



# The PARAKLETE

A publication of BARNABAS MINISTRIES, 135 Mitchell Road, Gallipolis, OH – Denny Coburn –Director

OFFICE OR FAX: 740/446-6929, Residence: 740/446-7318

Email: [barnabasohio@att.net](mailto:barnabasohio@att.net), Web page: [www.barnabasohio.com](http://www.barnabasohio.com)

Volume No. 21

Issue 3

May - June 2022

## NEW REVELATION

“God spoke to me and gave me a message for you.” Has anyone ever said that to you? If they did, it more than likely came from a TV preacher.

Is there further revelation given today, outside the Bible? What should be the attitude of Christians toward those who claim “special revelation” from God? Is God giving dreams, signs, and visions to some and not to others? This is an important question and every Christian should have an answer to it.

If these “revelations” say more than the Bible they say too much and if they say less than the Bible they don’t say enough. How can we say the same thing if some receive special messages the rest of us don’t receive?

I have had requests to interpret dreams others have had. The best interpretation I have had to offer was: “bad tacos.” I have to confess I can’t explain dreams other than something they had to eat.

The Sun Myung Moon founder and leader of the Unification Church claimed he was the true messiah and his wife, Hak Jan Han, made the claim marriages they performed were the only true marriages. After they die...no more marriages?

Jim Jones who established the People’s Temple claimed God “told him,” to move his people to Jonestown, Guyana (what else would be a fit name) where 900 died of murder-suicide by him.

In times of Scriptural ignorance, through neglecting the reading of or lack of faith in the Bible, cults and their “revelations” flourish. Such as The Church of Scientology, The Nation of Islam, and United Pentecostal to name but a few and there are many.

There was a marked lack of new cults in the 1800’s because most of America had a basic knowledge of the Bible.

Today, we see a resurgence of new cults due to the lack of understanding of revelation already given, rather than God giving more revelation.

The educated (in worldly wisdom), uneducated, self-proclaimed evangelicals and non-evangelicals are all affected by these “new revelations.” What does God need to reveal that He has not already

God  
Told  
Me to  
Tell you



revealed? Nothing! Man, for the most part, is not obeying or even acknowledging what has already been revealed.

Our curiosity is not to be interpreted as a desire to know the truth. In fact seeking after new signs and visions is most often a sign of rejection of the truth already revealed. Even in the days of the Apostles men sought after new things. Paul’s visit to Athens revealed this. Why were they seeking some new thing? They did not know what was already revealed. They gathered to hear the latest ideas, Acts 17:21. Seeking after some new word from God is a betrayal of a lack of knowledge or faith in what is revealed.

There is a natural curiosity in us about the future. Any book on the subject of the future catches the imagination of the public. Curiosity is never satisfied. **“Death and destruction are never satisfied and neither are the eyes of man,”** Prov. 27:20. Jacob wanted to know the name of an angel, Gen. 32:29. Eve wanted to know all that God knows Gen. 3:6, and the Israelites wanted to see God, Ex. 19:21, 14. Just as the people of Beth-Shemish wanted to see inside the Ark, we today have a natural curiosity to see inside God’s mind.

Not necessarily to obey, but just to know. This curiosity causes us to be more concerned about the unknown than to act upon the known. God has already revealed His plan for the ages in the Bible. The less one knows, the more one desires some “new revelation” to support a weak faith.

Weak faith is strengthened by the Bible itself. **“Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the message and the message comes by Christ,”** Romans 10:17.

There is a fascination in all people when discussing the Bible, but fewer and fewer really read it as the final revelation from God. Many love to discuss what they have not studied.

**“In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son,”** Hebrews 1:1-2

## NEW REVELATION

This phrase, “*these last days*,” is found nowhere else in the Bible and refers to the time of that day to this. Sign-seeking is not new, and we must not treat it as new, but as our Lord did. He said, “*An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign*,” Matthew 12:39.

We have all we need in the Scriptures. “*All Scripture is God breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work*,” 2 Timothy 3:16-17. Notice the last words, “thoroughly equipped.” We need no more but we certainly need no less.

If this passage is inspired by the Holy Spirit, and it is, then I must believe that I can be thoroughly equipped for life by absorbing what is written and need not wait for some “new” revelation.

I am left with one question and it is this: “What does a Christian have to know about sin, redemption, God, heaven, hell, or the Lord’s coming that God has not already revealed in the Bible?”

Grounded faith in the Word of God, as His recorded message, to mankind is what is needed. We do not need some supposed message someone else claims to have heard from God that with no way of confirming it.

Doesn’t it make more sense to refer to a passage of Scripture written by God’s Prophets or Apostles to confirm a message someone supposedly received from God?

All mystery of God is in Christ Jesus and the Apostles delivered it so we may have the full riches of complete understanding. These mysteries were hidden in Christ with all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, Colossians 2:2-3. So just what more do we need to know? The answer is “nothing.”

There are things I would like to know that have not been revealed and I am curious about them. But I am told, “*The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our children*...Deut. 29:29. This sounds like what we heard from our parents when we were children asking, “Why?” They usually replied, “If I wanted you to know I would have told you.” Because knowing more changed nothing.

God has spoken through the Bible. There are things there we need to know. There’s no new revelation.

## PRES MEETINGS SCHEDULED

May 14 – Central Christian Ch. Ironton, OH Willie Purdee

**Denny - Gallipolis, OH 740/446-6929**

Denny is preaching in the a.m. at the C of C in McArthur, OH indefinitely. I will be speaking at some PRES meetings above.

**Danny - Huntington, WV 304/633-5908**

Danny is preaching at most PRES meetings.

## BARNABAS NEWS

Danny Evans will be directing all activities related to the Winter Worship and Workshop in the future. Anything related to WWW must go through him. Denny will continue with all other Barnabas related matters (PRES, The Paraklete, etc.)

The cost of WWW will increase as has everything else. The exact cost will be on the registration cards mailed out with the next issue, July-August. Start now saving for WWW as you would for other things like vacations, Christmas, etc. Any increase will reflect Music Road Resort’s increased costs, not as a result of Barnabas’ desire. We believe that WWW is an investment in the spiritual lives of those who attend.

## A GREAT LOSS

Barnabas has lost a valuable asset in Trustee Roy Sprague. Roy went home to be with the Lord March 18, 2022. Roy touched so many lives as a school teacher, farmer, Trustee of Buckeye Rural Electric Co. and more.

He was a caring person, very approachable, humble, knowledgeable, and kind. He hadn’t been well for some time, but attended every function and served as he could. He and his family have been invaluable to this ministry.

He served as teacher, deacon, elder, trustee, and any where he felt he could contribute, and that he did well and without complaint. He will be missed

## NEW TRUSTEE

Denny Dawes, has accepted the position of Barnabas Trustee. We know he will be a blessed addition to the Barnabas family. Denny has served as evangelist in Pricetown, OH, Williamson, WV, Portsmouth, OH and is presently preaching at Garrison, KY.

He not only has practical experience in ministry but has been blessed with a wonderful and jovial personality.

Barnabas is blessed to have men of character who love the Lord Jesus as our Trustees. Denny will bring a wealth of knowledge to this ministry.

## **- .DOTS AND DASHES FROM DANNY. -**

### **Something lighthearted:**

A man asked me, which is worse, ignorance or apathy?

I told him, "I don't know, and I don't care".

### **SPIRITUAL INDIFFERENCE**

As I journey through the valleys and peaks of this life, think about what influence the New Testament church has had in my life. I have been in the New Testament church since birth and that is a considerable length of time. I have always been involved with the Lord's Church and I don't know any other teachings other than what I have been taught and have learned throughout the years.

During those years I have not always been strong in my Christian life. There are times I am not proud of, when my discipleship was not what it should have been. I had seasons of apathy, I lacked enthusiasm or energy and my emotions were just empty. The sad part of all of that is I was the minister of the local body of believers. During these times I thought about quitting the ministry more than once. However, because of prayer, Biblical searching and the faithfulness of other preachers and friends, I carried on. I am thankful God is a forgiving God and He allowed me to work through those discouraging times.

Something that has become a real concern to me is that I am seeing more and more *Spiritual Indifference* in people's lives. Now we all deal with indifference and maybe more than we imagine. From time to time we encounter things that just don't matter when or how they are done. One way or decision doesn't have more interest or value than another. For example, will you have chicken or steak for dinner? If you like both of these you may just say it doesn't matter. But there are some things that do matter and I believe our relationship to Christ and His body is one of those important areas. Could we possibly hear the call of God but we are just too busy to answer? Have we gotten so focused on our lives and our will that we just don't respond to God when He convicts us. We still love God but our enthusiasm had dropped considerably. God is

good and Jesus is a fantastic Savior but for Him to be Lord of my life, it isn't that important right now, besides I still feel okay in my spiritual relationship.

This *Spiritual Indifference* is robbing the Lord, each person, and the church in a tremendous way. Because of it Christians are not concerned about spiritual things and the prince of this world using this particular time to encourage people to ignore spiritual matters. Matthew 6:33 "***But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be provided to you,***" is a good verse but right now I would rather do what I want first. And Hebrews 10:24 – 25 "***...and let's consider how to encourage one another in love and good deeds, not abandoning our own meeting together, as is the habit of some people, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.***" is a good passage but I don't see the importance in my life right now. It really doesn't matter one way or the other. Again, the devil is having a heyday thrusting *Spiritual Indifference* in the pathway of multitudes of Christians.

I saw the title of an interview by Matthew Lapine online the other day and it was shocking. The title was; "HELP! I've Stopped Caring About God", and I believe this is happening more and more. As a result the church is suffering because of this very serious situation. Spiritual interest in Bible Study, personal growth and holy living just isn't important. Apathetic Christians are so consumed with themselves that there just isn't time for God.

What is the solution? Is there an answer to this *Spiritual Indifference*? An application of Romans 12: 1 – 2, would help. We need to stop listening and watching the world and repent and be transformed by renewing our minds. There needs to be repentance and some serious living for Christ.

People will tell you that they are not indifferent to Christ but their actions shout of apathy. May they recall the warmth they knew when they first became a believer and gave their lives to Christ. Remember satan loves apathy. But "***...greater is He that is in us than he that is in the world!***"

**Danny Evans is an associate and trustee  
of Barnabas Ministries**



## DEALING WITH DOUBT

**TEXT: 1 John 3:19-24**

**INTRO:** At first glance it seems surprising that John interrupts his addressing righteousness, love and truth to deal with doubt. He seems to have a fatherly concern for some who feel condemned. They had a lack of assurance. This could be due to several factors such as introspective melancholy, health, specific sin, or even circumstances. Although there are many causes there is only one answer, and that is knowledge and faith in that knowledge. In other words, faith is the opposite of doubt. He first deals with the “condemning heart.” Second, he deals with the results of that and finally he reminds them of the Spirit within them.

- I. **THE CONDEMNING HEART (vv19-20)**
  - A. **HOW TO KNOW (THE KNOWLEDGE)**
    1. The truth to which we belong
    2. The truth will set our hearts at rest
    3. At rest “in his presence”
  - B. **KNOWLEDGE AND A CONDEMNING HEART**
    1. What to do when our heart condemns
    2. Remember that God is greater than our heart
    3. He knows everything
    4. So who are you going to believe?
- II. **IF OUR HEART DOES NOT CONDEMN**
  - A. **CONFIDENCE**
    1. If our heart does not condemn, we have confidence before God (v21)
    2. Lack of confidence is lack of trust in Him
    3. But confidence (trust) is rewarded (v22)
    4. He gives as a result of our trust in Him
  - B. **CONFIDENCE AND TRUST**
    1. Is seen in our obedience (v22)
    2. Obedience pleases Him (v22)
- III. **WHAT IS HIS COMMAND**
  - A. **BELIEVE AND LOVE**
    1. “Believe in the name of his Son” (v23)
    2. AND love one another as commanded ((23)
      - a. “As commanded” carries specificity
      - b. 1 Cor. 13:4-8
      - c. Agapa (love) is not an emotional behavior
  - B. **TRUE BELIEF IS SEEN BY ACTION**
    1. When we obey, we live in Him (v24)
    2. When we live in Him, He lives in us
    3. When He lives in us, we behave as He would
- IV. **THIS BRINGS CONFIDENCE**
  - A. **CONFIDENCE AFFECTS RELATIONSHIP**
    1. If we feel condemned, we doubt His promises
    2. If we doubt His promises,, we do not trust
    3. When one does not trust in relationship, the relationship is doomed.
    4. If relationship to God is doomed, it is because of lack of faith
    5. “Without faith it is impossible to please God.
  - B. **NO ACCESS TO GOD**
    1. We gain access to God by faith, Romans 5:2
    2. When we lose access to God we have no confidence.

**CONCLUSION:** If we doubt God and His promises, then we have no confidence before Him. If we do not have His promises to hold onto, then we simply trust our own judgements. That is when doubt takes its toll. Our heart begins to condemn us because we certainly know we are sinners. However, as our text states, God is greater than our heart. If our hearts condemn us because we believe in our heart and not in God, who is greater, we lose access to God. Doubt is not the wondering about things we don't know, it is questioning the things we can know by believing what is written for our understanding. It is true that what God has done and what He has promised are too marvelous to comprehend but they are not too marvelous to believe and trust. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding...”Prov. 3:5.

## SELF-RENEWAL

In 1963, John Gardner wrote a challenging little book, *Self-Renewal*. His words are addressed to motivate the renewal of societies and organizations, and he is not writing as a Christian. But he too is concerned with the second-generation syndrome, and his words deserve to be examined.

“The renewal of societies and organizations can go forward only if someone cares. Apathy and lowered motivation are the most widely noted characteristics of a civilization on the downward path. Apathetic men accomplish nothing. Men who believe in nothing change nothing for the better. They renew nothing and heal no one, least of all themselves. Anyone who understands our situation at all knows that we are in little danger of failing through lack of material strength. If we falter it will be failure of heart and spirit.”

Barnabas Ministries appreciates the following  
memorial gift in memory of  
**ROY SPRAGUE**  
By Central Christian Church, Gallipolis, OH  
By Danny and Cindi Evans (PRES)  
By Phil and Debbie Fisher

### MINI THOUGHTS

If your faith can't get you to Sunday School, don't count too heavily on it getting you to Heaven

Religion may polish, but only Christ can cleanse.

When swept off your feet, better get on your knees.

We have heard of people trusting God too little, but have you ever heard of someone trusting Him too much?

An atheist is like a man who builds a house with no windows and then blames God because he has to live in the dark.

### I FORGOT MY LORD IN THE SUMMER

I forgot my Lord in the summertime,  
Just the time I was needing Him the most.  
I was not away, but on the Lord's Day  
I just failed to be at my post

I forgot the Church in the summertime,  
As I lazily lay in my bed.  
While the faithful few had my work to do,  
And I was spiritually dead.

If my Lord should come in the summertime,  
When from duty to God I'm free...  
Wonder what I'll do, when my life is thru –  
If by chance, He should forget me?

-Author Unknown

# BARN-a-book (a Barnabas Ministries study series)

## A series of studies in encouragement by Denny Coburn

### Study Number One Hundred Twenty-two – We Have a Home in Heaven

Have you ever thought about how a Christian can be encouraged by the truth that they have a home in heaven. We don't know if tomorrow will be better than today, but we should know that our future home will be better than any day here on earth. Our salvation not only gives us peace of mind here, but is assurance of the peaceful presence with our Creator.

Christians are heaven-bound and that is encouraging news for everyone who has put their faith in Jesus Christ and has been forgiven of their sins. Jesus said, ***“For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life,”*** John 3:16. When we become a Christian two things happen, eternal life and the promise of a heavenly home.

Throughout the New Testament we have many references to our heavenly home and eternal life. The Gospel of John alone uses the word “life” 51 times and “eternal” 12 times. But even with these recorded words and promises a significant number of Christians struggle and are discouraged about their spiritual life and their future. Some question their salvation and in so doing they are unsure of a heavenly home.

I would like to deal with the subject of our assurance and the promise of heaven and how we are to deal with our daily life and the “hope of heaven.”

#### **IS IT POSSIBLE TO LOSE YOUR SALVATION?**

I want it clear at the beginning that I do not believe John Calvin's teaching of “eternal security” which is the teaching that one can never be lost once saved. Nor do I believe that we can “earn” salvation. As the Apostle Paul wrote in Romans 11:6 that we are saved by grace not by works and in 6:23 that the ***“wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”***

However we have to deal the fact that some, like Demas have left the faith ***“having love this present world,”*** 2 Tim. 4:10. He was listed as Paul's fellow laborer, Phil. 1:24, Col. 4:14. He has been referred to by some scholars as “Paul's Judas.” Judas is another case where a follower of Christ returned to their worldly ways. I believe one who was a believer and have obeyed the Gospel intentionally, and purposely reject the faith for the love of the world can be lost. I also believe it is very difficult for a born again person to return to the world.

Jesus speaking of the end of the age said, ***“At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved,”*** Matt.24:10-13.

But on the positive side, we have done absolutely nothing to warrant our salvation, to earn it, achieve it, or to be worthy of it. It was a gift of God extended to us by His mercy and out of his endless love. It was the shed blood of Jesus Christ on the cross that bought it. Jesus is the author and finisher of our salvation, Heb. 12:2. But to say that we can do nothing to lose it is reading into Scripture that which is not there. I want to leave this thought and concentrate on the salvation we enjoy. If we were on a tall building ledge, we would be told not to look down because it may “cause” us to fall. Let's leave the subject of what “might” happen to what “has” happened – the promise of an eternal home in heaven for the faithful.

#### **FAITH AND UNBELIEF CAN'T DWELL WITHIN**

If we have faith in Christ and His Word as delivered by Himself and His Apostles doubt has no place to live. Romans 10:9-10 tell us ***“If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.”*** This text is clear that we must confess and believe. However, it is not the only text that addresses salvation. When a text speaks concerning a subject, it is true, it can't be less, but it can be more. For example Mark 16:16 states ***“Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved...”*** The Roman passage does not negate Mark 16:16. Both are true. The Bible does not contradict itself. What we read in any text is true, but there may be more on the subject elsewhere in the Bible.

## **BELIEF AND THE RESURRECTION OF JESUS**

1 Peter 3:20b-21 ***“God waited patiently in the days of Noah while the ark was being built. In it only a few people, eight in all, were saved through water, and this water (the flood) symbolizes baptism that now saves you also – not the removal of dirt from the body but the pledge of a good conscience toward God. It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at God’s right hand with angel, authority and power in submission to him.”***

[Emphasis mine] Belief, baptism, and confession all derive their power by the fact of the resurrection of Jesus.

**FOR THOSE WHO DOUBT THEIR SALVATION, HERE IS THE QUESTION:** Did you believe, have you obeyed, and do you still believe Jesus died for your sins? God has not changed, and if you still believe, you have a home in heaven. The question is not: Have you sinned? The question is not even: Have you doubted? Even John the baptizer questioned belief he publicly proclaimed in John 1:29, ***“Behold the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.”*** God does not change His mind about our future home because we are weak. We have a freewill to change our mind about Him, but He does not change His mind about loving us, pardoning us, or the promises He has made. Jesus said, ***“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms; if it were not so I would have told you. I am going there to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am,”*** John 14:1-3.

The apostles understood clearly that death is not an end for the believer but only a transition into the presence of the Lord. Paul wrote to the Corinthians that ***“to be absent from the body is to be present with the Lord,”*** 2 Cor. 5:6-8. Paul also explains that death is simply a change, 1 Cor. 15:52-54. We simply change from an earthly physical body to a glorified body in an eternal state in our new home, 1 Cor. 15:42-44. The real question is: Do you believe Jesus and His apostles?

## **WE WILL BE CHANGED AND FIT FOR OUR NEW HOME IN HEAVEN**

The New Testament writers, inspired by the Holy Spirit, wrote frequently about our coming resurrection which is made possible by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In fact, the writer of Hebrews stated that the ***“resurrection of the dead”*** is one of the elementary principles of Christianity, Heb. 6:1-2.

Jesus said of Himself, ***“I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die,”*** John 11:25-26. The Apostle Paul taught ***“Or don’t you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life,”*** Romans 6:3-4.

Here in this life and on this earth we are plagued by the sin about us that causes doubt. We are also plagued by the sin within us. Paul, who wrote most of the epistles, admitted that in him there dwelled no good thing. We must trust Christ not ourselves or the world. We must fight the good fight of faith which means we will have to shield ourselves from the sin of the world, and bring even our own thought into captivity and obedience to Christ, 2 Cor. 10:5.

The promise of heaven is secure and so will we be if we secure our faith by daily Bible study because ***“faith comes by hearing the message and the message is heard through the word of Christ,”*** Romans 10:17

## LEARNING with Larry

Do you like to win? Of course, you do! We all like to win. Paul writes in 1 Cor. 9:24-27 ***“Do you not know that in a race all the runner run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore, I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.”***

So why do some Christians walk around defeated? Does God want us to be beat down with our heads hanging low? Jesus Christ has won the victory! I want us to look at two Greek words in 1 John 5:4 that may help us to celebrate our victory in Jesus. In the NIV it reads ***“For everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that overcomes the world, even our faith.”***

The Message says it this way, “Every God-born person conquers the world’s ways. The conquering power that brings the world to its knees is our faith. The person who wins out over the world’s ways is simply the one who believes Jesus is the Son of God.”

The first Greek word GENNAO is for born or beget and simply means born into a family, also being brought forth or delivered. When John writes, ***“for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.”*** He is not referring to our natural birth but our spiritual rebirth. Being born again into the Kingdom of God.

We have overcome the world by our rebirth into the Eternal Kingdom. The earth was never meant to be our permanent home, that’s why Jesus went to the cross for our sins making us fit for our heavenly home.

The second Greek word is “overcome” NIKAO which is also translated “conqueror”, which means

that we have the ultimate victory, which through faith in Him.

A group named Casting Crowns sang a song a few years ago called “Thrive.” The words are, “Here in this worn and weary land, where many a dream has died, like a tree planted by the water, we never will run dry. So living water flowing through God, we thirst for more of you. Fill our heart and flood our souls with one desire, just to know you and to make you known. We lift your name on high, shine like the sun, make darkness run and hide. We know we were made for so much more than ordinary lives. It’s time for us to more than just survive, we were made to thrive.”

The Greek verb for conqueror is HUPERNIKAO which is found in Romans 8:35-39, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? As it is written: For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered. No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

We are more than conquerors having the surpassing victory through Christ who loves us. I want more than to just survive I want to thrive. Until next time.

-Larry.

### HESITATION

***“For if the trumpet gives an uncertain sound, who shall prepare for battle.”*** 1 Cor. 14:8

On plains of hesitation lie the bones of those who chose to die by standing still. They refused to take a side, or when accused of fault or wrong would not defend their convictions to the end. Their thinking was not positive. They had no arguments to give. By inaction they paid the cost, for “He who hesitates is lost.”

-Julien C Dyer

Do you give a firm “maybe,” or definite “perhaps?”

## OPPORTUNITIES

**May 10-12** - Spring Clinic, Person to Person, Hillsboro, OH - Alex Eddy, Director

**May 14** - PRES Meeting at Central Christian Church, Ironton, OH, Willie Purdee, Evangelist

**Jun 29 - Jul 1** - Southern Indiana Family Rally, Madison, IN, [www.indianarally.com](http://www.indianarally.com)

## DAFFY-NITIONS

**ALARMS** - An octopus is alarms

**ANTACID** - Uncle Acid's wife

**ANTELOPE** - How he married antacid

**ANTIBODIES** - Skeletal remains after you bug spray the kitchen

**ARBITRATOR** - A cook that leaves Arby's to work for McDonald's

**ARCHIVES** - What Noah kept the bees in.

## AMERICA

Eldridge Cleaver left this country several years ago to escape a prison sentence. Everywhere he went he talked about America being a rotten place to live/ But five years later he returned knowing he would go to prison. News reporters asked him why he returned. Cleaver replied, "Because prison life in the U.S. is better than traveling free anywhere else in the world."

It reminds me of the ancient proverb: "As soon as you have drunk, you turn your back on the spring."

## DEATH OF DEMOCRACY

"The death of democracy is not likely to be an assassination from ambush.

It will be a slow extinction from

Apathy, indifference, and undernourishment."

-Robert M Hutchins

## BEST GIFTS

**The gift of listening** - No interrupting, no planning your response. Just listening.

**The gift of affection** - Being generous with appropriate hugs, kisses, and pats on the back.

**The gift of laughter** - Sharing funny stories and jokes. Your gift will say, "I love to laugh with you."

**The gift of a written note** - Expressing in a brief, handwritten note your appreciation or affection.

**The gift of a compliment** - Sincerely saying, "you look great today" or "You are special" will bring a smile.

We can all afford these gifts, there is no need for special wrapping and there does not have to be a special occasion for these gifts are special enough in themselves.

## P.R.E.S.

**Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar**  
Barnabas Ministries is founded on the principle laid out in the texts "...encourage one another and build each other up..." 1 Thess. 5:11 and "...encourage one another daily..." Heb. 3:13.

We all need encouragement but preacher need it much more than one might think. There is a great responsibility that comes with preaching, and we desire to encourage preachers

At no cost to a preacher or the host congregation. We will conduct a Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar for any congregation that is willing host such a meeting. Barnabas will pay the speakers, for their housing, and reimburse the host for the cost of a noon meal as long as funds are available.

To date we have conducted such meetings in Gallipolis and Cincinnati, OH, London, and Madison, KY and Monroeville, PA. We also have one scheduled in Bluefield, WV in the fall.

If you would like information you can email, or call the Barnabas office.

If you would like to support this program, make your check out to Barnabas Ministries and make the purpose on the check PRES. All monies received so marked will be spent only for this purpose. Above all please pray for God's continued blessing on PRES.

## GOD CAN USE YOU TOO

Moses was a murderer

Rahab was prostitute

David was an adulterer

Jacob was a deceiver

Samson was a womanizer

Jonah ran from God

Abraham was a liar

Peter was a coward

Saul was a persecutor

Noah was a drunk

## DOCTRINAL STATEMENT

What **BARNABAS MINISTRIES** believes

**BIBLE:** The only inspired record of God's revelation to us

**SIN:** The only thing standing between God and man

**JESUS CHRIST:** The only perfect One who paid for sin

**THE GOSPEL:** The only record of Jesus' life

**SALVATION:** The only hope for man

**FAITH:** is only "saving faith" if it includes repentance, confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God and being baptized for the remission of sin.