The Holy Spirit Works exclusively within the parameters of the Finished Work of Christ (I Cor. 1:18)

“The Cross was not dependent on the Resurrection, but rather, the Resurrection was dependent on the Cross” (I Cor. 2:2).
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by Jimmy Swaggart

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We are given very little information as it regards Paul’s life before conversion. We know next to nothing about his family or his upbringing, except that which led to his conversion. So, we must deduce that what Luke gave us concerning Paul, and what Paul gave us concerning himself, is all that the Holy Spirit wanted us to know. Yet, we do know some few things, which are of immense interest.

**TARSUS**

There is no doubt about the place in which Paul was born. He says, when addressing the Jews in Acts, Chapter 22, Verse 3, “I am verily a man which am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, and taught according to the perfect manner of the Law of the Fathers, and was zealous toward God, as you all are this day.”

Tarsus was the capital of the region of Cilicia, which was situated in the southeastern part of Asia Minor, and which is today modern Turkey. In fact, Tarsus was located in the extreme southern part of this country, about halfway of its modern borders. The city then was about eight miles from the Mediterranean Sea but had an excellent harbor by the means of the River Cydnus, which flowed to the Sea. It is believed by many presently that Tarsus must have had a population of no less than half a million in Roman times. So, it was a city of considerable importance. In fact, it was one of the university centers of the period, ranking with Athens and Alexandria. As well, it was an exceedingly corrupt city, being the chief seat of “a special Baal worship of an imposing but unspeakably degrading character.” Because of information gathered from some of the things Paul said, there are some modern scholars who believe that Paul attended the university at Tarsus after his training in the Law of Moses by the great Law scholar of that day, Gamaliel; however, that is only speculation with no concrete proof.

**PAUL, THE ROMAN CITIZEN**

We know, as stated, that Paul was born a Roman citizen, but no clue is given as to how all of this was brought about.

Some have speculated that something happened in the city of Tarsus of which the Emperor took notice and granted Roman citizenship to the entirety of the city, and for all time. Others speculate that possibly Paul’s parents, or maybe his grandparents, did something noteworthy as it regarded the Romans, and they granted his family perpetual citizenship. But all of that is speculation with no proof either way. The one thing we do know is that Paul was born a Roman citizen, which carried with it any number of privileges. For instance, a Roman citizen was not to be bound by a rope, etc., or put to torture in any capacity.

As well, few would ever venture the claim of being a Roman citizen when such was not the case. The penalty for such was death.

**PHILIPPI**

For instance when Paul and Silas were beaten (Acts, Chpt. 16), it was a grossly unlawful act, which could have gotten the Magistrates into serious trouble. As to exactly why Paul and Silas didn’t relate to them that they were Romans at the beginning, we aren’t told. But maybe they did and were not believed. At any rate, the Scripture says concerning this situation:

“And when it was day, the Magistrates sent the serjeants (probably refers to the same men who had administered the beating to Paul and Silas), saying, Let those men go (the Codex Bezae says that the Magistrates came into Court that morning feeling that their treatment of Paul and Silas had brought on the earthquake; they were right!). “And the keeper of the prison told this saying.
to Paul, The Magistrates have sent to let you go: now therefore depart, and go in peace.

“But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans (presents a scenario which puts an entirely different complexion on the matter; it was against Roman Law for Romans to be beaten; so, in beating them, the Magistrates had broken the law, evidently not realizing they were Romans), and have cast us into prison; and now do they thrust us out privily? (They were treated as common criminals.) No verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out (in this way, the city of Philippi would know that the charges were false).

“And the sergeants told these words unto the Magistrates: and they feared, when they heard that they were Romans (if Paul and Silas so desired, they could have brought charges against these individuals, which could have resulted in severe consequences).

“And they came and besought them, and brought them out (refers to the fact that the ‘Magistrates’ now came to Paul and Silas), and desired them to depart out of the city (has reference to the fact that they were pleading with the Apostles not to bring charges against them, but rather depart in peace).

“And they went out of the prison, and entered into the house of Lydia (they were somewhat the worse for wear in the physical sense, but greatly encouraged in the spiritual sense): and when they had seen the Brethren, they comforted them, and departed (these were new converts in the Philippian Church)” (Acts 16:35-40).

JERUSALEM

We have another account of Paul referring to his Roman citizenship. It occurred in Jerusalem.

After a great tumult in the Temple, instigated by certain Jews, they would have killed him but for a Chief Captain of the Roman army.

Concerning this event, Luke wrote:

“The Chief Captain commanded him (Paul) to be brought into the castle, and bade that he should be examined by scourging (a most terrible form of torture); that he might know wherefore they cried so against him (considering that Paul was speaking in Hebrew, the Roman Captain little knew what was taking place).

“And as they bound him with thongs (getting him ready for the beating that would now be inflicted), Paul said unto the centurion who stood by, Is it lawful for you to scourge a man who is a Roman, and uncondemned? (Paul did not shrink from torture when it was directly connected with the Name of Jesus, but he quietly and with much dignity avoided it when ordered by official ignorance.)

“When the centurion heard that, he went and told the Chief Captain, saying, Take heed what you do: for this man is a Roman (the rights of Roman citizens were guarded as something sacred by Rome).

“Then the Chief Captain came, and said unto him, Tell me, are you a Roman? He said, Yes (in fact, the Chief Captain had broken the law even by binding Paul).

“And the Chief Captain answered, With a great sum obtained I this freedom (proclaims one of the ways Roman citizenship could be gained). And Paul said, But I was free born (Paul was born a Roman citizen, either through some service performed for Rome by his family, or else because of freedom).”

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“The world that Paul was born into was a world of acute skepticism.”

living in the city of Tarsus).

“Then straightway (immediately) they departed from him which should have examined him (refers to those who were going to scourge Paul quickly retiring): and the Chief Captain also was afraid, after he knew that he was a Roman, and because he had bound him” (Acts 22:24-29).

CAESAREA

As a result of the uproar in Jerusalem, Paul was transferred by the Romans to Caesarea, where he was there imprisoned for some two years. He was kept in the capital building in a place called “Herod’s Judgment Hall” (Acts 23:35). It was a part of the lavish palace built by Herod the Great. It served as the capital building as well as the official residence of the Roman Governors, and evidently had some prison cells within its confines.

After appearing before any number of notables and noting that Festus, the Roman Governor:

“Willing to do the Jews a pleasure, answered Paul, and said (Festus feared these Jewish leaders, knowing that if they were willing to bring these types of false charges against Paul, they would not hesitate to do the same against him to Rome), Will you go up to Jerusalem, and there be judged of these things before me? (This presents the compromise of the Governor.)

“Then said Paul, I stand at Caesar’s judgment seat, where I ought to be judged (proclaims the Apostle seeing through this ploy, knowing that if he went to Jerusalem, the Jews would find some way to kill him): to the Jews have I done no wrong, as you very well know (proclaims that which is true, and which Paul hammers home, and rightly so!).

“For if I be an offender, or have committed any thing worthy of death, I refuse not to die (in effect, Paul is attempting not so much to save his life, but rather to declare his innocence): but if there be none of these things whereof these accuse me, no man may deliver me unto them. I appeal unto Caesar (means it is the Will of God for him to stand before Caesar, not the Jews).

“Then Festus, when he had conferred with the Council, answered (refers to the legal advisory Council of the Governor, which evidently advised Festus that he acquiesce to Paul because of Roman Law), Have you appealed unto Caesar? unto Caesar shall you go” (Acts 25:9-12).

This was another privilege or right held by Roman citizens who appealed to Caesar, if they felt they were not being duly treated in other courts. This didn’t mean that Caesar personally would attend these trials, but that he or someone appointed by him would officiate.

During the time of Paul, Roman citizenship, as stated, was highly prized. While some, who were not born a Roman citizen, paid large sums of money for this privilege, Paul rather was born a Roman citizen.

HIS TRAINING AS A BOY

Paul said:

“I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee” (Acts 23:6). He also said, “I was circumcised the eight day, of the stock of Israel (he was a pure-blooded Jew), of the Tribe of Benjamin (Benjamin was the only Tribe that stayed with Judah at the time of the division of the nation), an Hebrew of the Hebrews (goes all the way back to Abraham); as touching the Law, a Pharisee. (In fact, Paul had been the hope of the Pharisees, touted to take the place of Gamaliel)” (Phil. 3:5).

From the way that Paul said, “I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee,” we would assume that his father and mother were Jews of the stricter sort.

When Paul used the term “an Hebrew of the Hebrews,” he was referring to the fact that he had clung to the Hebrew tongue and followed Hebrew customs. Other types of Jews of that day were called “Hellenists,” who spoke Greek by preference and adopted, more or less, Greek views and civilization.

And yet, Paul could probably be said to be a “Hebraist,” which means that even though he was unabashedly Hebrew, still, at the same time, he was a master of the Hellenistic Greek language.

Farrar said, “Although Paul was a Hebrew by virtue of his ancestry, and by virtue of the language which he had learned as his mother-tongue, and although he would probably have rejected the appellation of ‘Hellenist,’ which is indeed never applied to him, yet his very Hebraism had, in one most important respect, and one which has very little attracted the attention of scholars, an Hellenic bias and tinge.”

The world that Paul was born into was a world of acute skepticism. Sell said, “While the gods and goddesses in the great heathen temple still had their rites and ceremonies observed yet the people to a large degree, had ceased to believe in them.” Sell went on to say, “The Roman writers of the period are agreed in the slackening of religious ties and of moral restraints. Yet it was the policy of the state to

Continued on page 8
FULL-POWER STATIONS

Baton Rouge, LA ........................................ 88.5
(Covering parts of Southern Louisiana)

Lake Village, AR/Greenville, MS ..................... 95.9
(Covering parts of Western Mississippi and Eastern Arkansas)

Bowling Green/Toledo, OH ............................ 730 AM
(Covering parts of Northern and Central Ohio, Eastern Indiana, and the Southern tip of Michigan)

Atlanta/Texarkana, TX ................................. 100.1
(Covering parts of Northeastern Texas, Northwestern Louisiana, Southwestern Arkansas, and Southeastern Oklahoma)

Graysville, TN ............................................ 95.7
(Covering parts of Southern Tennessee and Northern Georgia)

Camden, AR .............................................. 1450 AM
(Covering parts of Southern Arkansas)

Grenada, MS .............................................. 95.7
(Covering parts of Northwestern Mississippi)

Benton/Benton — Jackson, MS ....................... 92.1
(Covering Central Mississippi and Eastern Louisiana)

Guthrie, OK ............................................... 1490 AM
(Covering Oklahoma City, Edmond, and parts of Central and Northern Oklahoma)

Jonesboro, LA .......................................... 104.9
(Covering Northern Louisiana)

Augusta/Little Rock, AR ............................... 97.7
(Covering Central Arkansas, Western Tennessee, a small part of Northwestern Mississippi, and a small part of Southern Missouri)

Desoto/St. Louis, MO ................................. 100.1
(Covering Southern Missouri, parts of Eastern Missouri, and Western Illinois)

Palm Springs, CA ...................................... 90.9
(Covering the Coachella Valley)

Winfield — Wichita, KS ................................. 91.9
(Covering South Central Kansas and North Central Oklahoma)

Crete, IL ................................................... 88.1
(Covering South Chicago and Chicago Heights)

Ottawa, IL ............................................... 88.9
(Covering Ottawa, West La Salle, East Joliet, and North DeKalb)

Kankakee, IL ............................................. 88.3
(Covering Northeastern Illinois and Northwestern Indiana)

Nashville, AR ............................................. 96.9
(Covering Southwestern Arkansas)

Mobile/Citronelle, AL ................................. 102.1
(Covering Mobile, Alabama)

Lafayette/Church Point, LA ......................... 91.9
(Covering Southern and Western Louisiana)

Ada, OK ................................................... 88.7
(Covering South Central Oklahoma)

Albion/Rochester, NY ................................. 102.1
(Covering North Western New York State)

Norman/Oklahoma City, OK ......................... 89.3
(Covering Oklahoma City, Oklahoma)

Panama City, FL ........................................ 91.7
(Covering Panama City, Florida)

Beatrice/Lincoln, NE .................................. 89.8
(Covering South Eastern Nebraska)

Grand Island/Hastings, NE ......................... 90.7
(Covering South Central Nebraska)

Lakewood/Jamestown, NY ......................... 88.9
(Covering Lakewood and Jamestown, NY)

Corrigan/Lufkin, TX .................................. 99.3
(Covering Corrigan and Lufkin, TX)

Bastrop, LA .............................................. 88.3
(Covering Bastrop, Monroe, and the Northeastern part of Louisiana)

TRANSLATOR STATIONS

Andalusia, AL ............................................. 89.7
Eufaula, AL .............................................. 88.9
El Dorado, AR ............................................ 89.7
Bishop, CA .............................................. 91.7
Key West, FL ............................................ 90.5

Continued on page 8
SONLIFE RADIO
Continued from page 7

Dublin, GA ........................................ 90.9
La Grange, GA ................................. 90.3
Waycross, GA .................................. 90.7
Carlinville, IL ................................ 89.1
Effingham, IL .................................. 88.7
Freeport, IL .................................... 91.3
Jacksonville, IL ............................... 88.1
DeRidder, LA .................................. 89.5
Grayson, LA .................................... 91.9
Many, LA ....................................... 91.3
Minden, LA ....................................... 91.1
Morgan City, LA ................................. 91.5
Natchitoches, LA .............................. 90.1
Alexandria, MN ................................. 91.7
Morris, MN ..................................... 90.5
Kirksville, MO .................................. 88.1
Mountain Grove, MO ...................... 91.7
St. James, MO .................................. 89.3
Springfield, MO ................................. 91.5
Willow Springs, MO ......................... 90.5
Columbia, MS ................................ 88.3
Morehead City, NC ............................ 91.9
Rockingham, NC ............................... 88.3
Corning, NY .................................... 89.5
Chambersburg, PA .................. 89.7
Franklin, PA ................................... 90.3
Lock Haven, PA ......................... 89.3
Mansfield, PA ................................. 91.5
Andrews, SC .................................. 88.7
Clinton, SC .................................... 88.3
Manning, SC ................................ 88.7
Winnsboro, SC ................................. 91.9
Brookings, SD ................................. 89.7
Mitchell, SD .................................. 89.3
Watertown, SD ................................. 90.1
Yankton, SD .................................. 91.1
Pikeville, TN .................................. 91.3
Bonham, TX ................................... 91.1
Columbus, TX ................................ 91.1
Midland, TX .................................. 91.7
Palestine, TX ................................ 90.7

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“... to proclaim a crucified and risen Christ as the Messiah to the Jews, when they were expecting rather a conquering hero, most of the time put them into a rage.”

Maintain the worship of the gods and goddesses. Any attack on them or their worship was regarded as an offense against the state.” So, Paul faced several powerful obstacles. They were:

- As we have previously alluded, to attack the religion of the state in any capacity constituted an offense punishable by beatings and even imprisonment. So, there was precious little freedom of religion.
- To take a stand against the sins of man and the evils of the times stirred up bitter opposition.
- On top of all of that, to proclaim a crucified and risen Christ as the Messiah to the Jews, when they were expecting rather a conquering hero, most of the time put them into a rage.
- And, even among Christian Jews, the idea that the Law of Moses was totally finished in Christ did not sit well either.

In the midst of all of this, especially considering the opposition he encountered, the fact that Paul could preach “Christ Crucified” and establish Churches, seeing great numbers saved, portrays to us the truth that he did not allow these obstacles to stop the propagation of the Gospel.

Along with his education regarding the Mosaic Law under Gamaliel, to which we will address ourselves more particularly momentarily, he seems also to have been quite well acquainted with Greek philosophy and literature. In fact, he quotes from the Greek poets, Aratus, Epimenides, and Menander. It is this that pushes some scholars to believe that Paul also attended the university at Tarsus. But, of course, that is only speculation.

**PAUL AS A BOY**

At the age of five every Jewish boy would begin to study the Bible with his parents at home. At the age of six he would enter into the synagogue to begin formal education. At the age of ten he would begin to study those earlier and simpler developments of the oral law, which were afterwards collected in the Mishna. Some even say that all Jewish boys had to memorize the entirety of the Book of Leviticus.

At any rate, by the age of thirteen he would, by a sort of “confirmation,” become a “Son of the Commandment.”

As well, at the age of thirteen, if he were destined for the position of a Rabbi, he then entered the school of one of the great masters. Farrar said, “The master among
whose pupils the young Saul was enrolled was the famous Rabban Gamaliel, son of Rabban Simeon, and a grandson of Hillel, ‘a doctor of the law had in reputation among all the people.’ There were only seven of the Rabbis to whom the Jews gave the title of Rabban, and three of these were Gamaliels of this family, who each in turn rose to the high distinction of President of the School.”

At the feet of Gamaliel sat Saul of Tarsus, in all probability, for several years. It is said that the Jewish Rabbis sat on lofty chairs, and their pupils sat at their feet, either on the ground or on benches.

It is also said that Paul as a young scholar was so learned in the Scriptures, absorbing all that Gamaliel taught him, that he was being groomed by the Pharisees to take the place of the great Gamaliel. In other words, he was the darling of the Pharisees, and in today’s modern terminology, their “fair haired boy.”

THE PHARISEES

The Jewish world into which Jesus came, and Paul, as well, was a world that had lost all of the real meaning of the Law of Moses. In fact, the Law of Moses had been turned into some 248 commands and 365 prohibitions, totaling some 613 oral laws, all formulated by men, oftentimes referred to as “fence laws.”

For instance, a woman could not comb her hair on the Sabbath, nor could anyone drag a chair across the floor, because dust might be parted in the hair or on the floor, which could be construed as plowing, with the latter being forbidden by the Law. They had so taken it to extreme that it was now a burden that was literally impossible to be borne. The Pharisees demanded that a rigidly scrupulous obedience was due. This was what God absolutely required, they said! This, and this only, came up to the true conception of the blameless Righteousness of the Law.

In their minds, so very much depended upon this scrupulous obedience to the Law, which took it far beyond what the Lord originally intended. In fact, this was the cause, or at least part of the cause, of the great hatred of the Pharisees for Christ. He portrayed the true meaning of the Law, which infuriated them. And it must be understood that the Pharisees in that particular time claimed to believe all of the Bible, which consisted of the Books beginning with Genesis and concluding with Malachi. They were the fundamentalists of that day. Actually, it is said that there were seven kinds of Pharisees:

1. The bleeding Pharisees;
2. The mortar Pharisees;
3. The Shechemite Pharisees;
4. The timid Pharisees;
5. The tumbling Pharisees;
6. The painted Pharisees; and,
7. And the Tell-me-anything-more-to-do-and-I-will-do-it Pharisee! Paul probably belonged to this group.

EZRA

The Pharisee party probably began under Ezra, the ambition of which was to master the Text and teachings of the Mosaic Law in every detail. Actually, the first Pharisees would have borne no resemblance to those of Paul’s day. The Scribes, who for the most part hated Christ, were their spiritual descendants.

The Pharisees were always a minority group. Under Herod they numbered something over 6,000, but they held great sway as it regarded the religious life of Israel. The Pharisees held the belief that the Babylonian Exile was caused by Israel’s failure to keep the Law, and that its keeping was an individual as well as a national duty. In their minds’ eyes, at least by the time of Christ, they thought that if they could keep the Law minutely, this would usher in the Messiah, which would enable them to throw off the Roman yoke, and once again Israel would be the leading Nation in the world, as it had been under David and Solomon. But, as stated, they had so twisted and perverted the Law that they didn’t even recognize their Messiah when He came. In fact, they crucified Him.

They reasoned that God would not have demanded obedience to the Law if that obedience were not possible! So, in their efforts to obey, they completely disobeyed, and in their legalism, they pushed themselves further and further away from God. Understanding this, we can see how their hatred for Paul was so rabid after he gave his heart to Christ on the road to Damascus.

But something was about to enter into the life and living of Paul (then called Saul) that would serve to push him in a different direction altogether. That something was Stephen.

STEPHEN

Now begins the spread of the Gospel around the world, the propagation of the Message that was to confront humanity as no other Message in the annals of human history. It is the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and more particularly, “Christ and Him Crucified.” Strangely enough, even as the Ways of God often are, it begins with death, the death of Stephen, but whose death plants a seed in the heart of a young man nearby by the name of Saul, which seed would ultimately spring to life. Much preparation over several centuries, actually from the time of Abraham, one might say, was all for this moment. Going back for half a millennia, we see three vast and worldwide events, all designed for the purpose of the spread of the Gospel. They are:

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“The Day of Pentecost, for all practical purposes, was the visible beginning of the Church.”

1. “The Jews of the Dispersion:” Josephus tells us that they crowded every corner of the habitable globe of that day and built their synagogues, which served as a staging point for the presentation of the Gospel by a young man who viewed the death of Stephen and even, in a sense, played a part in that death—Paul.

2. The second great effort by the Holy Spirit involved a pagan by the name of Alexander the Great. He gave to the civilized world of that day a unity of language, the Greek language, without which it would have been, humanly speaking, impossible for the earliest Preachers to have made known the good tidings in every land which they traversed. It was the language of the world of that day, which made it much easier for the Gospel to be preached, as should be obvious.

3. The rise of the Roman Empire on the ashes of the paganism of Rome. Ultimately, that Gospel spread to all of Europe, and finally, to the shores of North America, and Central and South America, which launched it to the entirety of the world. Our Ministry (Jimmy Swaggart Ministries) played a part in this, airing television over a large part of the world, with the Gospel translated into the languages of the people and, as well, with massive Crusades in capital cities all over the world.

Getting back to the Greek language, in every considerable city of the Roman Empire the service of the synagogue was held in Greek, and these services were opened to anyone who desired to be present at them. Greek, too, became emphatically the language of Christianity, with the entirety of the New Testament originally written in Greek.

THE CHURCH IN JERUSALEM

Jesus remained on Earth some forty days after His Resurrection (Acts 1:3). As well, from the time of His Ascension to the Day of Pentecost was another ten days. The Day of Pentecost, for all practical purposes, was the visible beginning of the Church. Peter preached the inaugural Message, one might say. At the conclusion of his message, the Scripture says that “about three thousand souls” were added to the Kingdom of God (Acts 2:41). And then, the Scripture says, without giving any numbers, “And the Lord added to the Church daily such as should be Saved” (Acts 2:47).

Some days later, with the healing of the lame man at the gate called Beautiful, Peter once again preached to the multitudes which gathered, and the Scripture says, “Howbeit many of them which heard the Word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand” (Acts 4:4).

While we are not told in the Scripture as to exactly how large was the Jerusalem Church, it is believed it could have been regarding numbers anywhere between 30,000 and 50,000 people. When one considers the following, it is easy to see how this number could have easily been won to the Lord. The Word says:

MIGHTY HEALINGS AND MIRACLES

“And by the hands of the Apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people (the Church was founded on the Power of God, and is meant to continue by the Power of God); (and they were all with one accord in Solomon’s porch (portrays a roofed colonnade bearing Solomon’s name, which ran along the eastern wall in the Court of the Gentiles of Herod’s Temple).

“And of the rest does no man join himself to them (to the Apostles); but the people magnified them (they knew the Apostles were of the Lord and that the Lord was greatly using them, so they found no fault with them).

“And Believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women. (It could have been as many as forty or fifty thousand, or even more.)

“Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and couches (evidently refers to two or three different streets on which Peter and the Apostles came to the Temple each day; the crowds were so large they could not all get into the Temple Court), that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them (implying that when this happened, healing resulted).

“There came also a multitude out of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks (proclaims the extent to which this Move of God had reached), and them which were vexed with unclean spirits (probably implying that much of the sickness was caused by demon spirits): and they were healed every one (delivered and healed)” (Acts 5:12-16).

FIRST DEACONS?

Due to the growth of the Church in Jerusalem, and due to the persecution, severe problems developed.

When anyone in Jerusalem accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their Saviour, immediately they were excommunicated from the synagogue. In fact, they were not
allowed to attend the services there anymore. As well, if they had children, due to the fact that the schooling for little boys was carried on in the synagogues, such children were not allowed to continue in school (girls did not attend school).

If they were renting an apartment or a house, they were immediately evicted. As well, if they were working for an employer, as most were, they were automatically terminated from their jobs. Consequently, the Church in Jerusalem was faced with tremendous hardships of trying to take care of the thousands of people who found themselves in this situation. In fact, the following Scriptures are addressing themselves to this situation. The Bible says:

“Neither was there any among them who lacked (those who lost their employment, etc., had their needs met): for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold (refers to extra possessions, etc.),

“And laid them down at the Apostles’ feet (they were entrusted with this largesse): and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need (no hint of communism here, as some have suggested)” (Acts 4:34-35).

In fact, the great dissertation that the Apostle Paul gave in II Corinthians, Chapters 8 and 9, pertains to this need. He was receiving an offering from all of the Churches in order to take such to Jerusalem, which he did (II Cor. 9:12-15; Acts 20:4).

Regarding these difficulties, a problem arose in the Church in Jerusalem concerning certain “widows which were neglected in the daily ministration” (Acts 6:1). At this juncture the Twelve Apostles told some of the Elders in the Church to:

“. . . look you out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom (is thought by some to represent the first Deacons, even though they are not called that in this Chapter), whom we may appoint over this business (the Holy Spirit told the ‘Twelve’ what to do, the number to choose, and how they were to be chosen)” (Acts 6:3).


Little did they realize that when they chose Stephen, how much this would play into the great Plan of God as it regarded the one we now know as the Apostle Paul. As it regards Stephen, we have but one account of a Message he preached, which cost him his life. Yet, the Message he brought that day, which was before the Jewish Sanhedrin, without a doubt influenced the greatest of the Apostles, and we continue to speak of Paul. As someone has well said:

“God works in mysterious ways,
“His Wonders to perform,
“He plants His Feet upon the seas,
“And rides upon the storm.”

Stephen’s death was the earliest martyrdom.

Up to this period, the name of Stephen has not occurred in Christian history, and as the tradition that he had been one of the seventy Disciples is valueless, we know nothing of the circumstances of his conversion to Christianity.

And yet, there is a good possibility that Stephen actually saw and heard the living Jesus, which turned his life completely around. So, we know him only for a moment, only as this first Martyr steps into the full light of history. Farrar said, “Our insight into his greatness is derived almost solely from the record of a single Message and a single day – the last Message he ever uttered – the last day of his mortal life.”

The Holy Spirit plainly tells us that Stephen was “full of Faith, and of the Holy Spirit.” Nothing could be said about a man greater than that! Like Philip, he was an Evangelist as well as a Deacon, with the following given to us as to what the Holy Spirit wanted us to know. It is considerable!

This message was derived from the book, “Paul.”

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“Paul, The Apostle”
(09-108)
Price: $30.00

4 (Ibid., pg. 137)
"SPIRITS OF LIGHT"

"Lest Satan should get an advantage of us: for we are not ignorant of his devices" (II Cor. 2:11).

Scripture has made it perfectly clear that the Devil masquerades as "light" and/or an "angel of light." In Latin, the name "Lucifer" means "light-bearer." II Corinthians 11:14 says, "And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light." Therefore, any experience with spiritual "light" must be thoroughly examined under the microscope of the One True Light, the Word of God.

"Light," it seems, has always been used as a metaphor for heightened, perhaps even spiritual, experiences and/or understandings. Often we hear people speak of being "enlightened." Some believed to possess spiritual empowerment have been called "illuminated." Traditionally, even artists have depicted both religious and secular leaders, heroes, and great thinkers shining with brilliant light, perhaps even beneath a halo. Now the problem we encounter here is that such inspiration is usually viewed in a positive manner. It is hard to call evil what we normally associate with good. Nevertheless, the Bible bids us to "believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God" (I Jn. 4:1). It seems that throughout history many have encountered spirits of "light," but failed to recognize their source. In fact, many who claim to have "light," believe they started with the best of intentions. They believed their search for light was search for truth. For instance, Freemasons claim to be searching for "light," hence, the symbolic use of the blindfold in many of their rituals. But, Truth cannot be found outside of the Word of God. An attempt to discover "light" or "truth" apart from it actually demonstrates a lack of faith in the Truth. The Lord has made it clear that seeking Truth means seeking Him. He alone is the Light!  "He reveals the deep and secret things: He knows what is in the darkness, and the Light dwells with Him" (Dan. 2:22). "But without Faith it is impossible to please Him: for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them who diligently seek Him" (Heb. 11:6).

FALSE LIGHT

Many false prophets and cult leaders claim to have received revelation knowledge from "angels of light," and usually these revelations became the foundation for their perilous societies. Muhammad claimed that the Angel Gabriel came to him. He explained that, "a luminous being grasped him by the throat and commanded him to repeat the sacred word." Another "angel of light" named "Moroni" visited the founder of Mormonism, Joseph Smith, who was already a "romancer and diviner" (familiar with occult communication). Smith said his angel led him to a set of golden plates which he translated from "reformed Egyptian" into English with help of magic stones. The final product was the Book of Mormon. Sun Myung Moon, founder of the Unification Church, claims that Jesus appeared to him in a vision asking Moon to complete the work He began. Clearly this "Jesus" was not the Jesus of the Bible. The real Jesus "Finished" His Work! (Jn. 19:30). The Apostle Paul specifically warned us of such false messengers: "But though we, or an Angel form Heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:8). Remember, though, Satan's "light" does not necessarily have to appear in angelic form. Even the simplest sensation of enlightenment could have come from an ungodly source. Not surprisingly, then, "light" is a cornerstone of New Age teaching as well.

Visit my Website at www.francesandfriends.com
NEW AGERS

New Agers, in fact, refer to themselves as “light-workers.” Warren Smith, former New Ager and author of Deceived on Purpose, has described one particular experience he had with New Age “light.” In his book, The Light That Was Dark, Smith explained what happened during one particular psychic reading: “It was toward the end of the reading that I first noticed the whirling sensation over my head. I tried to ignore it, but it wouldn’t go away. It was a strange but not unpleasant feeling that seemed to flutter and vibrate and even tingle above me. I was startled when Bonnie picked up on it. ‘Are you aware that there is a ball of light over your head? . . . You are being shown that you have a lot of help on the other side.’” A best-selling book of the ‘90s, “Embraced by the Light” by Betty J. Eadie, describes the good and loving feelings which often accompany mystical experiences with the “light.” It is also important to note that New Agers consider this “light” their source of life as well as their god, hence, their frequent usage of the term, “God-Light” or “Life-Light.” New Age Mystic Alice Bailey describes the “light” in this manner: “To this light the mystics testify, and it is this light into which they enter, and which enters into them, revealing the light which is laten and drawing it forth to potency . . . This is the outstanding fact of scientific mysticism. God is light . . .” On the slopes of Mt. Shasta, California, Guy Ballard, leader of the “I Am” cult, encountered a spirit guide known as the ascended master, St. Germain. Ballard says this spirit mentor gave him a “liquid-light” to drink explaining that the liquid was as pure as life itself, coming directly from the “universal supply.”

ANOTHER JESUS

Neale Donald Walsch, New Age author of Conversations with God, describes his encounter with “god” as “some invisible force” which caused his hand to write on its own. This phenomenon is actually on occult channeling practice known as “automatic handwriting,” where one yields his mind to a demonic voice. Of course, Scripture completely forbids any such practice, but Walsch unfortunately did not heed the warning, thus believing the voice he heard was God. “He was amazed when ‘God’ immediately answered his letter by speaking to him through an inner voice. That night, and in subsequent conversations, Walsch wrote down all of the dictated answers to his questions.” Even more disturbing is that one year after the events of September 11th, 2001, Walsch published another book, The New Revelations, which directly attacked the Saving Power of Jesus. Walsch’s “god” put Salvation into the hands of man. “Walsch explained that ‘God’ was proposing a post-September 11th ‘PEACE Plan’ that would help to bring the world’s widely varying religions and belief systems closer together . . . Walsch’s ‘god’ warned: ‘Yet let me make something clear. The era of the Single Saviour is over. What is needed now is joint action, combined effort, collective co-creation.’” Marianne Williamson, another well-recognized New Ager largely promoted by Oprah Winfrey, wrote a book entitled Reflections on Love. Williamson’s book was based on A Course in Miracles by Helen Schucman, an associate professor of medical psychology at Columbia University. Schucman had also experienced “god” through an inner voice, and this voice actually claimed to be Jesus! Schucman began, “receiving channeled messages from a speaker who would later identify himself as Jesus Christ. The messages began with the words, ‘Please take notes,’ this is not optional. So Helen Schucman, an atheist Jewish psychologist, began writing and for the next 10 years, the voice is said to have dictated ‘in an inaudible voice’ over 500,000 words contained in the three volumes.” And apparently the “Jesus” of “The Course” was not impressed with Christianity; in fact, it was his mission to change it completely. “The primary reason for the Course is the ‘Correcting of the errors of Christianity . . . To foster spiritual development through the study and practice of, A Course In Miracles, a set of three books channeled by Jesus . . . to teach the Course’s reinterpretation of traditional Christian principles such as sin, suffering, forgiveness, Atonement, and the meaning of the Crucifixion . . .’” Another prominent New Age teacher, Barbara Marx Hubbard, experienced the “light” in an intense vision she said occurred while she was in a dreamlike state. “. . . she could see the earth and its people were now surrounded by a radiant light. She watched as the whole planet was ‘aligned’ in ‘a magnetic field of love’

Continued on page 14
and lifted up by the brilliant light. Widespread healings took place as individuals experienced the merging of their own ‘inner light’ with the bright light that was surrounding them. A tremendous force emanating from the light sent powerful currents of joyful energy ‘rippling’ through the body of humanity. The world celebrated as all the Earth was born again.” And, unfortunately, Hubbard also came to believe that this “light” was Christ giving her an alternative to the Armageddon scenario found in Biblical prophecy. “. . . in 1979, she had a revelation that the presence in her 1966 vision had been ‘Christ’. . . Hubbard’s ‘Christ’ teaches that the violent Armageddon script described in the Bible does not have to happen, that it is only a ‘possible’ future, emphasizing that a more ‘positive’ future can and will manifest when humanity—without exception—openly declares its ‘oneness’ with him and all creation.”

This is an outright attack on Christianity; there is no alternative to God’s Word. All of it has come to pass and will continue to come to pass. “Think not that I am come to destroy the Law, or the Prophets: I am not come to destroy, but to fulfill. For verily I say unto you, Till Heaven and Earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the Law, till all be fulfilled” (Mat. 5:17-18). And furthermore, it is the antichrist who Daniel identifies as having a false plan of peace. “. . . he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many” (Dan. 8:25).

NEW AGE LIGHT

These occult and completely anti-Christian dealings with New Age “light” are attacking the modern Church from the inside as well. For instance, one particular form of so-called Christian counseling developed by Dr. Ed Smith is termed “Theophostic” counseling and/or “Theophostic Prayer Ministry.” Smith created the word, “Theophostic” from two Greek words – “Theos,” meaning “God” and “Phos” meaning “light.” Similar to the psychological models of “inner healing,” Theophostic Counseling claims to heal one of harmful memories by bringing “light” directly into the memory. Another “pastor” bringing New Age “light” into the church (and whose writings have been endorsed by Rick Warren) is Leonard Sweet. He has stated, “A surprisingly central feature of all the world’s religions is the language of light in communicating the divine and symbolizing the union of the human with the divine: Muhammad’s light-filled cave, Moses’ burning bush, Paul’s blinding light, Fox’s ‘inner light,’ Krishna’s Lord of Light, Bohme’s light-filled cobbler shop, Plotinus’ fire experiences, Bodhisattvas with the flow of Kundalini’s fire erupting from their fontanelles, and so on.” He also acknowledges New Agers for helping him find the “New Light” which he actually believes to have enhanced his Christianity: “I have followed those ‘New Light leaders’ . . . [S]ome of those who led [me] into new light are: . . . Matthew Fox, Richard Mouw, Rowan Williams . . .” In The Destiny of the Nations, Alice Bailey even defined the New Age concept of Christmas: “. . . Spiritually the Christmas season is about the light, the promise of the Divine, and the birth of the Christ Consciousness in the human heart inaugurating an era of right human relations. This energy remains ever with us, ‘The Christ in you, the hope of glory’ . . . During the 2000 years since Pisces has seen the spreading of light. Aquarius will see the rising of the light with Christ as the eternal symbol of both these great impulses. Humanity will move from the birth stages of the light within to the lifting of the life light in sacrifice, as we become the Risen Ones . . .”

A FALSE BIBLE

The New Age Mess “Bible” has also taken every opportunity to distort any Biblical reference to light, rewording it to fit New Age doctrines. We will not attempt to print all the Scriptures from “The Mess” Bible pertaining to this, but here are a couple of examples:

Psalms 8:5

King James Version: For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honour.

Message Version: Yet we’ve so narrowly missed being gods, bright with Eden’s dawn light.
The Message Version: Write this to Ephesus, to the Angel of the church. The One with Seven Stars in his right-fist grip, striding through the golden seven-lights’ circle, speaks.

Revelation 2:5

The King James Version: Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of its place, except thou repent.

Message Version: Do you have any idea how far you’ve fallen? A Lucifer fall! Turn back! Recover your dear early love. No time to waste, for I’m well on my way to removing your light from the golden circle.

(This article was originally printed in December, 2007.)

Frances Swaggart

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4 (http://www.leaderu.com/orgs/probe/docs/eddie.html)
6 (Godfre Ray King. Unveiled Mysteries, ch. 1. 1934)
9 (Mike Oppenheimer. A Course In Miracles) (http://www.letusreason.org/BookR3.htm)
11 (http://www.crossroad.to/Excerpts/biblical-teaching/DeWaay.theophistic.htm)
12 (Leonard Sweet, Quantum Spirituality, p. 235) (http://www.lighthouse-trails-research.com/leonardsweet.htm)
13 (The Christ Light http://www.souledout.org/christmaslight/christmaslight.html)
14 Cathy Burn. Masonic and Occult Symbols Illustrated p. 27-28) (http://www.seekgod.ca/msgdoctrine2.htm)
“And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead (his name means ‘God is Jehovah’; he is considered one of the greatest of the Prophets; he is brought on the scene by the Holy Spirit without fanfare, and even without introduction), said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel lives, before Whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word. (The idolatrous priests no doubt claimed for Baal dominion over nature and absolute control over the clouds and rain; however, Elijah would portray the fact that it was Jehovah Who ordered the elements, and not Baal. The impotency of Baal to remove the ban would prove the impotency of their god and their claims.)

“And the Word of the LORD came unto him, saying (in all this which he did, Elijah was guided by the Word of the Lord, which cannot fail),

“Get you hence, and turn you eastward, and hide yourself by the Brook Cherith, that is before Jordan (‘Cherith’ means ‘separation’; even though Elijah was in Israel, which at the time was notoriously wicked, he was separate from its impurity, which the Lord intended; as Believers, we are to be ‘in’ the world, but not ‘of’ the world).

“And it shall be, that you shall drink of the Brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there (as the Lord had total control over the elements, as well, He had total control over the fowls of the heavens, which He had created and, in fact, He has control over everything; when we tap into His Resources, we are tapping into an unlimited supply).

“So he went and did according unto the Word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the Brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

“And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the Brook (to deny this is to deny the fact that God has total control over His Creation).

“And it came to pass after a while, that the Brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land (as to exactly how long this was, we aren’t told; it is almost positive, however, that it was more than two years that the Prophet dwelt there).”

Elijah was one of the greatest Prophets to ever live. His name means, “God is Jehovah.” We know very little about him. He just suddenly appears on the scene in Verse 1 of Chapter 17 with the thundering announcement, “And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel lives, before Whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.”

THE MINISTRY OF THE PROPHET

During Old Testament times, it was the Office of the Prophet that God would speak through to give direction to Israel.

The Prophet functions in the capacity of “foretelling” and “forth-telling.” “Foretelling” has to do with prediction concerning present or future events, while “forth-telling” speaks of the Proclamation of Righteousness. Actually, that is to be a true Prophet’s emphasis – the Proclamation of Righteousness.

“THE WORD OF THE LORD CAME UNTO HIM, SAYING”

This statement is very important as it presents the fact that Elijah was guided by the Word of God. How this
occurred, whether by Dreams, Visions, or God speaking to his heart we aren’t told. However, whereas Elijah did not have the complete written Word of God, today we do. And as Elijah was guided by the Word, so too must we be guided by God’s Word, the Bible.

The Bible contains the answer to every problem that plagues the heart of man. The Bible is God’s Revelation of His Son Jesus Christ, therefore, it is impossible to truly know the Lord without a proper understanding of the Bible. Having said that, it is important to understand that unless you are studying from a word-for-word translation such as the King James Bible, you can’t truly know the Bible. Too many people today use thought-for-thought translations or paraphrase versions. None of these will do. It must be a word-for-word translation.

“CHERITH”

Immediately after speaking the command for the heavens to be shut up and no rain, the Lord told Elijah to go “and hide yourself by the Brook Cherith.” “Cherith” speaks to us of three great truths.

1. Separation: Israel was backslidden and wicked. Though Elijah was in Israel, the evil of Israel was not in Elijah. He was separate from the wickedness and idol worship of the Nation. In II Corinthians 6:17, Paul said, “Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, says the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.” The Bible always demands that Christians are to be separate from the world. Separation does not mean isolation. We are in this present evil world not to conform to the world but to be a Light that shines in the darkness. We are to be “salt” that preserves the Truth of Jesus Christ (Mat. 5:13-14). Conformity to the world and its evil system is the bane of the modern church. Elijah was separated and so too must we be separated.

2. Provision: The “Brook Cherith” was isolated. It never missed a meal as God had ravens bring Elijah “bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening.” As the Lord was Elijah’s Provision, so too is He our Provision Spiritually, physically, financially, emotionally, and domestically. He is Jehovah-Jireh, our Provider. No matter what your situation, no matter where you live, no matter what you need, the Lord can provide it even if He has to send ravens to do it.

3. Presence: “Cherith” was a place removed from the hustle and bustle of the population center. I’m sure there were other spots in Israel that would be more desirable to the flesh, but if that is where the Lord tells you to go then that’s where you will find His Presence. In just about any city of size here in the United States, there is a church or even churches that are considered “popular.” These mega-churches, as they are referred to, almost always have the approval of city leaders for all the “good works” they do. And sometimes these works are commendable. However, if a church is truly doing a Work for God, they always without exception will be hated and rejected by the majority of the city. I know some reading this may disagree and reject that statement, but understand that which is of the world never applauds or approves that which is truly of God.

That which is truly of God stands for Righteousness and Holiness and opposes sin and worldliness, and the moment one takes a stand believe me that’s when demons come out of the woodwork. I know from first-hand experience as Family Worship Center over the years has done many charitable outreaches in Baton Rouge. In all the things we have done regarding children’s outreaches, feeding outreaches, etc., the city and the powers that be never once acknowledged or applauded them because in all that was done, a strong message of Jesus Christ as the Only Way of Salvation was presented as well. When one gives out food, toys, clothes, etc., it arouses no hostility. But you add to it a strong, dogmatic, no-compromise sermon from God’s Word, then the reception is totally different. Toys, yes – Jesus, no. Food, yes – Jesus, no. And any church that only cares about satiating the fleshly desires of its community, which is all these so-called good works do, leave off Jesus, and are harming people and not helping them.

In the end, nothing is more important than being where the Lord wants you to be. In conclusion, “Cherith” may be unappealing to the flesh, but to the Spirit it is the place of Miracles.

Your Evangelist,

Donnie Swaggart
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<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Saco</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>York</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>293</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Boston</td>
<td>RCN</td>
<td>270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>Comcast</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Detroit</td>
<td>WOW (Wide Open West)</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Oakland Co./Livonia</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>Comcast</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Thief River Falls</td>
<td>Spjerg’s, Inc.</td>
<td>182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Biloxi</td>
<td>Cable One</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Higginsville, Corder, Alma, Blackburn, Emma, Gilliam, Houstonia, Malta Bend, Slater, Sweet Springs, Waverly</td>
<td>Citizens Cablevision</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>Charter</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>“New” Nevada</strong></td>
<td>Las Vegas (Part Time Station – sonlifetv.com for more info)</td>
<td>Cox Cable</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>293</td>
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<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>Binghamton (Montrose/Beth/Jamestown)</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>Buffalo</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<td>Carmel</td>
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<td>Time Warner</td>
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<td>New York</td>
<td>Syracuse</td>
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<td>North Carolina</td>
<td>Asheboro</td>
<td>Randolph Telephone</td>
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<td>Charlotte</td>
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<td>Raleigh</td>
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<td>382</td>
</tr>
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<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Akron/Canton</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cincinnati/Dayton</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Cleveland</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
<td>WOW (Wide Open West)</td>
<td>193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
<td>WOW (Wide Open West)</td>
<td>193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Toledo</td>
<td>Buckeye</td>
<td>166</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ohio</td>
<td>Wapakoneta and St. Marys</td>
<td>Telephone Service Company, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Elizabethtown, Greenscastle, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Mill Hall, Millersburg and Williamsport</td>
<td>Comcast</td>
<td>190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
<td>Williamsport</td>
<td>Comcast</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>Providence</td>
<td>Cox</td>
<td>71</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Charleston</td>
<td>Comcast</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Carolina</td>
<td>Statewide</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<td>South Dakota</td>
<td>Beresford</td>
<td>Beresford Cablevision</td>
<td>487</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Austin</td>
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<td>274</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>Dallas</td>
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<td>170</td>
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<td>Gilmer Cable Television</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>San Antonio</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<td>Texas</td>
<td>Throckmorton, Lake Graham, Newcastle</td>
<td>TGN Cable</td>
<td>487</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas</td>
<td>Waco/Killeen</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Goldendale</td>
<td>J &amp; N Cable</td>
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<td>Washington DC</td>
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<td>West Virginia</td>
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<td>Green Bay</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wisconsin</td>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>Time Warner</td>
<td>192</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
OVER-THE-AIR (DTV) TELEVISION

For those of you who are not familiar with digital television, these are **free “old fashioned TV channels”** that are able to be picked up with a digital tuner and antenna. Most new televisions are equipped with built-in digital tuners or you can purchase a tuner from your local electronics store (Best Buy®, Radio Shack®, etc.). As well, you can purchase the proper antenna at your local electronics store. Many viewers under the broadcast signal of the television station can use a small, digital antenna inside the home. For those on the outer edge of the signal or to receive the best signal, an outdoor antenna may be required. Both indoor and outdoor antennas are available for less than $50!

### U.S. – DTV Listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Channel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arizona</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
<td>22.3</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>35.4</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California</td>
<td>Sacramento</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for more info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>5.1</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for more info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Miami</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>Orlando</td>
<td>55.4</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Atlanta</td>
<td>16.2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>25.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>25.3</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>8.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>Louisville</td>
<td>50.1</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>17.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>Baton Rouge</td>
<td>14.1</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>10.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missouri</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>46.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nevada</td>
<td>Las Vegas</td>
<td>30.3</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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### International Satellite Listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covering</th>
<th>Satellite</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Times</th>
<th>Channel</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Sky Satellite</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>596</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Freesat</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>OPTUS D2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for new info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Africa</td>
<td>Intelsat 10</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for new info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel, Middle East, Northern Africa, Europe</td>
<td>Hot Bird 6</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for more info</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia &amp; Eastern Europe</td>
<td>Amos 2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>4° West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cntrl. &amp; So. America/Caribbean</td>
<td>Hispasat 1E</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for more info</td>
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### International Cable Listings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Covering</th>
<th>Cable</th>
<th>Days</th>
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<th>Channel</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><em>New</em> Germany</td>
<td>Unity Cable</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>238</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Kabel BW</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>302</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>Canal+</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>Lime TV</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>228</td>
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<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Freeview</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>New</em> Cayman Islands</td>
<td>Lime TV</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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</table>

Until a channel comes to your area, enjoy your favorite radio and television programs by visiting www.sonlifetv.com. You can already view “live” services and prerecorded programming on-line!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hour (CT)</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 AM</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 AM</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 AM</td>
<td>Crossfire Service E/I</td>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Insight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Live)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Live)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Live)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Sunday Live Service</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 AM</td>
<td>Generation of The Cross E/I</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Morning Service (repeat of Sunday mornings service)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30 AM</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Sunday Evening Live Service</td>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Insight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Morning Service (repeat of this mornings service)</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Live Service</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Live Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Live Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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## TV PROGRAMMING

Closed captioning available for all programming.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Saturday</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Live)</td>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Live)</td>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frances and Friends (Live)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Live)</td>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Generation of The Cross E/I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td>A Study In The Word</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Backstage with Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Live)</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>The Message of the Cross (Pre-recorded)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Insight</td>
<td>Backstage with Donnie Swaggart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossfire Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Frances and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fransces and Friends (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Donnie Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center Wednesday Night Service (repeat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Crossfire Service</td>
<td>Crossfire Service</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Dear Brother Swaggart,

I have watched with joy the Telecast of the new Network, SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN). What a blessing it has been to my wife and I. It reminds me of the Campmeetings I attended back in the 1980’s. I would travel many miles to see the meetings. I watch each night depending on what time I get home from work. The music and worship are so beautiful, and the Message is timely for the times we are living in. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for what God is doing. May He continue to bless, strengthen, and uphold the Ministry and all those involved.

Georgia

I have been watching SonLife Broadcasting Network, and I have accepted the Lord Jesus! Praise God! Thank God! You all have taught me and my family so many things, and I understand more about God, and Jesus and God’s Plan for us more than ever before in my 33 years of life. Thank you and keep it up! We love all the programs.

Georgia

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I watch your Telecast daily, and prior to SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) I watched and recorded your telecast on Sundays and daily. I have watched Jimmy Swaggart since I was 19 years old, and was so happy to see I could have the opportunity to see him again. There is not a church, it seems like, anymore that really preaches the Word like your Ministry does. I order a lot of your products, and have your Expositor’s Study Bibles and all of your Jimmy Swaggart Commentaries, and Study Guides. I have bought your Bibles by the dozen and have given them out to others, and also purchased the Crossfire Bibles for my children. Your Telecast means so much to me, your preaching and the anointed Word and the presence of the Holy Spirit that I feel watching your Telecast is unexplainable. Thank you so very much for being there and preaching the uncompromised Word of God. You are truly a blessing to all that have the privilege to be a part of your Ministry and be touched by such anointed people who truly love spreading the Gospel.

California

Dear Brother Swaggart,

The first time I heard you I was about four years old, and my grandmother had turned the radio on because she listened to you. The family has loved you and prayed for you to preach to the world. We are blessed, and every time the TV is on it is on SonLife Broadcasting Network. We love you all for your stand on Jesus and the Cross, and the Blood that our Saviour gave to wash all our sins away! I can feel and sense the Holy Spirit in your shows. Brother Jimmy, you had a lot to do with my Salvation, glory to God!

North Carolina

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I have been pastoring a church in India for the past 27 years. I am so blessed by your Song Ministry. I used to watch your Videos 25 years back with my little children, and I used to sing your songs and minister. Now I have a dish and I watch your programs on SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) every day, and I’m so excited to see you serving the Lord at this age with more anointing and strength. It encourages me to do ministry with more zeal for Jesus!

India

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I have been watching SonLife Broadcasting Network, and I have accepted the Lord Jesus! What a blessing it has been to my wife and I. It reminds me of the Campmeetings I attended back in the 1980’s. I would travel many miles to see the meetings. I watch each night depending on what time I get home from work. The music and worship are so beautiful, and the Message is timely for the times we are living in. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for what God is doing. May He continue to bless, strengthen, and uphold the Ministry and all those involved.

Georgia

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Georgia

WE LOVE YOU ALL FOR YOUR STAND ON JESUS AND THE CROSS, AND THE BLOOD THAT OUR SAVIOUR GAVE TO WASH ALL OUR SINS AWAY! I CAN FEEL AND SENSE THE HOLY SPIRIT IN YOUR SHOWS.

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I watch your Telecast daily, and prior to SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) I watched and recorded your telecast on Sundays and daily. I have watched Jimmy Swaggart since I was 19 years old, and was so happy to see I could have the opportunity to see him again. There is not a church, it seems like, anymore that really preaches the Word like your Ministry does. I order a lot of your products, and have your Expositor’s Study Bibles and all of your Jimmy Swaggart Commentaries, and Study Guides. I have bought your Bibles by the dozen and have given them out to others, and also purchased the Crossfire Bibles for my children. Your Telecast means so much to me, your preaching and the anointed Word and the presence of the Holy Spirit that I feel watching your Telecast is unexplainable. Thank you so very much for being there and preaching the uncompromised Word of God. You are truly a blessing to all that have the privilege to be a part of your Ministry and be touched by such anointed people who truly love spreading the Gospel.

California
THANK GOD JIMMY SWAGGART MINISTRIES IS AVAILABLE AND CONTINUES TO BLESS, AND THROUGH PEOPLE’S FAITH ARE SAVED BY OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Hello Sister Frances,

We love everyone at Jimmy Swaggart Ministries and watch SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) about 8-10 hours most days! My Mother is 91 years old and is now under Hospice Care. Two weeks ago she spent 5 days in Respite Care. That is a Hospice facility where they care for loved ones so the family can get a break. My Mom really doesn't like going, but she had a great experience this time.

While there, she asked one of the nurses to find Son-Life Broadcasting Network (SBN) on TV for her to watch. They found it, and she was ever happy! Later, as another nurse came on duty, she stuck her head around the door and asked, “What in the world are you watching? I like that!” With a huge smile on her face, the nurse began to clap her hands in the room and into the hall. Remember I said my Mom did not like leaving our home and going to Respite? Well this time she came back home with a different attitude. As she began to talk about the experience I said, “Mom, you just had a wonderful ministry at Respite. I believe God places us in the right place at the right time. Who knows, that nurse may have gotten Saved that day. God placed you there that day!” Mom smiled big, “She sure may have. Wouldn’t that be wonderful if she did? And it’s hard to tell how many people she will tell about Jimmy Swaggart!” Other people in the facility also commented on how beautiful the music was and the difference in the feeling they got listening to the choir sing. Thank God Jimmy Swaggart Ministries is available and continues to bless, and through people’s Faith are Saved by our Lord Jesus Christ. Thank you for your program Sister Frances, as we enjoy watching and listening to the discussions.

WE ENJOY ALL THE PROGRAMS, AND WITHOUT A DOUBT THE SINGERS AND MUSICIANS ARE THE MOST ANOINTED I HAVE EVER HEARD

Dear Brother Swaggart,

Let me begin by saying that my husband and I are Family Worship Center Media Church members, and have been ever since you began airing SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) on DirecTV. We love being a part of the “live” Services on Sunday and Wednesday nights. We enjoy all the programs, and without a doubt the singers and musicians are the most anointed I have ever heard.

My husband and I went through a tremendous down-fall in our finances in 2008 and 2009. My husband retired from a job he had for 30 years to come and work with me in a mortgage broker’s office that I had opened with a partner 3 years before. We were doing well until the financial crisis hit, along with other circumstances that caused us to have to close the business and then neither of us had income for almost 9 months. I was able to finally get a job at a housing counseling company, which led to working for a major bank. With my income we were able to keep our home of 30 years, and start building our life back. My husband and I are still believing that God will bless him with an income. We cannot believe how the income that I bring in covers all the bills and still have something left over at the end of the month. We only know that since we have been giving to SBN, our bills are paid and our pantry and cabinets are filled!

I CAN HONESTLY TELL YOU I DON’T WATCH ANY SECULAR TV PROGRAMMING . . . I ONLY WATCH SBN!

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I would like to share with you that about six weeks ago, the Holy Spirit changed my TV Channel to SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) – twice! I have not changed the channel since. It's on 24/7, and I can’t tell you how much I love it! I never turn it off. I was already withdrawing from television as the Lord was leading me. I can honestly tell you I don’t watch any secular TV programming whatsoever! I only watch SBN! I can’t thank you all enough. I pray the Lord continues to pour out His Blessings upon this, His Ministry.

I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR QUESTION AND ANSWER PROGRAM, FRANCES AND FRIENDS . . . IT IS A BLESSING . . .

Dear Sister Frances,

I am 75 years old and I have been watching you all for at least 40 years. I feel like I know you, and love you all dearly. I want to thank you for your question and answer program, Frances and Friends, as it is a blessing to whoever hears or sees it. I watch on my computer twice a day. Keep up the good work.

MY HUSBAND, A BORN-AGAIN BELIEVER . . . THROUGH YOUR MINISTRY AND THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS GOD HAS DELIVERED HIM FROM OVER 16 YEARS OF ALCOHOL ADDITION

Dear Brother Swaggart,

My husband, a Born-again Believer for most of his adult life, told me to mention how through your Ministry and the Message of the Cross God has delivered him from over 16 years of alcohol addiction. As a family we suffered in silence, our church family would not have understood. But I thank God, Brother Jimmy understood and I thank God He gave Jimmy Swaggart Ministries the Message of the Cross.

Missouri
Christ and His Finished Work and, in response, God extends Grace to the believing sinner or Saint. What is true at Salvation regarding the reception of Grace remains true for the Saint who must have God’s Help to live a Holy and Righteous Christian life. Romans 5:2 says, “. . . we have access by Faith into this Grace wherein we stand. . . .” We must experience every aspect of God’s Grace in order to experience every aspect of our Christian life. The problem at Corinth was that some were abusing the Grace of God and misconstruing its purpose. Grace is not the freedom to sin all we want! Grace represents the power by which we are freed from the penalty and power of the sin that confronts all of us while living in this present world. Thank God for His Word that proclaims in Romans 5:20 that “. . . where sin abounded, Grace did much more abound.” Therefore, Grace, not law, is the means to overcoming the problem of sin. This is a dynamic truth. No measure of man’s labor, work, righteous routine, or sciences falsely so-called can free men from the penalty for sin or the power of the sinful nature. No “Law” can provide men...
with forgiveness from acts of sin and freedom from the power of the sin nature. Only Grace can provide this freedom. Therefore, I am not under the spiritual principles of law (speaks of trusting in one’s own efforts to extricate oneself from sin) but am under the Spiritual Principles of Grace. Grace is received when my Faith rests upon Christ, His Person, and His Work. The true message of Grace is not a message that brings freedom to sin, but it is a message that supplies the Believer with power not to sin.

THE BELIEVER IS NOT UNDER LAW

Some in Corinth were following every dictates of the flesh, every natural appetite, from food to sex, and were stating that since they were not under law. God’s Grace covered every licentious act they felt compelled to carry out. Let’s be honest. There are times as a Christian that we can desire things in our flesh that the Spiritual man knows is not pleasing to God! To use Justification by Faith as an excuse to justify ungodly action is wrong. So while the Believer in Grace is not bound by the Spiritual Principles of being under law, he or she is responsible for following the moral code installed into the human heart at regeneration! The Promise regarding the new Covenant plainly tells us that this is God’s Plan. Jeremiah 31:33 – “But this shall be the Covenant that I will make with the House of Israel; After those days, says the LORD, I will put My Law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be My People.” Since we are no longer bound to holiness through the Law, we are not under Law. Where there is no Law there can be no charges filed against us. Romans 4:15 says, “. . . for where no Law is, there is no transgression.” Now that I am freed from righteousness through Law or works and all sin past, present, and future is paid for, what creates the standards of right and wrong for me? The indwelling presence of the Spirit in every Believer defines right and wrong for me. 1 John 2:27 – “But the Anointing which you have received of Him abides in you, and you need not that any man teach you: but as the same Anointing teaches you of all things, and is Truth, and is no lie, and even as it has taught you, you shall abide in Him.” Therefore, my first task is to decide whether or not something is expedient.

“NOT ALL THINGS ARE EXPEDIENT”

The term “expedient” literally indicates something that is helpful, profitable, or edifying. As a Believer I must evaluate every action and attitude, every thought and deed, every relationship and all fellowship, and put them through a simple test. Is what I am doing or participating in building me Spiritually or not? If I see that it is not then I choose to voluntarily remove it from my life. When a Believer truly loves God with all of his or her heart, mind, body, soul, and spirit then we should want to please Him more than we want to please ourselves. I want nothing to adversely affect a healthy and profitable relationship with God. Therefore, I willingly choose to lay down any aspect of my life that I sense is not pleasing to Him. I do so through the processes of Faith and Grace. Faith in the Cross brings the Grace that I need to lay down certain areas of my life, so that I may experience the Abundant Life that Christ Promised.

CAMPMEETING SESSIONS

Don’t fail to be with us at the upcoming Easter Campmeeting. We will be teaching special pre-campmeeting sessions. The dates and times are below

EASTER CAMPMEETING

• SPECIAL TEACHING SESSIONS:
  Monday, April 14: 1-4 p.m. • 6-8 p.m.
  Tuesday, April 15: 1-4 p.m. • 6-8 p.m.
  Wednesday, April 16: 9 a.m.-12 noon
  7 p.m. Campmeeting Begins

Loren Larson
President
Proverbs 22:6 – “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. (The words, ‘train up,’ mean to ‘hedge up’ or ‘hedge in.’ It is like building a fence around a child; however, what are to be fenced in must be two things: the child and the Bible. This is the ‘way he should go.’)”

As many of you know, Jill and I welcomed our new baby girl, Caroline Frances Swaggart, into this world on October 15, 2013. There has been much excitement over the birth of Caroline Frances in the Swaggart household especially with her big sisters, Samantha and Abby. Watching both girls interact with their new baby sister has brought Jill and I much joy and happiness. Holding Caroline Frances in my arms is such a tremendous feeling of love that it really cannot be expressed properly with words. As someone once told me, “You really do not know what unconditional love is until you hold your child in your arms,” and I can say that he was right.

If there were an important time to discuss this simple subject, it would be now. I can proudly say that I grew up in a Christian home with family members who knew God and who had experienced the Power and Presence of God. Oftentimes growing up, I’ve had those same experiences and feelings myself. Our girls – Sam, Abby, and Caroline – will grow up in that same environment, having the ability to feel and experience the Presence of God, even as children and, quite honestly, there could be nothing better than that.

The Bible teaches parents to “Train up a child in the way he should go: even when he is old, he will not depart from it” (Prov. 22:6). These words, penned by the Holy Spirit, but given to Solomon, are of extreme importance even now. The words “train up” simply mean to “hedge in” or “hedge up.” The idea is that the parents build and place a fence around the child, not to let any strange thing in which could bring harm to that child. As a parent, protection – both physical and spiritual – is vital. Of course, we are speaking of raising that child in the Ways of the Lord. When a child is “trained up” in the Ways of the Lord, which is by the Bible, and that child is faced with the temptations and seductions of this world, that child will not depart from its training. In reality, parents do hold the future and fate of their child in the palms of their hands. Jill and I have the responsibility of making sure that all three of our girls have an opportunity to allow the Holy Spirit to Work in our home and in their lives and that they will make the same decision we made in making Jesus Christ the Lord of our lives.
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PARENTS

Parents today have a tremendous responsibility, but it seems that most are shirking that responsibility. As the old adage goes, “There are no illegitimate babies – only illegitimate parents.” There is little fear of the Lord in our homes anymore, and there seems to be very little “training up” of our children in the Ways of the Lord. Our children are growing up with no knowledge of God and no knowledge of right and wrong. It seems that it is turning into, “do what you see fit.” As a result of this, there is no respect for authority and no respect for values and morals. We are living in a godless society, for the most part, with children being raised in the ways of the world. However, there are still parents who believe that the Bible is the Authority on all matters, who believe in right and wrong, and believe in a God that still saves, even unto the uttermost.

With every generation that passes, and technology increasing by the minute, Satan is making an assault to destroy this present generation. Homosexuality is becoming more and more commonplace, and abortion is the world’s answer for pre-marital sex. These two sins are some of Satan’s greatest attacks on humanity. Since mankind is God’s Highest form of Creation, it is Satan’s goal not only to bring humanity down, but also to completely destroy it. Homosexuality and abortion are the enemy’s attempts to kill off the human race. Both bring death. Both bring about much suffering, and both are sin.

But even though Satan is making inroads to completely destroy the human race, God is making inroads to bring about a Move of God like never before – for this generation and generations to come. It is our responsibility to bring forth the Word of God – the uncompromising Authority of God’s Holy Word – to this generation. We must train up our children in the Ways of the Lord, and when we do that, we have the wonderful Promise that they will not depart from it.

In Him,

Pastor Gabe

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FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER

Campmeeting

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APRIL 16–20

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BOB CORNELL

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WEBC&S PRECAMPMEETING SESSIONS
(Located in the SonLife Radio Building)

Monday ........................................ 1-4 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Tuesday ........................................ 1-4 p.m. & 6-8 p.m.
Wednesday ..................................... 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.

CAMPMEETING SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
(Located in Family Worship Center)

Wednesday ............................... 7 p.m. ................. Jimmy Swaggart
Thursday – Saturday ..................... 8 a.m. ................. Bob Cornell
                               10 a.m. ................. Loren Larson
                               2 p.m. ................. Gabriel Swaggart
Thursday ................................. 7 p.m. ................. Donnie Swaggart
Friday ........................................ 7 p.m. ................. Jimmy Swaggart
Saturday .................................... 7 p.m. ................. Donnie Swaggart
Sunday ....................................... 10 a.m. .............. Jimmy Swaggart
                               6 p.m. ................. Gabriel Swaggart

ACCOMMODATIONS

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<td>Best Western Plus Siegen Inn</td>
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<td>Renaissance</td>
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There have been many streams of error that have flowed into the church over the last several decades: “The Word of Faith Movement”, “The Shepherding Movement”, “The Purpose Driven Life Movement”, “The Government of Twelve Movement”, to name a few. Along side and in relation to these movements comes one that has subtly gained influence recently, “The Hebraic Roots Movement” (HRM).

Similar to the other movements “The Hebraic Roots Movement” goes beyond the revealed Word of God by claiming, “…the Scripture alone cannot show the meaning within.” Herein we find the first error of this and all false teaching. It always breeds doubt by claiming that its adherents need more than God’s Word to understand Him. Satan used this lie with Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden and he still uses this same fallacious tactic today on mankind. Genesis 3:5:

“For God does know that in the day you eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and you shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.”

The sources of revelation and wisdom in the HRM come from the Talmud, Midrash, Halakhah, and Haggadah. It’s interesting to note that students of Kabbalah, Jewish mysticism, require an understanding of these resources prior to comprehending the deeper esoteric secret meanings of the universe and God, they claim.

What’s the danger with teaching Christian’s their foundation of faith is in their Hebraic Roots? Actually that is a false question. Before the Law was given to Israel and His Children, God gave a Promise to a Gentile man, Abraham.

Abraham was justified by Faith and the Seed of Abraham are they which exercise like Faith. Galatians 3:7:

“Know you therefore that they which are of Faith, the same are the children of Abraham.”

THE SACRIFICE

The Sacrificial system was ordained by God before the foundation of the world, I Peter 1:20, and was shown to Adam and Eve and then given to Abraham and then onto Isaac and Jacob. Israel was to honor the sacrifices because they represented the coming “One” Sacrifice that God would accept. The Law could not be fulfilled by man’s works and was never intended to be. It was always by Faith that God was to be apprehended with the sacrifice being the means that man could have fellowship with God. The penalty of the Law required the sacrifice of a perfect offering. Only Jesus Christ qualified to pay the debt and become the Sacrifice acceptable to God on man’s behalf. When Christ died on the Cross He satisfied the righteous demands of the Law. Romans 10:4 says, “For Christ is the end of the Law for Righteousness to everyone who believes.”

ISRAEL

Paul would share with us the remembrance of Israel of old as they “…drank of that Spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ” (I Cor. 10:4).
No instruction was given by Paul or any of the other New Testament writers to follow Jewish customs or traditions. The admonition to us in the next Verses should make it clear how we are to view Israel with regard to our Sanctification and unwillingness to follow God’s Prescribed Order and Way, Verses 5-12: “But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness. Now these things are our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted. Neither be you idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to drink and eat, and rose up to play. Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand. Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents. Neither murmur you, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer. Now all these things happened unto them for examples: and they are written for our admonition. . . .”

Our Lord Himself made it clear that during the time of His Visitation that the spiritual leadership of Israel was not following the Law of God but after their own traditions. Mark 7:7-9:

“Howbeit in vain do they worship Me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the Commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men . . . Full well you reject the Commandment of God, that you may keep your own tradition.”

NOT SCRIPTURAL

The Mishnah and Talmud are not Biblical or Scriptural! Much of the Midrashic teaching changed the object of Israel’s faith right before the time of Jesus Christ. The leadership was broken into different sects. The Pharisee's and Sadducee's and their interpretation of the Law functioned like the differences of today's modern political parties. The Mishnah precedes the Talmud and was/is considered to be comprised of oral tradition passed down throughout history since the time Moses received the Law from God. According to tradition Moses gave to Israel the Written Law from God but used the oral Law to apply the Written Law upon Israel. This unwritten oral tradition was said to have been passed down throughout Israel's history. After the death of Jesus Christ, Rabbinical commentaries, called the Gemara, were added to the Mishnah and together they later became the Talmud.

MODERN TEACHERS SO-CALLED

Today’s modern HRM teachers mostly refer to Talmudic teaching to explain the deeper truths of the Bible. Hogwash! The Midrash and Midrashic interpretation tend to devalue and pervert the literal, historical interpretation of Bible Scripture and replace it with private, hidden, and even mystical interpretations.

We must also recognize Judaism today has been altered and weakened by their so-called Sages, Rabbis, and Ravs that mixed oral traditional thought, the Pentateuch, and Greek philosophy together.

What’s really behind the HRM are occult principles and themes. New Age concepts are found throughout the HRM teachings. They’re also found in “The Word of Faith”, “Purpose Driven Life”, and “G12” Movements, which have desensitized the church making them palatable for HRM teachers to gain success.

OLD TESTAMENT

In the meantime, I want to point out that teaching and explaining the Old Testament with all its wonderful types and shadows does not indicate a preacher has embraced the HRM agenda. However, if your church begins to see your Pastor wearing prayer shawls and yarmulkes that maybe a sign he/she may be going in the HRM direction. If the Jewish calendar holidays and the Sabbath’s are all of a sudden being followed and are prescribed upon everyone, it’s time to leave your church. In future articles I will explain the other dangers of the HRM and how they are harming the church. If it’s not Jesus Christ and Him Crucified it’s not the Gospel. 🙄

(This article was originally printed in December, 2010.)
MERRY CHRISTMAS

First of all, I want to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas, and, to be sure, if the Lord Jesus Christ lives within your heart and life, then it’s a good Christmas, whatever else there may be.

Incidentally, as it regards the Bibles, the books, the CD’s, etc., these would make some of the greatest Christmas gifts in the world. It would be something worthwhile, and at the same time, will keep Christ in Christmas. As it regards Bibles, music, books, etc., which we have, I think is some of the best in the world of its kind. Take full advantage of it, and you will not be disappointed and the recipients will not be disappointed as well.

LOOK WHAT THE LORD HAS DONE

By the time you read this, we should be covering at least two-thirds if not more of the U.S.A. with the SONLIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK. As well, we are subtitling into Russian to approximately 100 million people in that great country, plus other nations bordering Russia. As well, in Sao Paula, Brazil, we are either subtitling, or translating by voice into that vast area, of some 19 million homes, which translates into more than 50 million people. In fact, the Lord is opening up doors all over the world. By the time you read this, we should be airing in Hong Kong, China, plus Macau. There, we will be either doing voice or subtitling as well.

The Lord has told me to place the Programming in every city of the world that will accept it. And, of course, the Lord is working overtime to move upon these particular places to open the door wide. As a result, we are seeing doors opened in places where we have been told it’s impossible to broadcast the Gospel. We give the Lord all the praise and all the glory.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT

All of this, which the Lord has told us to do, and which we are trying with all of our strength to do, and as Paul said, “not to be disobedient to the Heavenly Vision,” we could not do any of it without you. Somehow I want the Lord to reveal to you just how important you are to this Work.

I personally believe that this is the greatest Move of God as it regards this present time. I believe THE MESSAGE OF THE CROSS is the Message of the hour, actually what the Holy Spirit is now saying to the Churches. So, I’m asking you, rather, I’m depending on you each month to do the very best you can do prayerfully and financially to help us with this worldwide task. What a privilege that we have! What an honor that we have been awarded by the Lord regarding the privilege of carrying out this Move of God all over the world.

ONE MORE WORD

We have more than 30,000 people who are members of FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER MEDIA CHURCH. To be sure, we consider you the strength of this Work for God. We add over 100 names every week, and these names mean so very, very much to us.

There’s only one requirement to join, and that is to be “Born-Again.” But yet, as you well know, it takes money to bring the Services to you, and the entirety of the programming all over the world, right into your home, your heart, and your life. So, we ask that you would be
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JANUARY 3-5, 2014 – GOLDSBORO, NC
Pastor Tony Kopanski
Ray of Hope PFWB Church
1331 W. New Hope Rd., Goldsboro, NC 27533
919-736-2624 or 252-361-0596 (Pastor’s Cell)
tonykopanski@yahoo.com
  Friday: 7 PM
  Saturday: 7 PM
  Sunday: 10:30 AM & 6 PM

JANUARY 9-10, 2014 – BRAZIL
Pastor Goes Ferreira Jecer
Canaan Assembly of God
Av Pedro Ramalho, 5454
Neighborhood: Passare`
Brazil, Fortaleza-Ceara`
CEP: 60743-015
(5585) 8694-7806 OR (5585) 3487-5012
  Thursday: 7 PM
  Friday: 7 PM

JANUARY 24-26, 2014 – SPARTANBURG, SC
Pastor Scott Corbin
Truth Chapel World Evangelism Fellowship Church
5310 South Pine Street, Spartanburg, SC 29302
864-585-3006 or 864-573-4351
info@truthchapel.org
***MAILING ADDRESS:
Pastor Scott Corbin
855 Patch Dr., Spartanburg, SC 29302

EVENT LOCATIONS:
  Fri & Sat: District 3 Community Auditorium at Broome High School
  Sun: Truth Chapel World Evangelism Fellowship Church
  Friday: 7 PM
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FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014 – ELBOW LAKE, MN
Pastor Mike Cieniawski
Victory In Life Church
24 Central Ave. (the Church on Main Street)
Elbow Lake, MN 56531
(218) 685-6870 • drmcien@gmail.com
www.victoryinlife.org
***MAILING ADDRESS:
18 1st Ave. NW, Elbow Lake, MN 56531
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FEBRUARY 21-23, 2014 – BARRANQUILLA, COLUMBIA
Pastor Alfonso Correa Gonzalez
Centro Familiar De Adoracion (FAMILY WORSHIP CENTER)
Calle 80 NO 42E 256, BARRANQUILLA
+57-5-3570896 or +57-300-6150985
info@cefaa.org
  Friday: 7 PM
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  Sunday: 10 AM & 5 PM

David Borg

Office: 225-768-3890 | Email: davidborg@jsm.org

Pastor Willie F. Miller
Faith Hope Love Christian Church
404 North Dunbridge Road, Bowling Green, OH 43402
419-517-3138
www.livingthecrosslife.org
  Friday: 7 PM
  Saturday: 7 PM
  Sunday: 10 AM & 6 PM

JANUARY 10-12, 2014 – BEAVER DAMS, NY
Pastor Patrick Neyman
Full Gospel Church Catlin
683 Backer Road, Beaver Dams, NY 14812
607-739-9579
  Friday: 7 PM
  Saturday: 7 PM
  Sunday: 11 AM & 6:30 PM
DECEMBER 6-8, 2013 – GRENADE, MS
Pastor Farrell Wilson
Lighthouse Church
1004 Highway 7th North (Use exit 211 on I-55)
Grenada, MS 38901
662-294-0608
  Friday:  7 PM
  Saturday:  10 AM - 12 PM - Teaching Session
  Saturday:  6 PM
  Sunday:  11 AM

Bob & Sharon Cornell
Office: 225-768-3887 | Email: bobc@jsm.org

JANUARY 9-11, 2014 – ODessa, TX
Pastor John Van Hoose
Bethel Assembly of God
319 East 42, Odessa, TX 79762
432-366-6124 • revjohnvh@gmail.com
www.bethelodessa.org
  Friday:  7 PM
  Saturday:  10 AM
  Saturday:  6 PM
  Sunday:  10 AM

MARCH 7-9, 2014 – QUEEn CITY, TX
Pastor Curtis Hutchinson
CrossWay Church
610 Hwy 59, Queen City, TX 75572
903-799-7181 • www.thecrosswaychurch.com
  Friday:  7 PM
  Saturday:  10 AM - 12 PM (Teaching)
  Saturday:  6 PM
  Sunday:  10 AM

APRIL 4-6, 2014 – MOINACA, PA
Pastor David and Wanda Grove
The Church of the Redeemed of Beaver Valley
Senior Citizen Center
Beaver Valley Mall Unit 284, Monaca, PA 15061
724-709-8368 • wonbyfaith@comcast.net
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