



The PARAKLETE

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GENDER DYSPHORIA AND PERVERSION

What is “gender dysphoria”? What does it have to do with us as Christians? It is this later question that moves this from what some might call a politically correct question to a religious or morally correct question.

I approach this from a purely religious/moral one because it was God who created us “male and female,” Genesis 1:27. Some might say that since I don’t have a degree in medicine or psychology I may not know enough to approach this subject. On the other hand I might say “Since one doesn’t have a degree in theology, one may not know enough to approach this question from a moral point of view.” Let us leave those arguments and approach the question of gender dysphoria from a common sense point of view and each camp can retreat to the one they know makes sense.

What is “dysphoria”? It is feeling very unhappy, restlessness, dissatisfied, anxiety, or uneasy. When the psychological world adds the word “gender” to “dysphoria” things begins to get a little fuzzy. They want to separate gender from words like “nonconformity,” “sex,” “biological” and other words in order to approach the subject from their specific angle that I believe misses the point.

By not approaching it from a nonconformists view makes it one less possibility they have to defend. Separating sex and biology from gender makes it even easier to defend and isolates it simply to a discussion of one’s dissatisfaction.

What causes someone to be uncomfortable with their gender may be far beyond anyone’s understanding. However, some psychologists or psychiatrists for fear of losing their standing in the psych world will agree with what has been written recently by another of their field. There have been guesses as to why someone would become uneasy about their assigned gender at birth. However, these are guesses at best, not knowledge.

I have no doubt that those who have this ID crisis suffer from it. They need our love without supporting gender ID confusion. They need our prayers, and love, but if we agree with their thought



relating to their gender, that is not helping them but further confusing them, the language and the world around us as well.

What I do know is this: That in the beginning God created a man who was “uneasy” about being alone, so God created a woman also for his companionship and gave them dominion over the earth, Gen. 1:28ff.

Since creation Satan has tried every trick in the world to confuse men and women and cause them to sin against the Lord. Perverting the male and female identity and roles God created is just one of them. Going hand in hand with this perversion, if not the same thing, is homosexuality/lesbianism. However, with the gender ID thing poor young innocent children are being bamboozled and harmed by thinking they not God created their gender.

Due to this gender identity ideology, the privacy of young girls is lost. The inevitable intermingling of the sexes in rest rooms, because some boy “wants” to be a girl, follows. Young girls are exposed to the nakedness of some boy who is “uneasy” with his true gender.

Along with that is the eruption of sexual harassment which has already started...chalk one up for Satan.

Replacing sex with gender identity confounds and debilitates women’s protection for their privacy in so many ways. If a male enters a female facility, we must presume he has some gender identity that authorizes his access. In locker rooms and showers, abstract gender theory creates a concrete problem. No one should have to change in front of an unclothed individual of the opposite sex.

Any child understands male and female theology, Adam and Eve. They understand male/female, boy/girl, as well as fathers/mothers. They should not be exposed to an unclad member of the opposite sex nor exposed to the unbelieving mind or psych student who knows more than God due to a diploma.

Gender identity theorists assert that one’s maleness or femaleness is not objectively established. Well what does that leave but subjectivity? They claim

GENDER DYSPHONIA AND PERVERSION

instead it is an inner sense or desire. These theorists also deny male/female complementarity; reproductive roles are wholly divorced from their concept of gender, which arranges “male and femaleness” among myriad assignments on the gender spectrum. This gender-switch has taken place in recent years...but not because of scientific discoveries but because a minute population is unhappy with their gender. In a few years the number will increase due to the NEA, media, and some duped parents have surrendered to pressure.

. Absent the rarest of cases, the body – anatomy and chromosomes – definitively reveals a person’s maleness or femaleness.

It is also true that wigs, surgeries, and skirts don’t make man a woman. None of these things can overcome the truth of identity embedded in the human body. The revisionists seem to think that human feeling and desire alone determine whether one is what they would call a “woman,” if one desires.

What is the real purpose behind this gender identity ideology? What is “ideology” anyway? The dictionary definition is: “A system of ideas and ideals especially one which forms the basis of economic or political theory.”

Those who hold this gender ID ideology and those who encourage it are being used unbeknownst to themselves are tools in the hand of Satan. Those who suffer from it are being used as pawns in order to assist the demonic world in perverting God’s design of men and women.

In an attempt to change the minds of those of us who believe and know gender, the confused ideologists are wrong when they claim that we do them harm. They claim that to expect a boy or girl to know who they are sexually “can cause harm.” They have even gone so far as to say a Columbian peace agreement was dashed because of not accepting LGBTQ+ ideology. They further claim that a parent should not identify a child by their proper, or birth gender. A popular TV counselor argued with a mother that gave birth to a son who later in life decided he was a girl. This so called specialist told the mother he was what he was in his mind. Thank God she didn’t buy it.

Satan is at work in the world and in the church today and Christians must continue to make biblical sense not just when Satan’s workers don’t but **ESPECIALLY** when they in the world make little sense

PRES MEETING SCHEDULED

Sept. 10 – Christian Acres Service Camp, Bluefield, WV, Rick Mathena, Manager

Denny - Gallipolis, OH 740/446-6929

Preaching in the a.m. service at the C of C in McArthur, OH indefinitely. Larry Boggs does the evening service. I will be speaking at the PRES in Bluefield, WV, Sept. 10th

Danny - Huntington, WV 304/633-5908

Danny is preaching at the PRES Meeting in Bluefield, WV, Sept. 10th

POWERFUL SHORT STORIES

Today, I interviewed my grandmother for part of a research paper I’m working on for my psychology class. When I asked her to define success in her own words, she said; “Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile.”

Today, as my father, three brothers, and two sisters stood around my mother’s hospital bed, my mother uttered her last coherent words before she died. She said, “I feel so loved right now. We should have gotten together like this more often.”

Today, I kissed my dad on the forehead as he passed away in a small hospital bed. About five second after he passed I thought, “It was the first time I had given him a kiss since I was a little boy.”

CONCERN FOR THE LORD’S CHURCH

I am not sure if it is aging on my part that has caused it or if it is too much negative thinking from others. Those who should be positive, grateful, hopeful, and encouraging seem to be happy with things on the downhill trajectory. I preached a sermon, “The Second Generation Syndrome,” the following words made me think. They seem to fit.

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 weighed carefully:

“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 a failure of the human heart and spirit.”

DOTS AND DASHES FROM DANNY

Something Light Hearted:

In a theater a man is stretched out on his back across four seats. The usher comes down and says, “Mister, you will have to get out of those four seats. You are only entitled to one.”

The man only grunts and does not move. The manager comes down and says to the man, “Mister, you will have to get up. All you are entitled to is one seat.” The man grunts and does not move.

Finally a policeman is called in. He walks down the aisle and says to the man who is still on the four seats, “Get out of those seats!”

The man grunts, and the policeman says, “Okay, wise guy, where are you from?” The man moans and says, “The balcony.”

We live in a different world today. It seems that everything is changing. Change is expected as technology advances. I remember as a boy at home, we had a phone. It hung on the wall in the kitchen and it was a six party line. Some of you that are my age will remember those phones. You had a certain ring to know a call was for you and if someone was on the line when you went to make a call you had to wait till they were done. Now, I carry a phone in my pocket and I have a car that allows me to just give a verbal command and it makes a call for me.

There have been so many changes in our world that I couldn't even begin to discuss the entirety of those. I would like to think there haven't been any changes in the Body of Christ but that would be far from the truth. One of the changes that I have noticed is in the area of **ENTITLEMENT**. It isn't a new change but one that has advanced in its degree.

What is entitlement? Webster's has one definition that says “it is a belief that one is deserving of or entitled to certain privilege.”

It has been said that we have a whole generation of young folks coming up who are caught up in the entitlement wave. Their parents have let them believe they are the center of the universe and have bent over backward to meet their every whim. This is definitely not what parenting and “training up a child in the way they should go...” means. Becoming a mature, responsible Christian adult who thinks of others, is

conscientious in work and family responsibilities, and can deal with the disappointments that come into every life is what we should want for our precious children. Parents and grandparents may need to modify their parenting techniques.

Perhaps even more alarming in this area is another group of folks who feel they are entitled – some older “more mature” people are leaning in that direction as well. People say Millennials are entitled...but have you ever tried to tell an older lady her coupon has expired? Some older adults might say “I've been in this organization (perhaps a church) for “X” number of years and no one is going to tell **me** what to do!” Their entitlement revolves around what they want and their opinion is **always** the best. This ought not to be so – scripture plainly states that we should consider others before ourselves (***Phil.2:3***) and do things for the good of the church so that the gospel can spread and the church can grow. Just as children need to know that rules are the rules, some adults could use a lesson in that discipline. How many times have we seen adults be told how an activity is to be carried out, but they still don't comply because they think the rules don't apply to them? **NEWS FLASH:** the 10 commandments are not “the 10 suggestions.” Each person needs to learn to follow God's teachings, not their opinions or that of the world.

Entitlement is a tainted belief that a person should be allowed to do whatever they want and get what they want without working a lick. Entitlement is the enemy of gratitude. In other words, people with this mindset believe that the world owes them without them ever giving anything in return.

Our relationship with God is often distorted when we have an entitled state of mind. There is no spiritual growth when we feel entitled.

In order to correct this situation we have to get people to change their mindset. They need to renew their minds. (***Rom. 12:2***)

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

GODLY MIND SET

TEXT: Philippians 4:8-9

INTRO: “As man thinks in his heart so is he,” Prov. 23:7. We are in the process of becoming what we think. This means that what we think about (for over a period of time) has the greatest influence in what we become here on earth. After Paul speaks of the yoke of fellowship that Euodia and Syntyche should enjoy rather than being disagreeable, and the rejoicing we should all have and resulting peace of God, he then turns to the proper mind set for Christian.

Illustration: A young man enters into a business. He also fell in love with a young lady. He would go from a picnic with her to his desk. Days and months pass and he spends more and more time in the office. One day she barges into his office and accuses him of having another lover. She flings the ring at him and leaves. He looks out the 2nd story window and watches her leave. He goes to his desk, picks up the ring, and puts it in a drawer choosing his first love...business. If you think out something long enough it controls you.

I. THINK ON THESE THINGS

A. A NEW LIFE STYLE

1. Paul offers a new way to think.
2. Bombard your mind with good thoughts.
3. Positive spiritual conditioning v8.
4. HORSE SENSE – Stable thinking.
5. He offers six suggestions.

B. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS TRUE

1. It is easy to distinguish truth.
2. “Well meaning” is not necessarily true.
3. There is no substitute for integrity.
4. A good conscience carries a high premium.

C. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS NOBLE

1. Honest has deep value which is dignity.
2. Thoughts about God lift up.
3. One theologian: “A virtue which consists in our walking worthy of our vocation keeps from all profane filthiness”

D. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS RIGHT

1. Dealing fairly and justly – Rom. 12:17-21
2. Taking the concerns of another seriously.

E. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS PURE

1. Purity is scoffed at today...but it's a test.
2. Impure thoughts can kill like a gun
3. 1 Tim. 1:15 and 1 Peter 1:22

F. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS LOVELY

1. What is worthy of love? All others.
2. Eph. 3:17-19
3. Don't be critical...”church people” are sometimes the worst in this area

G. THINK ABOUT WHAT IS ADMIRABLE

1. Discover good in others
2. Show appreciation for others

II. EXCELLENT AND PRAISEWORTHY

A. VIRTUOUS THINGS

1. Think of things that are “admirable” in NIV and “virtue” KJV,
2. In other words...think on good things

B. THINK POSITIVELY

3. Think on things “praiseworthy” NIV and “praise” KJV.
4. Think on things that are positive

CONCLUSION: How do I get started? Four things: Establish a devotional life, make it a matter of prayer, guard the input (T.V., literature) and discipline self in these areas.

What will be the result? Good question and it is met with good answers. You will enjoy the peace of God, John 14:27. This peace “transcends human understanding and will guard your heart and your mind in Christ Jesus,” Phil. 4:7.

We must learn to say “no” to some things we used to do, places we liked to go, and thoughts that lead to negative words and thought that have no profit. It is a MIND SET...but you must set it.

TRUTH OF LIFE FROM CHILDREN

No matter how hard you try you can't baptize a cat.
If your mother is mad, hide the hair brush.
Never ask your little brother to hold your ice cream.
You can't trust dogs to watch your food for you.
Don't sneeze when someone is cutting your hair.
Puppies have bad breath even after eating a tic tac.
Never hold a dust buster and a cat at the same time.
School lunches stick to the wall.
You can't hide broccoli in a glass of milk.
FINALLY - When your parents are mad the safest place is grandma's lap.

Barnabas Ministries appreciates the following memorial gift in memory of
ROY SPRAGUE
Lorraine Sprague, his wife and love of his life.

MINI THOUGHTS

The Bible in the memory is better than the Bible in the bookcase.

~
Morning is a gift given each day.

~
Showing respect to others might be the key that unlocks a conversation about the Lord.

~
God loves us...regardless.

PROBLEMS WITH INFANT BAPTISM

- The Bible doesn't mention it.
- The person has to depend on other's to know if they were baptized or not.
- It is practiced without the will of the candidate.
- Faith must precede it. Can infants have faith?
 - Conviction precedes it, can an infant have convictions about anything?
- It is for those who repent of their sin, what does an infant repent of?
- Baptism follows confession of faith. When have we heard an infant speak?
- Baptism is obedience; yet infants can't obey.
- Infant baptism is an invention of man. God's great knowledge wouldn't have done it and didn't.

A PERScription FOR INNER JOY

Do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as you can!”

Remember, you can't do any of this while you are sitting on your can.

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

A series of studies in encouragement by Denny Coburn

Study Number One Hundred Twenty-four – Self Examination

After Paul's second letter to the church at Corinth he is beginning to end in the twelfth and thirteenth chapters by giving them motivation to remain steadfast. He had expressed his great love for them and either knew he would not make a third visit or that he didn't want to have to make a third trip.

He was very open with them about his concerns, he explained his ministry as an ambassador of Christ, he answered their accusations, and urged them to submit to the written message of God they had received and to obey what they knew He (God) desired. There is little else that Paul could do. In order to encourage them to do the right thing he used a three pronged approach. He shamed them, he warned them and he encouraged them

HE SHAMED THEM (2 Cor. 12:11-21) – I can't recalled as a child how many times I hear the words, "shame on you," "don't bring shame," or "I'd be ashamed." There was an old country and western song titled, "Shame, Shame on You." Of course these words have power to get someone to change their ways, unless they have no conscience or no personal pride. It is a good thing when people can be ashamed of their bad behavior or attitude. Of course if a heart has been hardened and their conscience had been calloused, they feel not guilty and therefore they no longer feel shame. Paul did not think the church at Corinth had reached such a spiritually void and so he wanted them to feel shame due to their actions or lack thereof.

He shamed the Corinthians for their lack of commendation, 12:11-13 *"I have made a fool of myself, but you drove me to it. I ought to have been commended by you, for I am not in the least inferior to the 'super apostles,' even though I am nothing...how were you inferior to other churches...except that I was never a burden to you."* He brought to light that the church at Corinth did not take care of Paul's needs when he was there on two previous occasions. Instead of appreciating Paul's ministry they treated him as inferior to the "super apostles" (Judaizers) who had won their affections.

I recall my ministry in a local congregation that a lady was sold on the great blessing in her life of a television evangelist. She may not have been the only one, but she stands out in my mind because of a single incident. After enduring her many words about how she so appreciated this evangelist and that she sent him support monthly and went to one his programs. I recognize the blessing a good TV evangelist can be to someone who is homebound but after many minutes of listening to this lady I interrupted her and asked, "Will he come to visit you in the hospital? Will he come to calling hours of a loved one at a funeral home? How many times has he visited you in your home?" I have said many times at preachers' meetings that local preachers should take joy in what we do because we minister to people "where the rubber hits the road."

I think Paul was trying to tell the Corinthians that he, by the will and strength of God, delivered to them the message of the love and salvation of God, yet he was treated as inferior when compared to the show of admiration displayed to whom they thought of as "super apostles" when they visited. Paul was expressing the disappointment due to the lack of appreciation shown him. He did not have to have it, but they needed to appreciate his ministry.

The Judaizers had used crafty methods in order to exploit the church (See 4:2), but Paul had been open and without guile. The only "trick" Paul had played on them was his refusal to receive financial support. This was not because he did not have need of it but in refusing support he disarmed them of their accusations. It is a sad thing when children do not appreciate what their parents do for them. It is a sad thing when God's children do not appreciate the spiritual parents.

HE WARNED THEM (2 Cor. 13:1-8) – Actually there are two warnings in these verses. Paul wrote, "Examine yourself," verse 5. In dealing with sin in a local congregation, we need to deal with facts and not rumors. Paul quoted Deuteronomy 19:15 telling us that one person's witness is not enough but there needs to be two or three. Matthew 18:15-20 adds that we must go to the offending person one on one and if they will not listen then take one or more with you to tell them of the offense. It seems many people would rather tell others

And fret and gossip rather than resolve or solve a problem.

Had the church members followed the instructions given by Jesus in Matthew 18:15-20, they would have solved most of their problems themselves. I think we have all seen small disagreements in a church grow into large and complicated problems, only because the believers did not obey the Lord's directions.

The Judaizers in the church at Corinth had accused Paul of being a weak man, 1:-7-11. Their approach to ministry was harsh, heavy-handed and dictatorial as opposed to Paul's gentleness. v24. Paul's warning was that he would be strong, if that is what they wanted. He was declaring war on anybody who was opposing the Word of God. When Jesus was on the cross He appeared weak. However, when the cross is viewed through spiritual eyes, we learn that the cross is "the power of God," 1 Cor. 1:18. Let us examine ourselves looking for areas of our life where we should be ashamed of catering to a worldly view as it relates to the respect we show to those who reflect our own worldly view.

By the standards of the world, both Jesus and Paul were weak; but by the standards of the Lord, both were examples of real strength. It is a wise and mature person who knows when to be "weak" and when to be "strong" as they deal with the problems and people we are confronted with, in the world and in the church.

I have heard people make remarks about a scholarly quiet preacher that they were waiting for him to start preaching. They probably were accustomed to hearing a shouting, loud, heaving for breath preacher and equated that with "good preaching." Once my wife and I were at a meeting and there was one of these shouting, screaming preachers and she remarked that he was "good." I asked her "What was his point in the message?" While she was thinking, I asked another question about a man who preceded the "shouter." She knew exactly what he had preached about. The truth, not the manner spoken is what is important. We must be warned about judging worldly.

HE ENCOURAGED THEM (2 Cor. 13:9-14) – The word "perfection" in both the King James and New International versions are not translated correctly. That is, the English words that give us the fullest meaning of the word are "mature," "complete," or "finished." In other words Paul prayed for their maturity as Christians.

A mature Christian needs to examine his spiritual growth continually. Paul was encouraging that by telling them we need to learn to be ashamed that there are degrees of worldliness still in our lives that should not be present and we need to blush inwardly about it. That's what Paul was trying to get the church at Corinth to see in the way they cozied up to the worldly Judaizers and lack of respect for one sent by God.

Weeds must be pulled up before good seed can bring forth a good crop. Wrong thinking in our mind is like weeds...and weeds don't need cultivated to grow...they are voluntary. But good thinking, like good seeds must be cultivated. A life of true peace within can only be enjoyed by one with godly thoughts that is the thoughts of The God, Jehovah as displayed in the person of Jesus Christ.

We must maintain the ability to know shame when we need it, learn to judge the world and others know that, just as Paul was going to visit Corinth again, Jesus is coming back again. And finally be encouraged by the wonderful grace of God. I am constantly encouraged by the knowledge that I am a recipient of God's forgiveness for those in Christ. And this should encourage us to be busy maturing in the faith when Jesus returns. Learn shame, receive warning of His return, and be encouraged.

CHOOSE life

What are the two greatest things in the world? The answer would be those which give us the greatest blessings. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the greatest of all and the second is building a relationship with God. Everything else in this world pales in comparison. Nothing in this life is more important than being saved for all eternity and building an intimate relationship with the one who created us and then saved us.

The Greek word for life is “zoe” and is used in different ways in Scripture. We get our English word “zoo” which speaks of life. It’s mentioned in John 5:26, “For as the Father has life in Him, so he has granted the Son also to have live in him. 1 John 1:1-2 also makes reference to life, “That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched, this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us.”

All life comes from God and when he came to earth, He made life possible for all of us who trust in Christ. Paul writes in 1 Cor. 15:19 “If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.” After the Lord opened the jail to release the disciples he states in Acts 5:20 states “Go stand in the temple courts and tell the people all about this new life.” This new life refers to the life we receive through the Gospel.

Another Greek word for life is “bios” from which we get the English word “biology” and speaks of the period or duration of life. How we live our life is a choice that God gives us and logical choice should be living our life for the One who gave it.

Yet many place more importance on this earthly life rather than eternity. James 4:15 asks, “Why, you do not know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.” James reminds us just how short this life is compared to eternity.

So, what would be the most logical choice? Deut. 30:19-20 Moses shared with God’s children: “This day I call the heavens and earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may live the Lord your God, listen to his voice and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Joshua also shared these words, “Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worship beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lords seems undesirable to you, the choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for m and my household, we will serve the Lord,” Joshua 24:14-15.

So the choice is simple, choose life, a life that is faithful to Jesus Christ, we know that a faithful life will lead us to glory. Until next time, -Larry.

MINI THOUGHTS

Promises may get you a friend but it is performance that keeps him.

~

Your never get a second chance to make a first impression.

~

You can tell how big a man is by observing how much it takes to discourage him.

~

Forget trying to encourage someone who is more concerned about his rights than he is about his obligations.

~

In the game of life, it’s easier to use the goalposts if you keep changing them.

~

Beating around the bush does nothing for the bush and it doesn’t do much for you and in the end, you still have a bush that needs trimmed.

IT’S NO DOUBT TRUE

A woman once said, “It seems I’ve spent a lifetime saying things like, ‘Sit up straight,’ ‘Use your napkin,’ ‘Close your mouth when you chew,’ ‘Don’t lean back in your chair.’ When I got my husband squared away, the kinds came along.”

OPPORTUNITIES

Sept. 2-4 - Winning at Winchester, Winchester, VA – Contact: ccmv4thebible@gmail.com

Sept. 10 – The Preacher Recruitment and Encouragement Seminar (PRES), Christian Acres Service Camp, Bluefield, WV. Rick Mathena, Manager, christianacres@frontier.com

Oct. 11-13 – National Prayer Clinic, Grundy, VA, Contact: Jerrybliffen@hotmail.com

Oct. 20-21 – CRA Bible Conference, Mason, OH, Contact: thecra@thecra.org

DAFFY-NITIONS

VACANCY – Describes someone’s vision. “If vacancy from here, they have better eyes than I do.

TWEEZE – What Elmer Fudd would say. “I can’t see the forest for the tweeze.”

TOLERANCE – If picnic pests had more height, we would have tolerance.

RECEDE - If the rain washed your garden away, you’d have to recede.

MAYONNAZE – Surprised at a capacity, “Mayonnaze a lot o people in that small room.”

PARADOX – Two physicians.

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, 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 demonstrate those 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 preachers need it much more than one might think. There is a great responsibility that comes with preaching, and we desire to encourage those who do.

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 to host such a meeting. Barnabas will pay the speakers and their housing, and reimburse the host for the cost of a noon meal as long as funds are available for us to continue.

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 to read “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 a 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.