The Holy Spirit Works exclusively within the parameters of the Finished Work of Christ (1 Cor. 1:18)
A Testimony Of Love & Grace  
The Story Of The Conversion Of Loren Larson
- There is no Gospel as powerful as a personal Testimony.
- Loren Larson’s conversion is an example of what the Lord can do in a heart and a life.
- Every Believer needs to hear this. You will see yourself in many of the things that you hear. As well, you will see the Power of God, and nothing is greater than that.

I Will Build Your House
- Praise & Worship
- When He Calls I’ll Fly Away/Gonna Be Gone
- Sermon: I Will Build Your House

The Road To Unlimited Victory
This Message preached by Loren Larson is a must for every Believer. The idea is this: unless we understand God’s Prescribed Order of Victory, which is the Cross of Christ, we simply cannot walk in victory.
This Message will put you on the right road.
Includes the Praise & Worship:
- Draw Me Lord/Tongues and Interpretation/His Name Is Wonderful/His Name Is As Ointment

Willful Ignorance
This is a Message that every single Believer needs to hear. The Church is facing the absolute necessity of making a decision as it regards the Message of the Cross. The Lord has only one way, one Prescribed Order, and that way is, “Jesus Christ and Him Crucified.”
When the Lord sees fit to give a Word to His People, His People need to hear that Word. That Word is found in this message, “Willful Ignorance”.

From This Day . . . I Will Bless You
- This is more than a Message — it is a Revelation!
- This Message is taken from Hag-gai 2:19 and, according to the Revelation, you can have its benefits.
- The Lord wants to bless His Children, but there are conditions to be met.
- For those who desire God’s best, this Message is a must!
As stated, it is a Revelation.

The Promise
- There is a testing time between the Promise of God and its fulfillment.
- This testing time is failed by many, who, thereby, fail to receive the Promise.
- Abraham is a prime example of this testing, which, in fact, comes to every Believer.
- This Message is a must for those who desire to know God’s Ways and desire to follow those Ways, which alone can bring Victory.

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- What the Bible says about giving!
- A Message that can change your life!
- A Message you need to listen to again and again!
- Song included: People Need The Lord (B.J. Vavasseur)

I give you my word; these are Testimonies and messages that will greatly bless you. This I guarantee.
ARTICLES

4  “PAUL’S EARLY YEARS” – PART II
by Jimmy Swaggart

12  “THE WILLFUL SIN”
by Frances Swaggart

16  “TO SET AT LIBERTY THEM WHO ARE BRUISED”
by Donnie Swaggart

26  WORLD EVANGELISM
BIBLE COLLEGE AND SEMINARY
“A GOOD TIME FOR CHANGE”
by Loren Larson

28  CROSSFIRE YOUTH MINISTRIES
“THE TRUE BIBLICAL BASIS FOR MUSIC
IN THE CHURCH”
by Gabriel Swaggart

32  “HEBRAIC MADNESS IN CHRIST’S
CHURCH” – PART II
by John Rosenstern

34  FROM ME TO YOU
by Jimmy Swaggart

7  SonLife Radio Programming & Stations

19  SonLife Broadcasting Network
TV Stations & Programming

24  Letters From Our Audience

30  Campmeeting

42  JSM Minister’s Schedule

THE COVER
January 2014 – Volume 48 – Number 1
Happy New Year
Caroline Frances Swaggart

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FULL OF FAITH AND POWER

“And Stephen, full of faith and power (speaks of a great knowledge of the Word of God, and of the Holy Spirit controlling this man, and, thereby, using him), did great wonders and miracles among the people (these things were Divinely done).

“Then there arose certain of the Synagogue, which is called the Synagogue of the Libertines (speaks of Jews who had been taken as slaves to Rome or elsewhere in the Roman Empire, but now had been set free, consequently coming back to Jerusalem; they had a Synagogue in Jerusalem, and perhaps several. In fact, at that time, the Rabbis stated there were 480 Synagogues in Jerusalem), and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia (pertains to each one of these groups of Jews who had a Synagogue in Jerusalem), disputing with Stephen (it is thought by some that Paul, then known as Saul, was the leading disputer against Stephen; he could have been associated with the Synagogue that pertained to Cilicia, as Tarsus, the hometown of Paul, was in that region).”

PAUL AND STEPHEN?

“And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spoke (if it was Paul who led the dispute against Stephen, it would have been most interesting, considering that Paul was the hope of the Pharisees at that time and, therefore, reputed to have great knowledge of the Law; the difference is that the Holy Spirit anointed Stephen!).

“Then they suborned men (they planned and formed a scheme together, which held no validity or truth), which said, We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses, and against God (concerns their concocted scheme).

“And they stirred up the people, and the Elders, and the Scribes (refers to the lies they told and kept telling respecting Stephen), and came upon him, and caught him, and brought him to the Council (refers to them getting permission from the Sanhedrin to arrest Stephen, which they did), “And set up false witnesses, which said (proclaims the similarity of Stephen’s trial with that of our Lord), This man ceases not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the Law (this was their charge, which was false):

“For we have heard him say (represents a distortion of what Stephen had probably said; they probably based their accusation upon some semblance of Truth, but totally distorted its meaning), that this Jesus of Nazareth (said in such a way as to be most contemptuous) shall destroy this place (probably referred to the Words said by Jesus in the Olivet discourse [Mat. 24:2]), and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us (it is true that the customs were to be changed as a result of the New Covenant and, in fact, were meant to be changed).

“And all who sat in the Council (Sanhedrin), looking steadfastly on him (gazed intently, and for purpose and reason), saw his face as it had been the face of an Angel (pertains to the Glory of the Lord shining on the face of Stephen)” (Acts 6:8-15).

THE MESSAGE

Looking at Stephen and the Message he delivered to the Sanhedrin, which was, no doubt, similar to the ones he was delivering in the synagogues, we learn from this how different was his preaching from that of the Twelve, and how much earlier he had arrived at the true appreciation of the Words of Jesus respecting the extent and nature of His Kingdom. Concerning that, Farrar said, “That which, in the mind of Peter, was still but a grain of mustard seed, sown in the soil of Judaism, had
already grown, in the soul of Stephen, into a mighty tree.”5 The truth is, the Twelve were still lingering in the portals of the synagogue. For them the new wine of the Kingdom of Heaven had not yet burst the old wine-skins. There is no trace up to this time that they ever dreamed of the abrogation of the Law of Moses or the free admission of uncircumcised Gentiles into a full equality of Spiritual privileges. At this time, anyone who held back from the seal of the Covenant made to Abraham, which speaks of circumcision, would not be regarded as a full Believer any more than he would be regarded as a full Jew.

If indeed the early Believers had never advanced beyond this position, Christianity might have been regarded to the last as nothing more than a phase of Phariseeism, heretical for its acceptance of a crucified Messiah, but worthy of honor for its devotion to Spiritual Life. But had Christianity never been more than this, then it would have died aborning. The Church, under the Ministry of Paul, would come to know that it was necessary that all Christians, whether Jews or Gentiles, should see how impossible it was to put a new patch on an old garment.

In fact, this Truth had been preached by Jesus to His Apostles, but like many other of His Words, this great Truth lay long dormant in their minds. After some of His deepest Statements were made, in full consciousness that He could not at once be understood, He would say, “He who has ears to hear, let him hear.” And as they themselves frankly confess, the Apostles had not always been among those “who had ears to hear.” As plainly and clearly as it was, as it regarded the Prophecies, which He had addressed to them respecting His Own Crucifixion and Resurrection, the Prophecy regarding the Crucifixion plunged them into despair and horror. In fact, so much so, despite the fact that He repeated this several times, still, not a single Apostle believed that He would rise from the dead. He who commanded the light to shine out of darkness had, indeed, shone in their hearts “to give the light of the knowledge of the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus Christ;” but, still, they were well aware that they had this treasure “in earthen vessels.”

**JAMES AND PAUL**

Jumping ahead, why was James, the Lord’s brother, so highly respected by the people, as tradition tells us that he was? Why was Paul regarded by them with such deadly hatred?

Farrar said, “It was because Paul recognized more fully than did James the future universal destiny of a Christianity separated from Judaic institutions.” He went on to say, “The Crucifixion had, in fact, been the protest of the Jews against this Faith; however, from that moment the fate of the nation was decided. Her religion was to kill her. But when the Temple burst into flames, Christianity had already spread its wings and gone out to conquer an entire world.”6 The truth is, even as Paul faced on a daily basis, it required many years for Jewish converts to understand the meaning of the saying that, “He came not to destroy the Law but to fulfill.”

**THE MINISTRY OF STEPHEN**

As short as it was, I think we should by now understand that Stephen seemed to have a grasp of Who Jesus was and what Jesus did possibly, at this time, more so than anyone else in the world of that day.

As we have asked, was it possible when Stephen was ministering in the synagogues in Jerusalem that at some point his opponent could have been Paul?

If, in fact, this happened, though the Saul of this period must have differed

Continued on page 6
greatly from that Paul, the Apostle of Jesus Christ, Whom we know so well, the main features of his personality must have been the same. He had to have seen something in Stephen that was totally different than anything he had ever known. Surely he felt the contrast between a dead theology and a living Faith. He would have heard preaching that stirred the inmost depths of his troubled heart. For the first time in his life, if, in fact, he heard Stephen, and possibly even debated him, he would have sensed the Presence of the Lord. He would have felt the result of the Anointing of the Holy Spirit. He would have seen, even though he would have smothered it at the time, the secret of a light and joy, and of love and peace, compared with his own condition, which was that of one who was chained to a corpse. The truth is, during all of this time, Paul, despite his great religiosity, despite having studied the Law of Moses under the greatest teacher of that day, and despite devoting his entire life to that of the Mosaic institution, still, this man was not Saved. He was religious but lost, as were so very, very many in the Israel of that day, and including his religious leadership, and especially including its religious leadership.

If Paul debated Stephen, Paul being at that time possibly the greatest authority on the Law of Moses in Israel other than Gamaliel himself, to have lost this debate, considering who Paul was and considering who Stephen was, who was nothing in their eyes, the immediate effect would have been anger on the part of these religionists.

These Rabbis would have been nonplussed to find that the one they were dealing with was no illiterate, but one who rather could meet them with their own weapons, and who could speak Greek as fluently as themselves.

Farrar said, “Steeped in centuries of prejudice, ingrained with perditions of which the Truth had never been questioned, they must have imagined that they would win an easy victory, and convince a man of intelligence how degrading it was for him to accept a faith on which, from the full height of their own ignorance, they complacentely looked down.” Farrar went on to say, “How great must have been their discomfiture to find that what they had now to face was not a mere personal testimony which they could contemtuously set aside, but arguments based on premises which they themselves admitted, enforced by methods which they recognized, and illustrated by a learning which they could not surpass!

“How bitter must have been their rage when they heard this man open the Scriptures, which surpassed even their most learned Scholars. But when Stephen said that Jesus of Nazareth was the promised Messiah, to prove from the Scriptures that all the splendid Prophecies of the Patriarchs, and Seers, and Kings, from the Divine Voice which spoke to Adam in Paradise, to the last utterance of the great Prophet Malachi – all pointed to, all centered in, One Who had been the carpenter of Nazareth, and Whom they had seen crucified between two brigands – to say that their very Messiah had been ‘hung’ by Gentile tyrants at the insistence of their own Priests; – this, to most of the hearers in the Synagogue, would have seemed wicked if it had not seemed so absurd. Was there not one sufficient and decisive answer to it all in the one Verse of the Law – ‘Cursed by God is he who hangs on a tree?’

“Yet this was the thesis which such a man as Stephen, no ignorant Galilean, but a learned Hellenist, who undertook to prove, and in fact did prove with such power as to produce silence if not assent, and hatred if not conviction.

“These men who listened to Stephen that day, with Paul possibly among them, would have at that time come face-to-face with the realization of Jesus of Nazareth, as they had not previously seen, heard, or known. They came face-to-face with their blasphemy, face-to-face with their rejection, face-to-face with what they had done in crucifying the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Farrar also said, “How could they possibly miss the conception of a ‘suffering’ as well as of a ‘triumphant’ Messiah, which might very well amaze us, if there had not been proof in all ages that men may entirely overlook the statements and perfect the meaning of their own sacred Books, because, when they read those books, the veil of obstinate prejudice is lying upon their hearts.” Farrar continues, “But when the view of ancient prophecy, which proved that it behooved Christ thus to suffer and to enter into His Glory, was forcibly presented to them by the insight and eloquence of one who was their equal in learning and their superior in illumination, we can understand the difficulties to which they were reduced. How, for instance, could they allude the force of the 53rd Chapter of Isaiah, to which their Rabbis freely accorded in Messianic interpretation?”

So now, the Pharisees will forcibly take Stephen before the Sanhedrin, the highest tribunal in the land of Israel.

THE SANHEDRIN

The history of the Jewish Sanhedrin is not clear at all points. Traditionally it originated with the seventy Elders who assisted Moses (Num. 11:16-24). Ezra is supposed to have reorganized this body after the exile.

Under the Romans, except for a short period of time, the Sanhedrin had wide powers. It was Julius Caesar who extended the power of the Sanhedrin over all Judea, although during the reign of Herod (37-4 B.C.), its powers were severely curtailed. During the years of A.D. 6-66, the powers of the Sanhedrin were extensive, actually, the internal government of the country being in its hands. But under Herod the Great, its direct powers were, however, limited to Judaea, meaning it had no power over Jesus while He was in Galilee.

After A.D. 70, when Jerusalem and the Temple were destroyed by the Romans, the Sanhedrin was abolished,
### 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)
- **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)
- **Gravesville, 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/Yazoo City — 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** .................... 88.9
  (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
Kirkville, 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

Continued from page 6
with the group taking its place whose decisions had only moral and religious authority.

According to Josephus, and it seems which the New Testament bears out, the High Priest was president (Mat. 26:57; Acts 5:17; 7:1; 22:5; 24:1). Thus, Caiaphas was president at the trial of Jesus and Ananias at the trial of Paul (Acts 23:2). It seems that the High Priest had supreme authority, but this was curbed somewhat later. The appointment was no longer hereditary, thereby, in the lineage of Aaron, but had become political, with Rome making the decision as to who was appointed, which by and large was to the one who could pay Rome the most money.

THE EXTENT OF JURISDICTION

As far as the area of Jewish jurisdiction regarding the Sanhedrin, it varied from Caesar to Caesar. As we have stated, during the time of Christ as far as the area was concerned, the Jewish Sanhedrin had no authority in Galilee but did have authority in Judaea. And yet, at the time of Christ, its jurisdiction in the area that it did control was fairly wide. It exercised not only Civil jurisdiction according to Jewish Law but also criminal jurisdiction in some degree. It had administrative authority and could order arrest by its own officers of justice, so-called (Mat. 26:47; Mk. 14:43; Acts 4:1; 5:17; 9:2). It was empowered to judge cases that did not involve capital punishment. Capital cases required the confirmation of the Roman procurator (Jn. 18:31), though the procurator's judgment was normally in accordance with the demands of the Sanhedrin, which in Jewish Law had the power of life and death (Mat. 26:66).

For instance, in the special case where a Gentile passed the barrier that divided the inner court of the Temple from that of the Gentiles, the Sanhedrin was granted the power of death by Roman administrators (Acts 21:28).

The only case of capital sentence in connection with the Sanhedrin in the New Testament is that of our Lord, but the execution was carried out by the judgment of the Roman Governor. The case of Stephen had some features of an illegal mob act.

TYPES OF CASES

A study of the New Testament will give a cross-section of the kinds of matters that came before the Sanhedrin. Thus, Jesus was charged with blasphemy (Mat. 26:57; Jn. 19:7); Peter and John were charged with teaching the people false doctrine (Acts, Chpt. 4); and, Paul was charged with transgressing the Mosaic Law (Acts, Chpts. 22-24). And yet, the Romans reserved the right to interfere in any area whatsoever, if necessary, independently of the Jewish court. Paul's arrest in Acts, Chapter 23 is a case in point.
FACE OF AN ANGEL

As Stephen ministered in the synagogues, the Holy Spirit so anointed him that the Scripture says, “And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke” (Acts 6:10). So they appointed certain men to go before the high council (Sanhedrin), and there to accuse Stephen of “speaking blasphemous words against Moses, and against God.” They set up witnesses, as well, to further accuse him, and there is a great possibility that Paul was in this group.

And as Stephen was brought before the high court of Israel, the Scripture says:

“And all that sat in the Council (Sanhedrin), looking stedfastly on him (gazed intently, and for purpose and reason), saw his face as it had been the face of an Angel (pertains to the Glory of the Lord shining on the face of Stephen)” (Acts 6:15).

Even though they saw this, still, it had no bearing upon their evil intent. It is amazing how that man can come face-to-face with the Lord, so to speak, see God’s Power manifested in a great way, and still fight against it. That shows the acute evil of the human heart. No wonder that Paul later wrote, “Their throat is an open sepulcher; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips: whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness: their feet are swift to shed blood: destruction and misery are in their ways” (Rom. 3:13-16).

RELIGIOUS EVIL

Religious evil is the worst evil on the face of the Earth. Most of the blood that has been shed in wars from the beginning until now has been religious in intent. All of this stems back to Cain and Abel. The sacrifice of Cain was rejected by the Lord, while the sacrifice of Abel, who followed the commands of the Lord, was accepted. Cain’s reaction was to murder his brother. That spirit has not changed from then until now.

While presently the law of the land does not allow such in the U.S.A., those who function accordingly do the next best thing, and that is to make every effort to murder a person’s reputation with their tongues. Religious evil is always spawned by self-righteousness. In fact, it was self-righteousness which nailed Christ to the Cross. It was not the drunks and the gamblers and the harlots who did such a thing, as evil as those sins are, but rather the religious leaders of Israel. And so now with Stephen, they will continue in their murderous ways.

STEPHEN’S MESSAGE

It is positive that Stephen full well knew and understood the danger which he now faced. These murderous rakes were the ones who had crucified Christ, so he expected no mercy from that source. And yet, even though he was very conscious of the danger that now presented itself, it never occurred to him to try to defend himself in any way. He saw it was the time to speak out even as the Holy Spirit urged him to do so. He was to bear witness to the Kingdom of his Lord. And there is every evidence that his countenance maintained the Glory of the Lord, “as it had been the face of an Angel,” throughout the entirety of his Message.

In truth, the Message that he would bring that day would lead to consequences that changed the Church from a Jewish sect at Jerusalem into the Church of the Gentiles and of the world. It is noteworthy to understand that the Message preached by Stephen and recorded in the Seventh Chapter of Acts is the longest Message recorded by the Holy Spirit in the New Testament, with the exception of the two Messages preached by Christ, referred to as the “Sermon on the Mount” (Mat., Chpts. 5-7) and the “Olivet Discourse” (Mat., Chpts. 24-25). It is ironical that Jesus began His Ministry with a Sermon on the Mount and closed it with a Sermon on the Mount.

Stephen’s Message was, in a sense, a compendium of God’s Dealings with Israel from the very beginning, the Call of Abraham. As it regarded what he said, there was really nothing with which they could disagree because his history of the Nation was perfect as God anointed him.

And then he begins to remind the Sanhedrin as to how the fathers would not obey the Word given by God to Moses. But when he came down to the close of his Message, the Holy Spirit began to move upon him in even a greater way, and to be sure, he pulled no punches.

THE CONCLUDING REMARKS

“You stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears (presents Stephen using the same language as Moses when he conveyed God’s rebuke to Israel [Deut. 10:16]), you do always resist the Holy Spirit: as your fathers did, so do you (everything carried out by God on Earth is through the Person and Office of the Holy Spirit; to resist Him is to resist God, for He is God; they resisted Him by resisting the Plan of God, Who and what was Jesus Christ).”

BETRAYERS AND MURDERERS

“Which of the Prophets have not your fathers persecuted? (This is very similar to that stated by Christ [Mat. 5:21; 23:30-31, 34-37; Lk. 13:33-34].) and they have slain them which showed before of the coming of the Just One (they killed the Prophets who pointed to the One Who was to come, namely Continued on page 10
Continued from page 9

Jesus); of Whom you have been now the betrayers and murderers (is about as strong as anything that could be said; how different this is from most of the modern preaching):

“Who (Israel) have received the Law (Law of Moses) by the disposition of Angels (speaks of the myriads of Angels who were present and were used to help give the Law of Moses to Israel [Ps. 68:17]), and have not kept it (contradicted their claims!” (Acts 7:51-53).

THE ANSWER OF THE SANHEDRIN

As he closed his Message, he could hardly have addressed them in words more calculated to kindle their fury than what he said. Farrar said, “To call them uncircumcised in heart and ears was to reject with scorn the idle fancies that circumcision alone was enough to save them from God’s wrath, and that uncircumcision was worse than crime.”

Rabbi Juda had previously stated, “Circumcision is equivalent to all the Commandments which are in the Law.”

Farrar continued, “To convict them of being the true sons of their fathers, and to brand consciences, already ulcerated by a sense of guilt, with a murder worse than the worst murder of the Prophets, was not only to sweep away the prestige of authority which the people so blindly accepted, but it was to arraign his very judges and turn upon them the tables of accusation.”

PAUL

Now we must understand, Paul was witnessing all of this and heard every word uttered by Stephen, but as to what impression all of this made upon his heart, Luke does not mention, nor does the Apostle himself; but the traces of that impression present a series of coincidences which confirm, I personally believe, the impact that Stephen had on him, of which we will say more momentarily.

ANGER AT A WHITE HOT PITCH

“When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart (refers to the depth to which the Holy Spirit took Stephen’s words, which, in effect, were the ‘Words of the Lord’), and they gnashed on him with their teeth (proclaims their answer to Stephen and the Holy Spirit).

“But he, being full of the Holy Spirit (the second time this is said of him [Acts 6:5]), looked up steadfastly into Heaven (means that Stephen saw something in Heaven which immediately seized his attention), and saw the Glory of God (he saw the Throne of God), and Jesus standing on the Right Hand of God (Christ is usually presented as sitting at the Right Hand of God [Heb. 1:3], but here He is seen standing, as rising to welcome His Faithful martyr and to place on his head the Crown of Life),”

HEAVEN IS OPENED

“And said, Behold, I see the Heavens opened (proclaims Jesus in His Glory as God, just as the Heavens had opened to see Jesus in His humiliation on Earth as Man [Jn. 1:51]), and the Son of Man standing on the Right Hand of God (proclaims His rightful place by virtue of His Achievements and Exaltation to original Glory [Jn. 17:5; Eph. 1:20-23; Phil. 2:9-11; Heb. 1:3-4])” (Acts 7:54-56).

THE FIRST MENTION OF PAUL

“Then they (members of the Sanhedrin) cried out with a loud voice (had they cried out in Repentance, the future of Israel could have been drastically changed for the better), and stopped their ears (means that they no longer desired to hear anything he desired to say), and ran upon him with one accord (all of the religious leadership of Israel were guilty),

“And cast him out of the city, and stoned him (this was their answer to the plea of God for their souls): and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man’s feet (they took off their outer garments so as to be free to hurl the stones at their victim with greater force), whose name was Saul (presents the first mention of this man who would have a greater positive impact on Christianity than any other human being who has ever lived; the death of Stephen, no doubt, played a part in the later conversion of Paul)” (Acts 7:57-58).

THE DATE OF THIS HAPPENING

Actually, there is no date given in the Bible as to exactly when the martyrdom of Stephen took place. Some scholars state that it was A.D. 33, with others claiming it was as late as A.D. 37. There is no way to truly know.

We know the High Priest, whomever he may have been, was president of the Sanhedrin. But the Scripture simply says, “Then said the High Priest, Are these things so?” (Acts 7:1). But no identification is given in the Scriptures as to who he was.

If this took place in A.D. 37, Jonathan, son of Hanan, could have been High Priest at the time. His son-in-law, Caiaphas, stained his hands in the Blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Theophilus, another son of Hanan, was the High Priest who, during the utmost heat of the first persecution, gave Saul his commission to go to Damascus and imprison followers of Christ. Matthias, another son of
Hanan, was probably one of those leading Jews whom Herod Agrippa tried to conciliate by the murder of James, the brother of John, and the son of Zebedee. And then, the youngest son of this man called “Hanan” murdered James, the brother of our Lord. Thus, all of these judicial murders were aimed at the followers of the Lord Jesus, and all of them directed or sanctioned by the cunning, avaricious, and unscrupulous members of a single family of Sadducean Priests.

Let us say it again, there is no evil in the world like religious evil. And I remind the reader again that it was not the thieves and the harlots who crucified Christ, as vile as those sins might be, but rather the religious leaders of Israel.

**THE LAST WORDS OF STEPHEN**

The Scripture says:

“And they stoned Stephen, calling upon God (presents a monstrous offense on the part of his murderers; we must remember, he was murdered by the religious leaders of Israel), and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit (presents Stephen rendering Divine Worship to Jesus Christ in the most sublime form, and in the most solemn moment of his life).

“And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge (presents him dying on his knees, without malice toward his murderers). And when he had said this, he fell asleep (portrays the body falling asleep, while his soul and spirit instantly went to be with Jesus; due to what Jesus did at the Cross; death is now looked at as merely going to sleep)” (Acts 7:59-60).

**A YOUNG MAN WHOSE NAME WAS SAUL**

To carry out this terrible task of murdering Stephen, those who were guilty of this perfidious act had taken off their garments, and they laid them “at the feet of a young man whose name was Saul.”

Farrar says, “It is the first allusion in history to a name, destined from that day forward to be memorable forever in the annals of the world.

“Saul stands, not indeed actively engaged in the work of death; but keeping the clothes, consenting to the violence, of those who, in this brutal manner, snuffed out the life of a man whose face looked like that of an Angel.

“Stephen sank in his own blood, but miracle of miracles, his place was ultimately taken by the young man who stood there to incite his murderers. Some months, or even possibly several years after Jesus had died upon the Cross of infamy, Stephen was stoned for being His Disciple and His worshipper; some thirty years after the death of Stephen, his deadliest opponent died also for the same holy faith.”

“I hear the words of love,
“I gaze upon the Blood,
“I see the mighty Sacrifice,
“And I have peace with God.”

“Tis everlasting peace!
“Sure as Jehovah’s Name;
“Tis stable as His steadfast Throne,
“Forevermore the same.”

“The clouds may come and go,
“And storms may sweep my sky,
“This Blood-sealed friendship changes not:
“The Cross is ever nigh.”

“My love is oft-times low,
“My joy still ebbs and flows;
“But peace with Him remains the same,
“No change Jehovah knows.”

“I change, He changes not,
“The Christ can never die;
“His Love, not mine, the resting place,
“His Truth, not mine, the tie.”


(Ibid., pg. 142)

(Ibid., pg. 147-150)

(Ibid., pg. 162-163)

(Ibid., pg. 167-168)
Observe carefully what your pastor is teaching or preaching. Hebrews 10:26 states: “For if we sin willfully (the ‘willful sin’ is the transference of Faith from Christ and Him Crucified to other things) after that we have received the knowledge of the Truth (speaks of the Bible way of Salvation and Victory, which is ‘Jesus Christ and Him Crucified’ [I Cor. 2:2]), there remains no more Sacrifice for sins, (if the Cross of Christ is rejected, there is no other Sacrifice or way God will accept)”

The exegesis is:
1. The willful sin that is spoken of here is the transferal of Faith from Christ and Him Crucified to other things. Here, in this Scripture, Paul would have been speaking of Christian Jews putting their Faith in the Levitical sacrifices instead of Christ. However, it is definitely not limited to that.
2. One cannot move their Faith from the Truth if they have not first heard and received the Truth, which these Christian Jews had. Their sin was a departure from Truth. The Truth is “Christ and Him Crucified.”
3. When one rejects Christ as the Only Sacrifice for sin, there remains no other sacrifice. In other words, one has just closed the door to Salvation.

The phrase, “For if we sin willfully,” refers to several things:
- He is speaking here of Believers who are on the verge of no longer believing. Believing what?
- Of no longer believing in Christ and His great Sacrifice as the only manner of Salvation.
- Such a sin is always a willful sin, because it can be no other. It has to do with the next phrase.
- The Holy Spirit here through Paul is not speaking of other types of sin. Some people have misunderstood this as to think that anyone who sins willfully cannot be forgiven. The truth is, every single sin anyone ever commits is in some way a “willful sin.” No, Paul is speaking here of a certain type of sin, which is the type of sin that can damn one’s soul. He is speaking of turning away from Christ and His Sacrifice on the Cross, ceasing to believe in Him as the Saviour, and, thereby believing in something else. The “willful sin” is limited to this particular type of sin.

RENNOUNCING UNBELIEF

Even then, if the person at a point in time, renounces their unbelief, and desires to come back to Christ, every clue in the Bible is that the Lord will gladly accept them.

The idea is, if a Believer ceases to believe in Christ and renounces Christ and the Cross, and remains in that condition, there is no way that person can be saved. The Sacrifice of Christ being the only way, and that being renounced, the door is closed!

The phrase, “After that we have received the knowledge of the Truth,” speaks of the Bible Way of Salvation, which is “Jesus Christ and Him Crucified.”

I Corinthians 2:2 states: “For I determined not to know any thing among you (with purpose and design, Paul did not resort to the knowledge or philosophy of the world regarding the preaching of the Gospel), save Jesus Christ, and Him Crucified (that and that alone is the Message which will save the sinner, set the captive free, and give the Believer perpetual victory).”

“Knowledge” in the Greek as used here, is “epignosis.” It is not the simple word “gnosis” which is commonly used, but rather something far greater. Delitzsch defines it by saying: “When ‘epignosis’ is used, there is the assumption of an actual direction of the Spirit to a definite object and of a real grasping of the same.”
Paul, by the use of this word, gives us to understand that he means by it, not merely a shallow historical notion about the Truth, but a living believing knowledge of it, which has laid hold of a man and fused him into union with itself.

So, we are not speaking here of sinners having merely heard the Truth and then rejecting it, as many teach, but rather individuals who have heard the Truth, received the Truth, and made the Truth a part of their lives before rejecting it. As well, when we say “Truth” we’re speaking of “Jesus Christ and Him Crucified” as the only answer for sin, which Paul describes again in Verse 29 of Hebrews, Chapter 10:

“Of how much sorer punishment, suppose you, shall he be thought worthy, who has trodden under foot the Son of God (proclaims the reason for the ‘sorer punishment’), and has counted the Blood of the Covenant, wherewith he was Sanctified, an unholy thing (refers to a person who has been Saved, but is now expressing unbelief toward that which originally Saved him), and has done despite unto the Spirit of Grace? (When the Cross is rejected, the Holy Spirit is insulted.)”

The willful sin in this passage, as stated, is the definitive rejection of His Atoning Sacrifice.

TRUTH

I want the reader to fully understand here the meaning of the word “Truth.” Of course, we know that Truth is the Word of God. The Word of God is the only revealed Truth in the world and, in fact, ever has been. However, when we say, “The Word of God” we are at the same time saying, “The Sacrifice of Christ,” for that’s what the Bible exclusively teaches. That is why we keep talking about the Cross, because the Cross is the Truth, even as Truth is the Cross, which is here so clearly borne out. And we must always remember it is the Holy Spirit Who referred to the Sacrifice of Christ as “Truth.” (Jn. 1:14; 8:32; 14:6; 16:13).

(When we use the word “Cross,” we are referring to the “Finished Work of the Lord Jesus Christ,” His Death, Burial, and Resurrection.)

The point is this: there is no other Truth! All Biblical knowledge springs from the Truth of the Cross (Jimmy Swaggart, Hebrews Bible Commentary).

HUMANISTIC PSYCHOLOGY

Beginning in the 1970s, the Pentecostal and Charismatic sections of the Church began to drift toward humanistic psychology. Unfortunately, this drift is now a wholesale acceptance. Whether denominational leaders understand it or not, this is an explicit vote of “no confidence” as it regards the Cross of Christ. Faith in the Cross automatically negates faith in the efforts of man. Either Jesus addressed every single problem of man at the Cross or He did not; I believe He did. You must choose which you believe. If your true faith lies in man’s efforts, that’s what you will find yourself doing. If your faith lies in the Cross, you will not enter those labors. When it comes to the sins, perversions, and aberrations of man, we look to Christ or we look to human wisdom. Human wisdom is that which the Holy Spirit through James called, “earthly, sensual, and devilish.” James 3:15 states: “This wisdom descends not from above (any wisdom that claims Salvation or Victory in any way or manner other than the Cross is not wisdom from above), but is earthly, sensual, devilish. (Whatever its appeal, if it’s not the Cross, it is of Satan. This covers humanistic psychology, plus anything else devised by men, i.e., ‘demons.’) Verses 17 says: “But the wisdom that is from above is first pure (it is found in all its fullness in Christ, and in Christ alone), then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. (These things present the Work of the Holy Spirit, with the Cross as the means and Christ as the Source.)” To turn from what Christ has already done to redeem humanity, and we speak of the Cross, and place trust in humanistic psychology or any other man-made teaching is the “willful sin” addressed here. It includes an individual who blatantly rejects, chooses to ignore, or tries to add to the Cross as the answer to man’s dilemma. In any of these cases, he has abandoned, to his own detriment, the one and only way of Salvation.

Continued on page 14
SAVIOUR

Untold millions in this world presently think of Christ as a Good Man, a Prophet, a Miracle Worker, a great Teacher, a great Leader, etc., but sadly, very few refer to Him as the Saviour of this world. In other words, they place no value in His Atoning Sacrifice—irrespective of their admiration for His personal Goodness or Deeds. But, if they do not accept His Sacrifice for sin they cannot be Saved. There is no neutrality as it regards the Cross. We either accept it fully or we have rejected it. If we claim to accept the Cross and yet turn to other things when the chips are down, we, in effect, reject the Cross as the solution to our problem. Again, let me state, one cannot have it both ways. It is either Christ or humanistic psychology. Man’s problem is sin, and the whole reason Jesus went to the Cross was to atone for it. There is no other cure, no other panacea, no other remedy. Even under the old covenant, the Lord did not teach the Jews any “works” method by which to overcome sin; He taught them Faith and the Sacrificial system. And remember, the sacrifices were only a temporary covering, a Type of their Messiah, Jesus, the Lamb of God, Who would be sacrificed for the ultimate defeat of sin. Yes, humanistic psychology does a great job of describing behavior, but even if you pinpoint every detail of every environmental and genealogical factor which led to a person’s abnormalities and/or problems, the method used to change that person can never amount to anything more than witchcraft. **God’s Design causes His Power to come by way of the Cross alone, so any other “power,” no matter how slight, is a usurpation of His.** Beware you don’t rob the Glory of the Son; it will not please the Father.

THE MODERN CHURCH

This is why we fear the modern church is in such great danger! A large part of the Charismatic world openly refutes the message of the Cross. Some blatantly state their rejection, referring to it as “past miseries.” Others even refer to the Cross as “the greatest defeat in human history.” Their theology has done a startling 180 degree turn from the Truth of Scripture! The Truth is that the Cross was the greatest Victory in human history; it was the Victory over our sins! Still others place the Cross in a subsidiary position and, thereby, make other aspects premier. For example, some make the Resurrection premier, while others, the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. There are a few who count the Cross as almost insignificant regarding even the entire Plan of Salvation. These few are attributing Salvation to a false conception of Christ and His Cross, such as the “Jesus died Spiritually” doctrine. The “seeker sensitive” church takes the approach of placing more emphasis on the needs, wants, and desires of the sinner rather than the Word of the Lord. The felt needs of the sinner are simply placed above the preaching of the Cross. Sin is never mentioned, the goal being to make the sinner comfortable. The sinner’s music is to be played, for example, and nothing is to be said that might offend him. So, to tell an individual he is a sinner, needs a Saviour, and will die in his sin to spend an eternity in hell if he does not accept Jesus Christ as his Saviour is offensive information and, therefore, not allowed.

SEEKER SENSITIVE!

In fact, anything suggesting that the whole human race is lost and depraved is taboo in a “seeker-sensitive” church. Instead, this church focuses on keeping the sinner feeling good about himself and giving him a positive outlook toward life. Their favorite plan for this is to put the sinner in social service to the community (“works”). This way he will feel good about himself for helping mankind and feel that he is gaining salvation. How can we never tell the poor individual he is lost? It is comical that most churches like this, who will not mention sin, will at the same time claim to preach the Cross of Christ. Why bother to preach the solution to a problem they do not even admit exists? This is a telltale sign that the Cross is not really being preached. In fact, this entire line of thinking is “willful sin,” a rejection of God’s Way for man’s way. A perfect example of this can be found in II Peter 2:15-16 which states: **“Which have forsaken the right way (means they once**
knew the right way, but now they have forsaken it; the ‘right way’ is the ‘Cross’), and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor (that ‘way’ is money), who loved the wages of unrighteousness (this false prophet was willing to prostitute himself to secure gold); But was rebuked for his iniquity (Balaam was sinning): the dumb ass speaking with man’s voice forbade the madness of the Prophet. (A dumb animal rebuked the Prophet. Modern popular theology denies this, and so accuses the Holy Spirit of falsehood.)” You see, the only logical reason a preacher would leave the Message of the Cross is to serve his own fleshly lusts, the fact being that more people will support a man preaching a works-oriented Gospel.

**WORKS-ORIENTED FAITH**

Why will a works-oriented message always win the popular vote? Because more people have a works-oriented faith. More people will trust their own religious works before they will trust Christ’s Finished Work at Calvary. Human nature always looks for a way to justify itself. But, God’s Word does not lie. It tells us exactly what will happen to those who have heard, accepted, and followed the “Truth,” then turn their backs on it for any reason. II Peter 2:20 states: “For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (they were saved by trusting Christ and the Cross), they are again entangled therein, and overcome (proclaims the fact that if the Believer ceases to place his Faith and trust in what Jesus did at the Cross, that entanglement in the pollutions of the world will once again become a fact; it cannot be otherwise), the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. (If Believers reject the Message of the Cross after it is plainly given, there is nothing left but destruction.)”

(This article was originally printed in October, 2009.)

**THE PROTECTION OF YOUR ASSETS, YOUR FAMILY, YOUR FUTURE, AND THE WORK OF GOD**

Many people have the mistaken idea that a will is the best legal instrument for the protection and designation of the distribution of their assets. However, by and large, that is incorrect. A will can be contested and is often changed by contentious parties. The very best legal instrument for this purpose is a Living Trust. Call us for further information.

**WHAT IS A LIVING TRUST?**

A Living Trust is a legal document to transfer all of your property, assets, cash, or whatever you desire from your individual name to the name of your Trust.

**WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES OF A LIVING TRUST OVER A WILL AND OTHER LEGAL INSTRUMENTS?**

1. A Living Trust is one of the very best ways provided by the United States’ tax laws to save on taxes.
2. You, the principal, have total control over your Living Trust, and you can change it as desired at any time.
3. A Living Trust can be secured regardless of your marital status or age.
4. A Living Trust is the best legal instrument to protect your family, to insure the distribution of your assets according to your desires, and to benefit the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Why not call our Planned Giving Department at (225) 768-3157 and ask for information concerning Living Trusts?

**PLEASE NOTICE (THE EVANGELIST)**

If you would like for any Christian friend (any number) living in the United States to receive this magazine (The Evangelist) each month, postage paid and free of charge, please send us their name (or names) and address (or addresses). We will begin their subscription immediately. If they live outside the United States, please contact our office for more information.
Luke 4:18 – “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me (we learn here of the absolute necessity of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit within our lives), because He has anointed Me (Jesus is the ultimate Anointed One; consequently, the Anointing of the Holy Spirit actually belongs to Christ, and the Anointing we have actually comes by His Authority [Jn. 16:14]) to preach the Gospel to the poor (the poor in spirit); He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted (sin breaks the heart, or else is responsible for it being broken; only Jesus can heal this malady), to preach Deliverance to the captives (if it is to be noticed, He didn’t say to ‘deliver the captives,’ but rather ‘preach Deliverance,’ which refers to the Cross [Jn. 8:32]), and recovering of sight to the blind (the Gospel opens the eyes of those who are Spiritually blind), to set at liberty them who are bruised (the vicissitudes of life at times place a person in a mental or Spiritual prison; the Lord Alone, and through what He did at the Cross, can open this prison door).”

This particular Verse is one of my favorite verses in the Bible. Every time I read it, I can’t help but weep as I sense the Presence of the Lord.

Dad, in the Luke Commentary, says of this Verse, “This is at least one of the most powerful Passages in the entirety of the Word of God. It not only gives the prospective Ministry of Jesus, but it is meant to serve as an example for all preachers of the Gospel. This, as given here, outlines the functions of the Lord Jesus Christ, not only in His earthly Ministry, but, as well, for all time. These things, He Alone can do!”

BRUISED

This statement, “To set at liberty them who are bruised,” sounds strange to some. How do you “liberate” a “bruise”? The meaning is this. “Bruised” means to be “crushed” and it speaks to the terrible, even horrible, scars upon one’s heart. Circumstances that have crushed someone; a heart that is bruised to the degree that there is no pill or medicine that can bring healing.

This term “bruised” or “crushed” is a perfect description of those who were sexually molested, or physically abused, or both, as children. I believe I can say that presently sexual molestation and physical abuse of children is an epidemic not only here in America but abroad as well. The physical, mental, and emotional scarring of a child who is abused can become a living Hell for those victims as they become adults.

THE LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

The consequences of child sexual abuse (CSA) often follow those violated well into their adult lives. Here are some statistics to consider:
• Substance abuse problems are a common consequence for adult survivors of child sexual abuse.
• Female adult survivors of child sexual abuse are nearly three times more likely to report substance use problems (40.5% versus 14% in the general population). (Simpson and Miller, 2002)
• Male adult CSA victims are 2.6 times more likely to report substance use problems (65% versus 25% in the general population). (Widom, Marmorstein & White, 2006)
• Mental health problems are a common long-term consequence of child sexual abuse.
• Adult women who were sexually abused as a child are more than twice as likely to suffer from depression as women who were not sexually abused. (Rohde, et al., 2008)
• Adults with a history of child sexual abuse are more than twice as likely to report a suicide attempt. (Dube, et al., 2005; Waldrop, et al., 2007)
• Girls who are sexually abused are three times more likely to develop psychiatric disorders than girls who are not sexually abused. (Day, et al., 2003; Kendler, et al., 2000; Voelztaaz, et al., 1999)
• Among male survivors, more than 70% seek psychological treatment for issues such as substance abuse, suicidal thoughts, and attempted suicide. (Walrath, et al., 2003)
• Adult survivors of child sexual abuse are more likely to become involved in crime, both as a perpetrator and as a victim. This is likely a product of high risk for substance abuse problems and associated lifestyle factors.
• As adults, child sexual abuse victims are almost twice as likely to be arrested for a violent offense (20.4% versus 10.7%). (Siegel & Williams, 2003)
• Males who have been sexually abused are more likely to violently victimize others. (Walrath, et al., 2003)

Other statistics to be aware of:
• One-third of abused children will eventually victimize their own children.
• 80% of abused children meet the diagnostic criteria for at least one psychiatric disorder at age 21 (including, but not limited to; anxiety, depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, and eating disorders).
• Abused children are 20% more likely to experience teen pregnancy.
• 14.4% of all men imprisoned in the United States were abused as children.
• 36.7% of all women in prison were abused as children.
• Children who have been sexually abused are 2.5 times more likely to develop alcohol abuse.
• Children who have been sexually abused are 3.8 times more likely to develop drug addictions. (The information listed is from “Darkness to Light,” www.d21.org, and “What Are The Long Term Effects of Childhood Sexual Abuse?” (Abramson Smith Waldsmith LLP, www.aswllp.com.)

As stated, these victims of physical and sexual abuse are “bruised,” their heart and their spirit “crushed.” They literally are imprisoned by their past – but take heart – there is a remedy, and that remedy is Jesus Christ.

LIBERTY

The Text says, “To set at liberty.” The word “liberty” means to “pardon,” which means that whatever has happened to the person has brought about a prison within their life. The individual who has suffered abuse or molestation lives the life of a prisoner, a prisoner scarred and broken. But Jesus Christ is the key that can unlock the prison of the past. John 8:36 says, “If the Son therefore shall make you free, you shall be free indeed.” No matter what vile things have been done to a person, if they will take their “bruised” and “crushed” heart to Calvary’s Cross they will find liberty. There is no hope outside of the Cross.

THE BITTER WATER OF MARAH

In Exodus 15:22-26, we are told of the story of the bitter waters of “Marah.” This story gives us a beautiful picture of what Christ can do.

The Children of Israel, after their deliverance from bondage, find themselves in the wilderness at a place called “Marah,” which means “bitter.” They were thirsty, but the waters of “Marah” were “bitter,” totally unfit to drink.
• The “wilderness” is a type of this world made so by sin and rebellion against God.
• The “bitter waters” is a picture of one who has been “bruised” causing “bitterness of the soul.”
Continued from page 17

- Moses cried unto the Lord, and that’s what we are to do – cry unto the Lord.
- The Lord showed him a tree, the tree being a Type of Calvary.
- The Lord told Moses to cut the tree down and cast it into the bitter waters and “the waters were made sweet.”

Only Jesus Christ can turn bitterness of the soul into sweetness and joy.

FORGIVENESS

After you bring your bruised heart to the Lord, you have to forgive the person who abused you. Matthew 6:14-15 says, “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”

Forgiveness doesn’t mean fellowship or relationship, but it does mean that the person who hurt you no longer has control over you. I have no way of knowing if anyone reading this has suffered the horror of abuse or molestation. If there is one, my heart goes out to you. No matter the sorrow, the pain, the hurt; no matter how “bruised” and “crushed” your heart may be, Jesus Christ came “to set at liberty them who are bruised.”

Calvary is where liberty was granted. Christ took your suffering, your “bruised” and “crushed” heart and He is the only One Who can heal your heart. Give Him your broken, crushed heart and let Him set you free.

Your Evangelist,
Donnie Swaggart

World Evangelism Fellowship was born out of a deep desire of Christians from all denominational backgrounds to reach the world with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was realized that when Churches and Ministries band together under the anointing of the Holy Spirit to attack the strongholds of Satan, much can be accomplished.

This is the reason World Evangelism Fellowship was formed – to channel the efforts of Churches and Preachers from all over the United States, Canada, and the world into a unified, proven plan to reach the lost and dying with the Good News of the Gospel.

The call of God to win the lost is clear. World Evangelism Fellowship is answering that call and we would like to extend an invitation to you to join us. This is not a Denomination, and we pray it never will be. It is, however, a fellowship of Ministers and Churches united in their efforts to reach the world for Jesus Christ.

How do I, as an individual, affiliate with World Evangelism Fellowship?

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### U.S. – NATIONWIDE – SATELLITE LISTINGS

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Continued on page 20
Continued from page 19

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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>STATE</th>
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### INTERNATIONAL SATELLITE LISTINGS

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<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Freesat</td>
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<td>695</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia &amp; New Zealand</td>
<td>OPTUS D2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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<td>Intelsat 10</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
<td>sonlifetv.com for more info</td>
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<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>
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<td>Russia &amp; Eastern Europe</td>
<td>Amos 2</td>
<td>7 Days A Week</td>
<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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<td>Hispasat 1E</td>
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<td>24 Hours A Day</td>
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### INTERNATIONAL CABLE LISTINGS

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Until a channel comes to your area, enjoy your favorite radio and television programs by visiting [www.sonlifetv.com](http://www.sonlifetv.com).
You can already view "live" services and prerecorded programming on-line!
<table>
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<td>Jimmy Swaggart</td>
<td>Family Worship Center - Associate Pastors</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 AM</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
<td>Living Waters w/ Gabriel Swaggart (Pre-recorded)</td>
<td>Life Time Church (Repeat)</td>
<td>FWC Music</td>
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<td>Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics</td>
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### TV PROGRAMMING

Closed captioning available for all programming.

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Letters from Our Audience

SBN Has Inspired Me and I Love Watching It!

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I am 16 years old, and before I started watching SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) I felt like the world was against me. I started reading my Bible, and I have changed my ways. I walk by faith and not by sight. I just wanted to let everyone there know that SBN has inspired me and I love watching it! Thank you very much for changing my life! P.S. Your music is amazing!

Oklahoma

Thank You for Preaching the True Gospel of Jesus Christ

Brother Swaggart,

I just want to thank you for preaching the true Gospel of Jesus Christ. When I first heard the Broadcast I thought you all were a little harsh. I didn’t listen very long, and I told my wife I am not listening to that show, they are too judgmental. But for some reason I couldn’t stop turning on the Program. Then it finally hit me like a ton of bricks. That is the answer and the only answer, Jesus Christ and Him Crucified! People say Brother Swaggart talks about Jesus Christ and Him Crucified too much, I say he doesn’t talk about it enough! You can’t talk about it enough! What a display of love. Thank you for the programming and the Ministry.

Wisconsin

I Praise God for How He (God) Is Using Gabriel for a Time Such as This . . . Brother Loren’s Messages as Well Are Such a Blessing to Me

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I didn’t want the day to go by without expressing how very blessed I was, as I am sure many were, by the Services yesterday. I praise God for how He is using Gabriel for a time such as this. He is in my prayers. As Brother Loren said, “It appears God is using Gabriel, not only for the teenagers, but for us as well!” I have watched Brother Jimmy preach from the time I was first Saved, and God always blessed my heart through him.

Brother Loren’s messages as well are such a blessing to me. When he spoke yesterday about wanting to be a part of a church where we are all transformed into the Image of Christ, well I was just thinking about it and it really bears witness with my spirit that this is the Will of God. We may never be perfect, but we must seek to allow the Holy Spirit to do this work in us that Jesus will truly be glorified. I am so grateful for the day that I was switching channels and came across SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN). No accident, for sure! This Ministry has blessed me more than I can express.

Florida

I Am a Baptist Pastor and I Have Been Privileged to Speak in Tongues. It Happened . . . After I Heard Brother Gabe on SonLife Radio Network

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I am a Baptist Pastor and I have been privileged to speak in Tongues. It happened one Saturday morning after I heard Brother Gabe on SonLife Radio Network. I just want to say that I listen to your afternoon program daily. Thank you for being obedient to the Lord.

Mississippi

The Blood of Our Youth Will Be on Their (Christian Leaders’) Hands at Judgment If They Don’t Wake Up and Set Some Christian Standards!

Dear Brother Swaggart,

Thanks to Sister Frances for seeing the great need for the message that Gabriel preached on Sunday, October 27. I certainly hope and pray that his message will be put on DVD for everyone old and young to see! I have not had a message shake me to the very core of my soul like that in a long time. Our young people are our church of tomorrow, and being taught that that “junk” is okay is very disturbing. The Assembly of God that stood for so much in my teenage days had better think of what they are telling and showing our youth is okay! If that kind of junk is okay for our youth, the next thing they will be telling them is, “Let’s have a pot party and it’s okay if you want to mix in any other kind of dope you want, and we as a ‘Great Christian Organization’ will protect you!” Oh Lord what are our supposed “Christian leaders” coming...
The Evangelist

Pastor Gabriel’s Sermon... You Could Tell It Was Out of Love and Concern for the Youth of This Nation and This World

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I just had to write to tell you how awesome Pastor Gabriel’s sermon was on October 27th. It was the way he did it. You could tell it was out of love and concern for the youth of this nation and this world. He pointed out what all was going on with these churches, and backed everything up with Scripture, and then the last video he showed of hundreds of teens at Crossfire with their hands lifted up praising God and tears flowing down their faces! Then at the end when Brother Donnie prayed for those churches and asked them to please change from their ways and come back to the truth of God. Oh, how I felt the Holy Spirit coming through my TV and filling the room. It was all done with a true concern for the youth, and hopefully opens the eyes of these other churches.

I have been in this wheelchair for 30 years, and even though I don’t have legs, I wanted to run around the house! I felt the Holy Spirit that strong! Thank you for all that you folks do. You have helped me more than you will ever know. Through the books, Bibles, and DVDs I’ve got from you it has helped me understand the Word of God more than ever before. I pray that God will bless SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) and continue to open doors.

South Carolina

Dear Brother Gabriel,

I felt the Power of God coming from my TV as I started to shout tears flowed down from my eyes like I felt in church years ago. We watch the SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) for our church services because you can’t trust what is coming from the pulpits in most churches today. Thank you for SBN!

E-mail

Pastor Gabriel’s sermon was on October 27th. You could tell it was out of love and concern with the wonderful singing and powerful preaching.

South Carolina

Dear Brother Gabriel,

What a great, great Service! I felt the Power of God through SBN. We watch SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) for our church services and obviously have no idea what the Word of God says.

Texas

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I had watched SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) Jimmy Swaggart Ministries for about two years after I discovered it by accident flipping through the channels on DirecTV. I thoroughly enjoyed “The Message of the Cross,” “A Study In The Word,” “Frances and Friends,” and all the other programming and watch them all faithfully. About two and one-half years ago, we left DirecTV and went to AT&T U-verse. SBN was not available through AT&T U-verse, but yesterday I was flipping through the Christian channels to see if there were anything on that I wanted to watch. When I got to channel 580, there was the SBN Bible-thon! I thought it was a fluke, so I kept switching to other channels and coming back to see if it was still showing. I was so grateful and relieved when I realized it was now on a station offered by U-verse. It was a joy this morning to wake up and watch “The Message of the Cross,” as you taught on the Book of Galatians. As I send this message, I am listening to “Oh The Blood Of Jesus” being sung by the Family Worship Center choir. How I thank God for the privilege and honor of having been able to receive once again His Word through SBN!

North Carolina

SBN IS NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH AT&T U-VERSE

Dear Brother Gabriel,

I thought it was a fluke, so I kept switching to other channels and coming back to see if it was still showing. I was so grateful and relieved when I realized it was now on a station offered by U-verse. It was a joy this morning to wake up and watch “The Message of the Cross,” as you taught on the Book of Galatians. As I send this message, I am listening to “Oh The Blood Of Jesus” being sung by the Family Worship Center choir. How I thank God for the privilege and honor of having been able to receive once again His Word through SBN!

SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN)

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I was so grateful and relieved when I realized it was now on a station offered by U-verse. It was all done with a true concern for the youth, and hopefully opens the eyes of these other churches.

I have been in this wheelchair for 30 years, and even though I don’t have legs, I wanted to run around the house! I felt the Holy Spirit that strong! Thank you for all that you folks do. You have helped me more than you will ever know. Through the books, Bibles, and DVDs I’ve got from you it has helped me understand the Word of God more than ever before. I pray that God will bless SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) and continue to open doors.

South Carolina

WE WATCH SBN... BECAUSE YOU CAN’T TRUST WHAT IS COMING FROM THE PULPITS IN MOST CHURCHES TODAY

Dear Brother Gabriel,

What a great, great Service! I felt the Power of God coming from my TV as I started to shout tears flowed down from my eyes like I felt in church years ago. We watch the SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN) for our church services because you can’t trust what is coming from the pulpits in most churches today. Thank you for SBN!

E-mail

WE ALL NEED GOOD SHEPHERDS LEADING US IN THE WAY THAT WILL BRING US ETERNAL LIFE. I THINK THE WORLD OF YOU AND YOUR FAMILY

Pastor Swaggart,

I just want you to know what a blessing you are in my life. I cannot stop watching SonLife Broadcasting Network (SBN), and I thank God for ministers that preach the Word to the people. I want and need preachers to tell me like it is, step on my toes, keep it real with me. We all need good shepherds leading us in the way that will bring us Eternal Life. I think the world of you and your family. I wish Baton Rouge was near enough for me to attend Family Worship Center for Service in person. I can feel the Holy Spirit all over me in my living room with the wonderful singing and powerful preaching.

South Carolina

I JUST RECEIVED THE NEW EXPOSITOR’S STUDY BIBLE... THIS IS WITHOUT A DOUBT THE VERY BEST AND SPIRIT-FILLED BIBLE I HAVE EVER HAD

Dear Brother Swaggart,

I am a Born-Again, filled with the Spirit, Devil stomp- ing, on fire Believer – praise the Lord! I just received the new Expositor’s Study Bible that I ordered off of your Website. I am excited and amazed with this Bible. I have been reading the Word of God many years, and this is without a doubt the very best and Spirit-filled Bible I have ever had. Thank you and God bless you for being obedient to your Calling. You have no idea how the Message of the Cross has changed me. From dope dealer to being a HOPE dealer because of this very Message that you teach! Again, thank you and may God always have His Hand on your life and Ministry.

Iowa

The Evangelist

January, 2014 25
"A GOOD TIME FOR CHANGE"

II Corinthians 7:1 – “Having therefore these Promises (that we can draw all nourishment from the Lord), dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit (when one sins, he sins spirit, soul, and body; there is no such thing as the body sinning, and not the spirit, etc.), perfecting Holiness in the fear of God (to bring to a state of completion; we can do this only by ‘walking after the Spirit’ [Rom. 8:1-2], which refers to looking to the Cross, and looking to the Cross exclusively)."

AN EXHORTATION TO BELIEVERS

Paul appeals to the Believers in Corinth based upon the powerful and magnificent Promises spoken of by God in the preceding Verses. God has promised those who would separate from things worldly, things ungodly, things that are displeasing to Him, that He would come and fellowship with them. He has promised to be their God and bless them as His People. Therefore, every New Covenant Promise can be fulfilled and accomplished in the lives of those who will obey the Command to separate. These Promises and many more are ours for the taking. This Promise of Blessings abundant ought to motivate us onward into a deeper, more pure, and more consecrated walk with our God. I am speaking of a motivation that encourages us to “press in” and “press on” until all that God has for us is realized and all that God has invested in us reaches its fullest potential. Because of all that Christ Jesus has done for me and in me, the bottom line is, I should be ever motivated to willingly give my life to His Master Design. This means that an ongoing cleansing and perfecting should always be occurring in me.

CLEANSE OURSELVES

The idea of Holiness is a common theme when it comes to the true People of God. To be honest with you, Holiness is not an option. The Bible clearly states, “Be ye Holy, as I Am Holy.” We as Believers have the ongoing responsibility to live according to the dictates and the Commandments of God in this regard. Sin and weight that does so easily beset us is not to be given into or just taken lightly. We are not to be dominated by the sin nature or acts of sin, just because Grace is around to abound. God Forbid! Away with the thought! May it never be so! Therefore, much of our attention in this life is to be directed toward our Spiritual condition. Are there things in our lives, in our hearts and minds, or in our spirits that are not pleasing to God? We must allow the Holy Spirit to shine the spotlight of truth upon our beings, convicting us of any connection to things displeasing to the Lord. Although many Christians like to think that areas of their being are “perfected” at Salvation, II Corinthians 7:1 tells us otherwise. The demand to cleanse ourselves of “all filthiness” whether it resides in my flesh or my spirit is plain. It indicates that no matter how long I have lived for the Lord, there is still a ways to go. The Apostle Paul, whom God used to unveil the details of the New Covenant, would say this after 30 years of living for God, “Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:12).

PERFECTING HOLINESS

With the Command to “cleanse ourselves” and the need to “perfect Holiness” being very clear, someone should be asking the question, “How is this accomplished?” Man has forever tried to make himself
righteous through good works. By his deeds he has mistakenly believed that he earned power to perform or earned the reward of righteousness. While works have their place, they are not the means by which cleansing and perfecting can be done. God’s Process is always and forever a process of Grace and Faith. When we locate an area of our lives that needs to be changed, we must submit to this process. Faith is required, for only by Faith can we please Him. But our faith must also be in the provision that God has afforded to us. Therefore, our faith must always be, sincerely, singularly, and consistently placed in Christ. His Finished Work at Calvary guarantees my Victory over all aspects of the world, the flesh, and the Devil. As I daily place my Faith in Who He is and what He has done, the Grace of God (the effectual working of the Spirit on my behalf) begins to take out of me what I don’t need and invest into me that which I require to live Holy. I must not attempt to arrive at Holiness through man’s mechanical means. By that, I mean that we must resist the temptation to try to deliver ourselves through religious works. There is no need for what Jesus already paid for. As we, day by day, hour by hour, and minute by minute, maintain our simple Faith in the Cross, and the Work of Christ, His Spirit continually fills me with His Presence and His Power to live a Holy life. I not only need to be willing to see my need, I must also attend to that need the Bible way. That way is the way of Faith in Christ and Him Crucified. As this new year kicks off, why not dedicate yourself to the exhortations above, and let God live through you in a greater way than ever before!

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

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What I am about to write is not merely my opinion, but rather is based upon the Word of Almighty God. Everything that we do must be based solely upon the Bible, and not left into our own hands. Many will say that the following is my personal opinion, but I want to be perfectly clear that this is not my opinion, but it is what the Bible says.

As it regards the topic of “Christian Rap/Rock/Punk/Metal/Alternative” etc., I want to say the following. These types of music were inspired by demon spirits, and because of such, you CANNOT take that which is inspired by demon spirits, attach the Name Jesus to it, and make it right. When David played before Saul, the Bible tells us that it was the music that drove away the evil spirits. It was David’s music that was Anointed by the Holy Spirit, which drove the evil spirits away. There is no anointing behind “Christian Rap” or “Christian Rock.” Rap music, or the basis of Rap music, as well as Rock, is inspired by demon spirits. You cannot take that which is of the world and put Jesus’ Name to it and make it Holy.

BECOMING ALL THINGS TO ALL MEN

Paul said, “I become all things to all men” (I Cor. 9:22), but that does not mean that we are to be like the world to WIN the world. What that means is, we simply preach Jesus Christ and Him Crucified to ALL men: Jew, Greek, Gentile, black, white, red, yellow, brown, Saved and unsaved. Likewise, we do not become alcoholics to reach the alcoholics. Nor do we become drug addicts to reach the drug addicts. Many have used this Passage of Scripture to justify their actions as to why they have allowed worldly methods into the Church. They believe that they have to become like the world to win the world with ungodly music. Let’s be perfectly honest, not many, if any at all, truly get Saved by these types of methods, and the reason is that these methods are not inspired, or anointed by the Holy Spirit to do such. People are won to the Lord by the Preaching of the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ – plain and simple! When the Gospel is being preached under the Anointing of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit will begin to Move upon the hearts of the people to convict them of their sin, thus being the turning point to bring them to Christ.

WE ARE IN THE WORLD, BUT NOT OF THE WORLD

Also, the Holy Spirit through Paul said, “Wherefore come out from among them, and be you separate, SAYS THE LORD” (II Cor. 6:17). That is clear-cut, and precise. We are IN this world, but not OF this world.

Notice the wording that the Holy Spirit uses in this Passage of Scripture. The Holy Spirit through Paul tells us to, “Come out.” What does this mean? It simply means to get out, to escape, or depart. When the Lord saves us, He saves us OUT of sin, and places us IN Christ. He never saves us in sin, but saves us out of sin. And because He saves us out of sin, He definitely does not want us to go back into that lifestyle. So, to try and use the methods of the world to try and win the world will not work, for the very reason mentioned above.

BIBLICAL BASIS FOR MUSIC

As Believers, when it comes to music, there is a Biblical basis to which we should adhere to and that is simply the Anointing of the Holy Spirit. We need to get past the idea of whether or not it’s this style or that style, and we must focus on the idea of whether or not it is Anointed of the Holy Spirit.

Now, to clarify, the Anointing of the Holy Spirit is not emotionalism. Many mistake emotionalism for the Moving of the Holy Spirit. However, when the Holy Spirit is Moving upon a singer or a piece of music, it
will generate a response from the Believer, or the unbeliever, whether it be weeping, laughing, shouting, dancing, or just being still.

We must understand that nearly every piece of music is either Anointed by the Holy Spirit, or it is anointed by demon spirits.

**HOW CAN WE TELL?**

You may ask, “How can we tell?” First of all, we can tell by simply asking the following questions: “Is this pleasing to the Lord? Will that music lead us into the very Presence of God? Will this music cause a Believer who is facing the very powers of darkness to have Victory?” Music Anointed by the Holy Spirit will usher in the Presence of God, and will bring conviction to the lost, and rejoicing to the Saved.

As well, we should never isolate music at all to say that whatever type of music that you like will not reach the youth, or maybe that the adults will never “get it.” Music that is Anointed by the Holy Spirit will reach ALL age groups, and will minister to ALL age groups. The Word of God is never isolated to one specific age group and will never be isolated to one age group. But, once again, we should not compromise our stance because it is popular with the world or even with much of the Church.

Much of the Church world will laugh at this response and say that we are not up with today’s crowd, or that we are just too “old-fashioned.” Well, I will close with what the Holy Spirit said through the Prophet Jeremiah, “Thus says the LORD, Stand you in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way, and walk therein, and you shall find rest for your souls.” But here is where the modern church is, and is found in the last phrase of that Verse, “But they said, We will not walk therein” (Jer. 6:16).

Talent will only titillate you, but the Anointing will set you free. The Lord is drawing the line in the sand through His Word. Which side are you going to be on?

In Him,

Pastor Gabe

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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

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The Hebraic Roots Movement (HRM) also encompasses Messianic Judaism. Both are, in fact, one and the same just packaged differently in order to deceive more people. Messianic Judaism is merely a stepping-stone for the Hebraic Roots Movement. The entire Movement resembles the Judaisers of Paul’s day. Many Jews who have accepted Jesus Christ as their Messiah are attempting to mesh Grace with Judaism under the Old Covenant. In order to accomplish this, they view it a necessity to perform the Works of the Law, as well as the ordinances, such as the Sabbath and other holy days by combining them with Christianity.

Last month we discussed a prominent error of the HRM; the use of extra-biblical books as primary and cooperative sources of inspiration to better comprehend God’s Word as revealed in the New Testament. The HRM, and many Messianic Jews, teach that the original Gospels were written in Hebrew, or possibly Aramaic, and that the Greek New Testament is a mere translation and in some cases a mistranslation of the Hebrew or Aramaic originals. Some have even gone so far to conclude that Paul’s writings, where he addressed the heresy they teach, were rewritten by Rome and are not authentic. Although they cannot prove this, it is enough to cast doubt in their adherents and, thereby, justify themselves in their error.

Another serious problem in the HRM is they believe that only Jewish converts and/or rabbis can read and interpret the Hebrew texts, which they say are the authentic and correct New Testament. This means you can eliminate the Greek New Testament in the King James Version, and in comes the Judaic version translated by its priests and rabbis.

The HRM casts doubt on the faith once delivered to the church by challenging the very Scriptures we have been given by the Lord. HRM teachers claim Christians can’t fully understand the Scripture until we understand the Torah first. But the opposite is true. The Old Testament with all its Types and Shadows are revealed by the New Testament. Jesus instituted a New and Better Covenant with those who believed on Him. It is almost blasphemous to add back dead ordinances to the all-sufficient Finished Work of Jesus Christ and His Death on the Cross.

The Bible makes it clear the Old Testament was not sufficient and a second one was necessary. Hebrews 8:7:
“For if the first Covenant had been faultless, then should no place have been sought for the Second.”
The “Second” Covenant would be called a “new” one. Hebrews 9:15:
“And for this cause He is the Mediator of the New Testament, that by means of death, for the Redemption of the transgressions that were under the First Testament, they which are called might receive the Promise of Eternal Inheritance.”
Not only was it new, it is referred to as better! Hebrews 7:22:
“By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better Testament.”

The HRM fails to comprehend the Finished Work of Calvary and Justification by Faith. “… Christ is the end of the Law for righteousness…” (Rom. 10:4); “The Law and the Prophets were until John…” (Lk. 16:16); “… the Law was given by Moses, but Grace and Truth came by Jesus Christ” (Jn. 1:17). “Wherefore the Law was our
schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by Faith” (Gal. 3:24).

The HRM teachers, along with many Messianic Jews, strive to remain in the Law and seek to “spy out” the true Believer’s liberty in Jesus Christ and place them into a yoke of bondage again. They have marginally succeeded through twisting and pervverting the Scriptures. We need to understand that if a Believer does not appropriate faith in the proper Object of Jesus Christ and Him Crucified, the Believer will not walk in Victory and will remain a slave to the sin nature. The Law, when observed as a means of righteousness, arouses the sin nature in the Believer and habitual failure is the result. The Believer becomes dominated by the sin nature and Christ will have “become of no affect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the Law” (Gal. 5:4).

The Law was never designed by God to be a means to righteousness. The Law could only expose man’s sinfulness. The Sacrificial system was given alongside of the Law to enable God to have fellowship with Israel (man-kind) and cover sin until Jesus Christ would come and take sin away. Man’s willpower was, and is, insufficient to fulfill God’s Law. “For what the Law could not do, in that it was weak in the flesh, God sending His Own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the Righteousness of the Law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit” (Rom. 8:3-4).

LEGALISM

The motto of the Hebraic Roots Teaching Institute says, “You need to struggle.” They explain the struggle as, “My wrestling is a struggle to discover what God expects of me.” They then define struggle as, “Believers on this HRTI site are encouraged to constantly challenge, question, argue against, as well as view alternative views and explanations of the Word.” In other words, we are to “wrestle with the Word” to get to the truth. Jews worldwide believe that you need to wrestle with the Word and constantly challenge dogma, theology, and views, or else you will never get to the truth. It becomes obvious to see the route the HRM teaching takes the unsuspecting Believer. Their teaching is to open your mind and then redefine God’s Word with their legalized interpretation. They replace Grace with legalism.

Next month, I will address the most troubling aspect of the Hebraic Roots Movement. I believe it may be your initiation into New Age mysticism! Sadly, many Messianic Jews are being deceived by not being told they have to leave the doing of the Law and today’s modern twisted and perverted Judaism, which, by the way, does not resemble the Old Testament at all.

(This article was originally printed in January, 2011.)
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

It seems almost impossible that a new year has rolled around, but it will be here in a few days. The growth that we have experienced in this year of 2013 can be labeled as none other than miraculous. We give the Lord all the praise and all the glory.

I believe 2014 is going to be the best year yet. I am anticipating a miraculous Salvation of souls. I’m anticipating, as well, an outpouring of the Holy Spirit that will be like nothing the world has ever seen before. I know what the Lord is doing in my own personal heart, and the things I’m telling you are not mere rhetoric, but, in reality, I believe, the Word of the Lord.

As I dictate these notes, we cover nearly two-thirds of the United States with 24-hour television, seven days a week. Before 2014 is out, we hope to cover the entirety of the nation.

PRAY FOR AMERICA

Spirit-filled Believers interceding before the Lord for the welfare of our nation will do more good than all the “Million Man Marches” or whatever that one could think. The problem is not physical, material, or economical, it is spiritual. The weaker the Church is, the more the nation slides toward oblivion, and it’s weaker today than it has been since the Reformation.

Among other things, especially world Evangelism, I believe the Lord has raised up SONLIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK to stand in the gap, so to speak. The Spiritual affects everything – the economy, the military, the social position of the nation – literally everything. So I’m urging you who know how to pray, and some of you do, to hold up our nation before God. That’s our only hope!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE OFFERS

We believe the material we offer in this Magazine is some of the best of its kind in the world today. We feel like the music is that which will glorify the Lord, and bless you, the Believer. We feel the Commentaries and the Books will help you to understand the Word of God to a greater degree, and the understanding of the Word is the greatest thing that anyone could ever undertake. The Bible is the only revealed Truth in the world today and, in fact, ever has been. As a Believer, you ought to avail yourself of the opportunity to obtain material that
will help you understand the Word to a greater degree. Anything that will do that is worth its weight in gold, so to speak, and I believe that I exaggerate not.

For instance, we do our very best to offer the Commentaries at a very reduced price. We do this because we want you, the Believer, to have this material that will help you understand the Word to a greater degree. While you may not be able to buy all of them at one time, you ought to get at least one a month until you have the complete set. You should resort to these Commentaries often as it regards the understanding of particular Passages, etc.

To my knowledge, there aren’t very many Commentaries being written at this particular time. So let me say it again, anything that will help you to understand the Word of God to a greater degree, you should make it available to your own study.

Once again, we pray that the year 2014 will prove to be the greatest year for you yet. If you will set yourself to pray with us and for us, to support THE SONLIFE BROADCASTING NETWORK, and do so in every way possible, I can guarantee the Blessings of God upon you. I’m not afraid to say that because I know it is correct.

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The Truth About Catholicism (NEW!)  
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The Truth About Seventh-day Adventist (NEW!)  
- There is nothing in the world worse than a false way of Salvation. Regrettably and sadly, even though there are many good Adventist people, still, its direction is unscriptural.  
- Every Believer needs to know what this particular doctrine teaches. Follow along as Frances & Friends’ panel member, Mike Muzzerall, shows and explains the various teachings of this religion.

The Truth About The Masons (NEW!)  
- Many Believers think that the Masonic Lodge is a Christ-like organization. It isn’t! In fact, the embodiment of Masonic teaching is anti-Bible. This DVD will give you an insight into that which is believed by the Masons and the far-reaching influence of this organization. Frances & Friends’ panel member, Jim Nations, expounds upon this all-important subject.

An Exposé On The Religion Of Islam  
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- Of all the religions of the world, Islam is violent beyond compare.  
- The teaching given in this DVD is a must for every Believer. You should know what Islam really is.

The Truth About Jehovah’s Witness  
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Donnie Swaggart

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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
***MAILING ADDRESS:
Pastor Tony Kopanski
5056 Potter’s Hill Rd., Pink Hill, NC 28572
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
  Saturday:  7 PM
  Sunday:  10 AM & 6 PM

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
  Friday:  7 PM
  Saturday:  6 PM
  Sunday:  10:30 AM & 6 PM

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
  Saturday:  7 PM
  Sunday:  10 AM & 5 PM

David Borg

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

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

MARCH 9, 2014 – MOSS POINT, MS
Pastor Gene Emswiler
Three Rivers Assembly of God
15910 Hwy. 63, Moss Point, MS 39562
228-218-0996 (Pastor), 228-588-2388
  Sunday:  10:15 AM & 6 PM
MARCH 9, 2014 – PACE, FL
Pastor Joey Rogers
Pace Assembly
3948 Highway 90 Pace, FL 32571
850-202-3100 • info@paceassembly.org
www.paceassembly.org
Sunday: 10 AM

APRIL 4, 2014 – MARIANA, FL
Pastor Dennis Tanton
Way of the Cross Family Worship Center
5273 Highway 90 East, Marianna, FL 32446
850-209-9365 or 850-408-4169
edtanton@hotmail.com • www.wayofthecrossfwc.com
***MAILING ADDRESS:
4922 Flynt Dr. Mariana, FL 32446
Friday: 7 PM

JANUARY 5, 2014 – JACKSON, LA
Pastor Phillip Mitchell
Trinity Baptist Church
1920 Trinity Church Lane, Jackson, LA 70748
225-610-2671
Sunday: 10 AM

JANUARY 24-26, 2014 – ATHENS, TN
Pastor Thomas Climer
Family Worship Center
250 County Road 378 (Tellico Ave), Athens, TN 37303
423-744-0774 • www.fwc-tn.com
Friday: 7:30 PM
Saturday: 6 PM
Sunday: 10:30 AM

FEBRUARY 7-9, 2014 – NEW BOSTON, TX
Pastor Matthew Neese
The Gospel Tabernacle
407 W. Walters Blvd., New Boston, TX 75570
903-628-6607 • www.faithagchurch.org
Friday: 7 PM
Saturday: 10 AM - 12 PM – Teaching Session
Saturday: 7 PM
Sunday: 10 AM

February 22-23, 2014 – JONESBORO, LA
Pastor David Walsworth, Jr.
Jonesboro Assembly of God
1490 S. Hudson Ave., Jonesboro, LA 71251
318-259-4095 • www.jonesboroag.com
Saturday: 7 PM – Women’s Rally (Sharon Ministering)
Sunday: 10:45 AM (Bob Cornell Ministering)

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 Session
Saturday: 6 PM
Sunday: 10 AM
Every Believer is referred to as a child of Abraham. Why?

It was to this man that the Lord first gave the great provision of Redemption, which is, “Justification by Faith.” This means that no man in the Old Testament played as great a role as did Abraham, other than Moses. It is over five hundred pages, hard cover, and I would pray that you would take full advantage of it.

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