were lukewarm because they said, "...I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing..." ver. 17. This is the scourge of Baptist churches today. Materialism and riches has lead many churches today into lukewarmness. Their zeal is gone. Zeal also speaks of fire. They have become lukewarm because their fire has gone out.

The sad part about the Laodicean church was that they were not even aware of their condition. "...and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:" They thought they were rich and were in need of nothing but the Lord said they were poor, blind, and miserable. Many churches today, to the world, look as if they are successful, they have numbers, buildings, and buses but the problem is with many, they are just as blind as the religious crowd found in Matthew 13:15-17, "For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing,

(Eyesalve continued on page 3)

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Forget Not The Past

It appears that as far back as the year 1495, some of the followers of Wickliffe, who were baptists, were organized into a church in the town of Amersham, and continued in a flourishing state for many years, notwithstanding the severe persecutions they were called to endure. Amersham is rendered memorable by the martyrdom of William Tilsworth, a faithful minister of Christ, who was burnt in a field adjoining the town, his own daughter being cruelly compelled to set fire to the pile which consumed her dear father.

At the time Tilsworth, suffered martyrdom, several had their cheeks burnt with a red hot iron, and were compelled to do penance at his burning, amongst who were the following persons, Thos. Harding and wife, Henry Harding, and Robert Harding. About three years after this, Thos. Harding was brought to the stake in Amersham. This is stated in "Fox's Book of Martyrs" (Edition 1583) he says, "Thos. Harding being one of the company then molested and troubled as a foresaid in the town of Amersham for the truth of the gospel, after his abjuration and penance was done, was again sought for and brought to the fire in the days of Henry the VIII." There is reason to believe that Thos. Harding was baptist, for there were some of that denomination in the town of Amersham at the time Tilsworth was burnt, and the Harding family were for many generations the chief supporters of the cause of Christ in Upper Meeting, and there is now a member of that church, a pious young woman, who bears that honoured name — and is a descendant of that ancient family

At what period a baptist church was formed in this town I am unable to ascertain but, from an old General Baptist church book, it is evident there was a church of that order here in the year 1626. In these days the baptists were called to endure a great fight of affliction. The leading men of the town encouraged it by countenancing informers. This church possessed a most liberal spirit, not only towards their own poor persecuted members, but to others who were confined in Newgate for the truth's sake. But although they suffered severely by fines and imprisonment, they

continued to flourish, and in the year 1694 were obliged to enlarge their place of worship. About this time, a church of the same faith and order at Aylesbury, fifteen miles from Amersham, was also called to drink deep of the bitter cup of persecution. Many of the magistrates distinguished themselves by zeal against the nonconformists. In the reign of Charles II., 1664, they filled the county jail with dissenters; and not contented with imprisoning their persons, and robbing them of their property, they endeavoured to take away their lives. Twelve of the brethren were apprehended while quietly worshipping God in their meeting house, and dragged before the magistrates. Having been convicted under the "Conventicle Act," they were confined in gaol three months, and then brought forth and arraigned like felons. They were required to conform to the Church of England and take the oaths, or abjure the kingdom; if they refused to do one of these sentence of death should be passed on them. They unanimously and firmly declared, that they could neither conform to the Church of England, nor leave the land of their fathers and their dear connections in life. They were instantly declared felons, and sentence of death was passed on them; and the rapacious officers were sent immediately to seize all their property as forfeited to the crown. Through the influence of the Rev. Wm. Kiffin, a Particular Baptist minister, and to whom King Charles was much indebted for the gift of ten thousand pounds when he was in distress, a reprieve was obtained; and at the next assizes the judges brought down the majesty's pardon. J.C.

P.S. — The field where poor Tilsworth was burnt, was anciently called "Stanly close." It is now known by the name of "Ruckles." It is opposite my house, and I often look at it with mingled emotions of grief and indignation. Last August I went over and examined the spot. Although the rest of the field was waving with a luxuriant crop of wheat, the spot where he suffered, which is a large circular place, was barren; and although they have dug deep, cleared the stones, and manured it, still it remains a barren spot from year to year! □

We need churches that preach the word and stand, in season and out of season, with such conviction that sinners fall on their knees and get saved.

The Laodicea church was so blind they didn't think they had need of anything including the Holy Spirit of God. They, like churches today have their plans for salvation, the Romans Road, let's go soul winning. They have their plans on how to build a church according to pastor and shepherd's schools, why do they need the Holy Spirit when they have everything? Just as James 2:26a says speaking of the normal body, "For as the body without the spirit is dead..." So to is the local church, the body of Christ, without the Holy Spirit, the body, the church, is dead.

We need to get away from the McCarthers, the Hyles, and the like and do as Psalm 121:1&2 says, "...I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the LORD, which made heaven and earth."

Churches today are like the apostle Peter of old, they begin with miracles, walking on water, but they end up doing just as he did in Matthew 14:30, "But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me." The moment we take our eyes off of the Lord we begin to sink. So why does a church go spiritually blind? They take their eyes off the Lord.

The Church Takes Its Eyes Off The Fields

In John chapter 4, while the disciples had gone into the city to buy meat, Jesus stayed behind and brought the Samaritan woman to salvation. In verses 31-38 we read, "In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat. But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of. Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat? Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work. Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest. And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together. And herein is that saying true, One soweth, and another reapeth. I sent you to reap that whereon ye bestowed no labour: other men laboured, and ye are entered into their labours."

That early church like the Laodicean church got caught up in what they needed, not others. They had gone to town to get something to eat but Jesus was more concerned about those coming to the well. His desire was to tell the lost Samaritans about true salvation. After the disciples came back from their shopping spree, the Lord tells them where their focus should have been, ver. 35, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." Jesus tells them to lift up their eyes, get them out of the grocery cart, and put them on the fields that were already white unto harvest. That early church, made up of the twelve, were only looking inward, their needs, meat. Many churches today are the same, they are concerned about their salaries, their buildings, and their ministry. My question to them is what about the harvest?

Philippians 2:4 says, "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." A lot of churches need to apply this verse to their budgets and stop making excuses about why they cannot afford missionaries. You take your eyes off the fields and you go blind spiritually and turn lukewarm. What is it that puts the fire and power into the church? Acts 1:8 says, "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." We are not just to take the gospel message to our town but also to the uttermost part of the earth.

People are asking, what's happening to churches today. They are dead, no one is getting saved, the baptismal waters are not moving, the offerings are down, what's wrong? They have taken their eyes off the fields.

Many Independent Baptists have the words down, mission minded, and missions burdened but they are only words. There is no way a church can have a real burden for some mission field if their not looking on their own field, Jerusalem. Acts 1:8 says, "...both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in..." Simply at the same time we are to be reaching home base, we are to be reaching the world. The church that says they are mission minded and they are not doing as that early church in Acts 5:42 did, they are just deceiving themselves. "And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ."

I have heard all the excuses, door knocking doesn't work anymore. Has it ever? But that doesn't change the fact we are supposed to do it. Luke 14:23, "And the lord

(Eyesalve continued from page 3)

see, they will remain blind, lukewarm, without fire until they obey and stop looking inward and start looking outward.

The Laodicean church started off right. They had the right foundation but they lost sight. They lost their focus because they took their eyes off of what they should have been on and put them on what they should not have been on, riches and comfort.

Many churches today manifest their blindness by their preaching, their ordinances, their standards, and their lack of separation. Their services are lukewarm and meaningless. But if a church wants to keep their focus and stay on fire for the Lord, and not go spiritually blind, their eyes must be looking in the right direction.

One could ask, "Why does a church go spiritually blind which leads to lukewarmness and complacency?"

The Church Takes Its Eyes Off The Lord

We are instructed in Heb. 12:2, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

An individual's salvation begins with, the Lord says, "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else." Isa. 45:22. Salvation is only in Christ, John 14:6, "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." Anyone who looks anywhere else for salvation will be sadly disappointed one day, because as Acts 4:12 says, "Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved." Our salvation, our new life, begins with our eyes on the Lord and it is to continue that way, "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith..." As a church or an individual begins to take their eyes off the Lord and looks elsewhere they begin to lose their spiritual eye sight.

True churches begin with the Lord calling a man to a certain place. He goes there by God's direction, looks for a place to meet, by God's direction, everything is according to God's guidance and direction, then something happens, the church doesn't grow the way he thinks it should. So he goes half way across the country

to some pastor or shepherd's school to find out how to build a church running 5,000. Then he goes back to his church with his methods and plans on how to build a church running 5,000. He asks the Lord to bless his plans and his methods. What ever happened to God's way, God's plan? Jesus said, in Mat. 18:18b, "...I will build **my church**, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Ps. 127:1 says, "...Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it..." We need to look to the builder, its His church. We don't need to look to some well known pastor that's running supposedly 5 to 10,000 in Sunday School.

I have been to a few of those super churches and believe me I don't want a church like that. The Lord does not build a church that doesn't have standards and separation. The Lord doesn't build churches based on emotionalism and ignorance.

The Lord builds churches as found in Acts 2:41-47, "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." and 4:31-32, "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common."

That my friend is the kind of church I want to be a part of. You can have the old lukewarm, formal, blinded and cannot see a far off super church. I would rather have 100 people that love God and obey His Word than have 1,000 that look like, talk like, and act like the world. We don't need lukewarm religion today, we need churches that can pray and shake the house.

A MISSIONARY'S DISAPPOINTMENT *(Eyesalve continued from page 1)*

It was years ago, to the mission field God called us to go;

On deputation we visited churches from place to place, It was wonderful to see God's people running the race; The preaching and doctrine was gun barrel straight, It was Satan and sin they had grown to hate; The Bible they used was never abused, It was the old K.J.V., God's preserved Word for you and me.

The music was from above, The kind the saints of old did love; They came to worship God from near and far, They came in buses, vans and cars; God was exalted as the saints lifted their voices, For theirs were not worldly but godly choices; They dressed themselves in a godly way, A testimony for the Lord night and day; Now after many years, We returned to the churches with disappointment and tears;

So many of them are cold and dead, Christ the Lord, no longer their Head; The preaching is watered down and short, Often put aside for recreation and sports; The Bible they use is any new version, Not the Word of God, but a subtle perversion; They come not to worship God but to be entertained, They come to clap their hands, their fleshly feelings to maintain.

The music they play and sing is not from above, It is that rock beat they have grown to love; Some have gone so far astray, they boldly say, Church is a real ball, just like the dance hall; Now they dress themselves like the world without, Is it any wonder that the unsaved should doubt? The men dress like women, and the women like men, The approval of the world to win; Ear rings in the ear, nose, eyes and mouth, The angels can't tell which is Rachel and which is Ralph; If these things sadden and disappoint the true saints today, What will our precious Lord have to say on that awful judgment day?

and their eyes they have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, and should understand with their heart, and should be converted, and I should heal them. But blessed are your eyes, for they see: and your ears, for they hear. For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them."

You see, the Laodicean church had an eye problem, they thought they could see and they could physically but not spiritually. They had riches and comfort but they did not have fire nor power.

Many churches today are in the same state. They have lost sight of what it is all about. They have turned their eyes inward to their own little world and have lost sight. Our Lord tells the Laodicean church in verse 18, "...anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." Eyesalve was nothing more than a little cake-looking pad with medication on it. It was to be placed over the eye to produce the healing process, which brings to mind the account of the blind man in John 9:1-7, "And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world. When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay, And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing."

Jesus made His own pad with spit and earth and anointed the eyes of the blind man, but before he could see he had to obey, ver. 7, "And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing." After he went and washed in the pool of Siloam **then** he came seeing.

R.S. A lot of churches today are in need of eyesalve. They are in need of some healing, but they will not be able to

(Eyesalve continued on page 10)

I WANT YOUR CHILDREN

(The following article has been produced by Ted Huston, a concerned Independent Baptist Pastor)

I have come to visit your children
And I'm pleased with what I see.
They abuse all kinds of drugs,
And are getting drunk with me.

They live as in Gomorrah or Sodom,
Their minds perverse and blown.
I will claim their souls anytime now,
You shouldn't have left them alone.

I am glad you worked long hours,
I am glad you were busy a lot.
It would have been harder to sway them, if not.

At your schools I have been at work,
Making sex an acceptable game.
You slept while I fought to keep prayer out,
To add to your neglectful shame.

You don't seem to notice the witchcraft;
I broadcast on your own TV,
"It's just an innocent program,"
Twitch your nose as they follow me.

Add a couple violent sitcoms,
It's funny to see heads blown in two.
Now your little Tommy has his own gun
And there's nothing you can do.

They're mine and you cannot reach them;
Their hearts are cold, hard, and black.
I've showed them how to party,
With pot, cocaine and crack.

You have been a tremendous help though;
I couldn't have done it alone.
If you hadn't forsaken your prayer life,
These seeds I could not have sown.

So stay away from the Bible's teachings;
Don't listen to what God has to say.
Your children are no longer your problem,
A price they'll eternally pay.

Without Christ they are mine to devour.
Without God, nothing you can do.
Today I will take your children.
Tomorrow I will be coming for you.

Sincerely,
Satan

Missionary Been A. Christian
Address: N2 All the World

Bro. C. D. Mote, Pastor
No Flaws Baptist Church
No. Judge, ME

Dear Pastor,

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. I trust this letter finds you well and enjoying God's blessings on your life. We are laboring faithfully for the Lord here in All the World, and God is adding rewards to our eternal accounts daily. We are wanting to be good stewards of God's treasures, and don't want to be wasteful of any of these rewards. Therefore I have enclosed a questionnaire that I am asking you to fill out and return to me so that I can evaluate whether or not it is good stewardship for us to continue to have you receive these treasures of eternal rewards. Not wanting to waste God's treasures, we feel we must weed out from our Supporting churches those churches which do not merit the rewards of what God is doing here. I hope you understand that these rewards are limited.

If you wish to continue to receive our eternal rewards, then you will please fill out the enclosed questionnaire and return it to us at your earliest convenience. Once we have received this questionnaire we will examine it and make a prayerful decision as to whether or not we will allow you to continue to support our ministry and receive our rewards. I hope this will not be too time consuming for you, and I trust you will understand that we are not trying to be critical or judgmental; but only good stewards of the grace of God that has been given to us.

Thank you for your time and compliance with this request. I remain

Respectfully Yours,
Been A. Christian, Missionary

**SUPPORTING PASTOR AND CHURCH
QUESTIONNAIRE**

(Questionnaire continued on page 9)

(Questionnaire continued from page 4)

1. Do you have a television in your home?
2. Do you have a computer in your home?
3. Do you have internet in your home?
4. Do you have Nintendo, or other electronic games in your home?
5. How many hours of television do you watch a week? What shows do you regularly watch?
6. How many hours a week does your wife spend watching television? What shows does she watch regularly?
7. How many hours a week do your children spend watching television? What shows do they watch regularly?
8. How many hours a week do you spend soul winning?
9. How many hours a week do you spend praying?
10. How many hours a week do you spend studying?
11. What is your personal annual salary? (Please attach a financial statement from last year, including expenditures and their necessity.)
12. How many benefits do you receive from the church and what do all of these benefits amount to in dollars?
13. Does your church provide you with a car?
14. Do you play golf? How often?
15. Do you fish? How often?
16. Do you take a vacation?
17. What Bible College did you graduate from?
18. What Conferences or meetings have you attended in the last fifteen years?
19. When was the last time you led someone to Christ?
20. Do you ever receive offerings from Southern Baptists, Neo Evangelicals, Pentecostals, or Catholics that attend your services?
21. How many square feet is your house?
22. How many personal vehicles do you own? Please list the makes and years.
23. Do you have a personal savings account? If so how much do you have in this account?
24. Do you have stocks, bonds, or a 401K? Please list these and their total worth.
25. What kind of nightclothes does your wife wear to bed?
26. What kind of nightclothes do you wear to bed?
27. Have your kids ever gotten into any trouble in the church, school, or with the law? If so please explain.

28. Do you have money to take your wife out to eat? How often do you take your wife, and/or family out to eat?
29. Do you ever read anything other than the Bible?
30. Do you ever do anything other than go soul winning?
31. Do you ever frequent any place other than the church?
32. Are you sure you are called of God?
33. Do you feel that you are worthy of our letting you support our ministry? Please write no less than ten pages single spaced to explain to us why we should let you support us.

May God bless you. I trust you will not find these questions too intrusive. We appreciate your helping us with this matter.

Sincerely,
Been A. Christian

P.S. If you choose not to answer any or all of these questions you will be automatically removed from being allowed to support our work. ☐



I've just found your great web site and look forward to reading through all what you have to offer...

DE

I have enjoyed reading the articles that is on this web page. I have the same convictions as you. It is great to know that God has faithful people throughout the world proclaiming His truth concerning the Local Church, History of us baptist, The Lords supper and Salvation by Grace. Keep up the Good work and God bless you.

Indbaptist

“O CANADA” AND POETIC

JUDGES

Did you know that ‘O Canada’ was originally a poem written in French by Adolphe-Basile Routhier, a Quebec judge? Canadian composer Calixa Lavallée was commissioned to set it to music, and it was first sung in 1880 during a national convention of French Canadians in Québec City.

The English version was written, oddly enough, by another judge, Robert Stanley Weir. Judge Weir’s poem was penned in 1908 to honour the 300th anniversary of the founding of Québec City.

A slightly modified version of the first verse of Weir’s poem was proclaimed Canada’s national anthem on July 1, 1980.

Here is his complete poem:

O Canada! Our home and native land!
True patriot love in all thy sons command.
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,
The True North, strong and free!
And stand on guard, O Canada,
We stand on guard for thee.

Refrain

O Canada, glorious and free!
We stand on guard, we stand on guard for thee.
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee!

O Canada, Where pines and maples grow.
Great prairies spread and lordly rivers flow.
How dear to us thy broad domain,
From East to Western Sea,
Thou land of hope for all who toil!
Thou True North, strong and free!

Refrain

O Canada, glorious and free! etc.

O Canada! Beneath thy shining skies
May stalwart sons and gentle maidens rise,
To keep thee steadfast through the years
From East to Western Sea,
Our own beloved native land!

Our True North, strong and free!

Refrain

O Canada, glorious and free! etc.

Ruler supreme, who hearest humble prayer,
Hold our dominion within thy loving care;
Help us to find, O God, in thee
A lasting, rich reward,
As waiting for the Better Day,
We ever stand on guard.

Refrain

O Canada, glorious and free! etc. □

THE VOID BETWEEN INTENT AND PERFORMANCE

"We sing 'Sweet Hour of Prayer'— and content ourselves with a few minutes of prayer each day, if even that much.

We sing 'Onward, Christian Soldiers'— and wait to be pushed into the Lord's service.

We sing 'O For a Thousand Tongues'— without rightly using the tongue we have.

We sing 'Blest Be the Tie That Binds'— and let the least little offense sever it.

We sing 'Serve the Lord With Gladness'— and gripe about all we have to do.

We sing 'I Love to Tell the Story'— and never mention it all year to our friends and associates.

We sing 'Cast Thy Burden on the Lord'— and worry ourselves into nervous breakdowns.

We sing "The Whole Wide World for Jesus"— and never invite our next-door neighbors to church.

We sing 'Throw Out the Life Line'— and content ourselves with throwing out a fishing line on Sunday."

Unknown

Editor's Note

In The Baptist Pillar we use articles taken from many different publications and written by many different authors. Please realize that this does not necessarily mean we agree with the doctrinal position of the publication or the author of the article, but that the particular article presents a scriptural truth we do agree with.

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CHRIST'S IMPERATIVE

by Dean Robinson

Our Lord began and established the church during His earthly ministry because He had a work for it to do that no other institution could do or was authorized to do. He entrusted and committed to the church the responsibility of evangelizing every continent, nation, country, empire, kingdom, state, city, town, or village, wherever lost souls are to be found. The church, every church, is to be a missionary organization. To the church has been revealed the most glorious message known to man; to it has been committed the most tremendous undertaking in human history.

What's wrong with missions today is that too few Christians really understand the function of missions in the ministry of the local church. Some think that it is only the fanatics and the extremists in the church who think and talk about missions. In their estimation, missions is only another "hobbyhorse" like prophecy or some other subject. Others think that missions should have a place in the church's ministry, but certainly not the top priority. Some people believe that missions is a minor part of the church's ministry: an ear or a finger or a toe but certainly not the heart. The truth is that if a person's relationship to God is right and if that person diligently searches the Scriptures for God's plan and purpose of the church in this age, he will undoubtedly come to the conclusion that the New Testament church (not the SBC or any other man-made organization) has a responsibility to take the gospel to a lost world. Somebody once said that "there is a crying need for Biblical teaching in the area of missions for we believe that missionary education leads to missionary enthusiasm, and missionary enthusiasm leads to missionary endeavor." While there are many aspects of responsibilities and duties laid upon the N.T. church, its main ministry is evangelization. Or to be more specific: to evangelize the sinner, baptize the convert, teach and train the disciple of the Lord. In Mark 16:15 the Lord Jesus Christ forever settled the question of what a church exists for by clearly defining its mission and purpose: "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature."

The Responsibility: "go ye"

These words are simple, plain, and straight to the point.

The Mandate: go. This is foundational to evangelism; we must be going. People are not going to come to us primarily for the gospel message. We have to take it to them. From the very beginning when the Lord Jesus Christ established His church, the disciples were commanded to go (Mt.10:6-7; Lk.9:6; Jn.15:16). As these disciples were obedient to the Lord's command, God blessed their witness with many souls being saved (Acts 2:41; 4:4; 5:14; 6:7). The early church was accused of filling Jerusalem with their doctrine (Acts 5:28) and they were going from house to house, teaching and preaching Jesus Christ (Acts 5:42). None of this could have been possible if they were not a going people. The fact that the Lord Jesus said to go makes somebody responsible; someone will be held accountable if the command to go is not carried out. See Ez.3:18.

When God called the prophet Isaiah to go and preach the Word of God to an ungodly, wicked people of his day, this is what was said: "Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me. And he said, Go, and tell this people..." (Isaiah 6:8-9). This should be our desire and attitude.

The responsibility of the church to go has not changed (Jn.20:21; Rom.10:14-15). If we're not going, then we are standing still and idle and the Bible warns, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion..." (Amos 6:1).

The Means: ye. Make no mistake about it, Christ commissioned His church to evangelize the world, win the lost to a saving knowledge of Christ as their Saviour. But let's not forget, the church is made up of individuals. It is true that God's people within each local church are to be united in faith and spirit, seeing to it that the church fulfill and meet the demands of its Founder and Head, the Lord Jesus Christ. "For we are labourers together with God" (1 Cor.3:9); "stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel" (Phil.1:27).

If we're not careful, we will make the mistake of looking at our missionaries as an army sent overseas on behalf of its country. The missionary task force will be looked upon as if they alone are engaged in fighting the

battle of the Lord. The truth is, each and every member of the church is a soldier in the Lord's army; each is called upon to fight the good fight of faith; each is exhorted to take on the whole armor of God. Missionaries are not to be looked upon as substitutes sent out to do our fighting for us. While they may be involved in different parts of the battlefield, they are not to do our fighting. Jesus said: "go ye." It takes individual involvement to carry out the commission to evangelize the world.

The Region: "into all the world" to every creature"

After the Lord commissioned His church to go and after He ascended back to the heavenly Father, all of the disciples returned to Jerusalem as they were suppose to (Lk.24:49). But the problem was that they remained there and did not actually go into the regions beyond. They were to tarry in Jerusalem until they were endued with the power of the Holy Spirit and then they were to be His witnesses, not only in Jerusalem, but everywhere else as well (Acts 1:8). "And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem." (Luke 24:47) "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations..." (Mt.28:19).

When they actually began to practice what Jesus had commanded (Acts 8:1,4; 11:19-21), the Lord greatly blessed His church but it took a great persecution to wake them up to realize that God meant what He had said.

Not all of us can go personally to every country in the world but we can go in the particular region or locale that God has placed us in. Thank the Lord for those whom God has called to those countries and lands where the gospel is so desperately needed. We cannot all go in person but we can go with our prayers, praying for those who have gone; and we can go with our pocketbook, giving regularly and sacrificially to missions.

The Requirement: "preach the gospel"

Suppose that we properly understand our divine responsibility and go to the regions beyond, it will all be in vain, null and void, if we do not preach the gospel.

Paul declared, "Woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel" (1 Cor.9:16). Sinners will not and cannot be saved without the gospel (1 Cor.1:17-18,21,23; 2:1-5). There is nothing more powerful than the gospel of Jesus Christ (Rom.1:16-17).

The first and foremost important thing is to make disciples, which in the Scriptural sense means, bringing lost men to repentance toward God and to faith in the Lord Jesus Christ by the preaching of the gospel. This is a divine experience wrought by the Holy Spirit in the hearts of those whom God calls. The means which the Spirit uses is the Word of God, specifically the gospel of salvation. Since it is the Saviour who saves, since the Holy Spirit is the divine agent who brings this experience to reality in the sinner's heart, and since the means He uses is the Word of God, it's obvious that the church's part is to preach the gospel. It is the gospel that makes Christ known to man. When they hear the gospel and receive Him as their personal Saviour, they become the children of God.

It is Satan's desire to keep us from meeting God's requirement in preaching the gospel. "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them." (2 Corinthians 4:3-4). The sad truth is, Satan is using many of God's people as his instruments to keep lost sinners in the dark, because they are not willing to fulfill God's requirement to preach the gospel.

Conclusion

After having considered the responsibility, the region, and the requirement, there is one more thing we need to think about: The Reason: "...he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). Multitudes are still sitting in spiritual darkness and will die in their sins and go to a devil's hell, if we don't reach them with the gospel.

The mission of the church is being witnesses unto the whole world by preaching the gospel; the mission of the church is making disciples of all nations by preaching and witnessing; the mission of the church is baptizing each new convert into the fellowship and faith of a New Testament church; the mission of a church is teaching the converts to observe in a practical way all the things commanded by the Lord; the mission of the church is to

edify, exhort, rebuke, and comfort the saints, thereby strengthening and perpetuating the church as God's witness in the world.

The fact that Christ has commanded us to be personally involved in evangelism should be sufficient for every believer and every church. "Obedience to Christ is impossible without missionary endeavor." The Lord Jesus Christ in Mark 16:15 was not merely exhorting, encouraging, or expressing His wishes, desires, or preferences. No, it was a COMMAND. The command is to preach the gospel to every creature, but the question is, will we obey His command? He said that if we love Him we will keep His commandments. We cannot keep His commandments without being involved in evangelism. Some may regard it as "Christian imperialism" but I believe Mark 16:15 makes it clear it is Christ's imperative.

The early N.T. churches, moved by compassion and obedience, burning with missionary zeal, evangelized the known world in their day. The mission of the church has not been fulfilled. The gospel has not been preached to every nation and creature. Our mission is great and the obstacles are many but remember that He who said to go also said, "and lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen." (Mt.28:20) We are responsible to obey, He will provide the strength and the victory. The imperative of evangelism is our undeniable obligation to God and His Word. □

A Paradox?

A real Christian is an odd number, anyway. He feels supreme love for the One whom he has never seen; talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see; expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another; empties himself in order to be full; admits he is wrong so he can be declared right; goes down in order to get up; is strongest when he is weakest; richest when he is poorest and happiest when he feels the worst.

He dies so he can live; forsakes in order to have; gives away so he can keep; sees the invisible; hears the inaudible' and knows that which passeth understanding.

A.W. Tozer

MISSIONARY FURLOUGH

By Phil Gavila

In spite of talk now and then that furlough is a waste of time I propose why I think it is a gift from God:

Benefits to the Churches

1. They receive a personal report from the man they support.
2. They are stirred in missions by his preaching.
3. The pastors can question him as to specifics.
4. Young couples answer the call to the field under his preaching. Acts 13:2; 16:10.
5. Couples who have answered the call can receive orientation as to language training, deputation, or culture shock.

Benefits to the Missionaries

1. They can visit their parents while they are still living.
2. They can re-gain their physical health.
3. They can receive additional training.
4. They can gain a vision from other men of God.
5. They can raise more support to combat inflation.
6. They can obtain new equipment.
7. They pick up new ideas and fresh methods to stay out of ruts.
8. They can acquaint their children with their national heritage.
9. They can gain an objective view of themselves.
10. They can understand better the wishes of pastors and churches.
11. They can acquaint themselves with their pastor and home church. Acts 14:26-28.

Benefits to the National Churches

1. It provides an objective view from a distance of the weak links in the national church.
2. New Testaments and literature can be obtained from them.
3. The quality of a missionary's work is tested during his absence.
4. Native leadership develops during his absence. □