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YOKEFELLOW

Vol. 37, No. 9

September 2010

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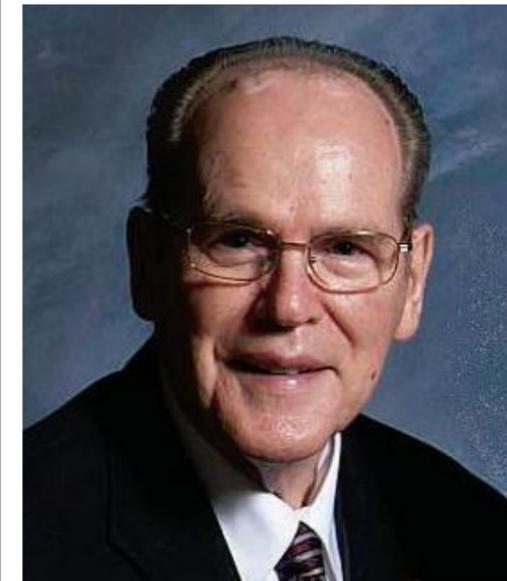
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In Memory Of Bert Embry



Brother Bert Embry, former elder of the Forest Hill congregation, passed from this life July 21, 2010. He and sister Charlena were married for almost six decades. We rejoice in his victory, but are saddened by our loss. As well, our hearts go out to his family. Please continue to pray for sister Embry, for their sons, Jim and Mike, and their families.

Brother Embry was a faithful, godly man, who served well as a shepherd of the flock. I always appreciated his kind smile, encouraging words, and genuine concern for me and my work, as well as for all members of the congregation. He stood firmly for the truth, with a calmness that characterized his strong faith, and trust in God.

Brother Embry worked in the restaurant business, and attained a high position of

responsibility. He did his job exceedingly well. On several occasions, he would visit the congregation where I preached, while in town checking on a restaurant, and he always was overly generous in his kind remarks of encouragement. I always enjoyed his visits, and truly appreciated his sincere commendations, for they inspired me to work even harder.

Funeral services for brother Embry were at the Forest Hill building on July 24, 2010, with burial at Memorial Park Cemetery in Memphis. We will miss our dear brother. BL

ALUMNI UPDATE

Kenny Taylor (2006) has had some improvement in his condition, and continues in chemotherapy. Send cards to: 3203 S. Hwy 183, Lot 115, Clinton, OK 73601.

Bill Stevens (1990) has been diagnosed with liver cancer. Send cards to: 4543 FM470, Bandera, TX 78003.

Ray Peters (1969) wrote, "I visited recently with Harold Gray. He was in the first graduating class. I was a 'wrap-a-round' with the first class, and through the years a close friend with brother Harold. He has had several small strokes, open heart surgery, etc." Please remember brother Gray in your prayers. Send cards to P. O. Box 245, Corinth, MS. 38834. Also, Ray's son, Mike Peters, plans to attend MSOP, beginning in January 2011.

Andy and Kristy Brewer (2007) welcomed Kenadie Louann Brewer (born 4-15-10, weighing 6 lbs. 14 oz., and 19.5 inches long). The Brewers will be moving to Dyersburg, TN at the end of September, to work with the Phillips Street church.

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FALSE PROPHETS OF “THE LAST DAYS”

Bobby Liddell

False prophets, who pretend they know the time of Christ's coming, and of the end of the world, are confusing and misleading many with their false doctrines about the last days (Mat. 15:14). Their erroneous claims are that they *know* the end of this world is near, and that the “signs of the times” are their proof. Thus, they frighten those who believe them, including some sincere, trusting, searching people, as they boldly affirm their preposterous prophecies are true, and that they come from God.

A passage particularly relevant for self-proclaimed prophets is Deuteronomy 18:22.

When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously: thou shalt not be afraid of him (Deu. 18:22).

Like the wicked, false prophets of old, the modern false prophets sell their prophecies (often by the millions of copies) in order to fleece men, and that to swell their coffers of unjust gain (cf. Jer. 6:13; 8:10; 14:14-18; 23:9ff).

Can we know the truth about the last days? Surely (John 8:32; 17:17)! To that end, let us consider what false teachers are saying about the last days, in contradiction of God's Word. Then, in a later issue, we shall look at the question, “What are the last days—as taught in Scripture?” Finally, we shall study what we must do in relation to the truth about the last days.

WHAT ARE FALSE TEACHERS SAYING ABOUT “THE LAST DAYS”?

To understand better the false prophecies about “the last days,” let us consider some of the more common, well known assertions from those who teach error concerning this subject.

Date setters have failed, and continue to fail. Their failure begins with a misunderstanding of what the “last days” are. From the early days of Christianity, there have been a multitude of efforts to seek to determine the time of Christ's return (the last day). Most have approached their objectives with erroneous, unscriptural, and anti-scriptural beliefs based on twisted passages as their basis.

When reading the following, remember the Bible does not teach a Rapture, nor Tribulation, or a literal, carnal, world-ending battle of Armageddon

as taught by the system of false doctrine known as Premillennialism (and other forms of millennialism).

The **Montanists** (a religious movement of the second century) proclaimed Christ's imminent return to set up New Jerusalem in Pepuza (Asia Minor). Christ did not come, and no one, today, knows the location of Pepuza.

A.D. 999 saw many who gave away their possessions, to the Catholic church, thinking Jesus would come back on January 1, 1000. They lost their possessions--and Christ did not come then.

Joseph Smith (Mormon) taught Christ would come back before the end of the Nineteenth century. He did not, and now Mr. Smith knows better.

William Miller (Baptist) said Christ would return in 1843, then 1844. When the time came and went, without Christ's coming, his movement fell apart.

Charles Taze Russell, who began the Jehovah's Witnesses group, said the Rapture would take place in 1910, and the world would end in 1914—but, when his prophecy failed, he said Christ did come, but His return was “invisible” (cf. Rev. 1:7). Later, the Jehovah's Witnesses said 1918, then 1925, then 1941, then 1975, then 1984, and 1994 were the dates. In November, 1995, they announced Armageddon had been delayed. They missed it every time.

Moses David (David Berg) predicted a comet would kill everyone in the United States in the mid 1970s, but later cited 1986 as the date of Armageddon. He was wrong--again.

David Koresh, of the Branch Davidians, predicted 1995 as the date of the end, but it was not; however *his* end came in 1993.

Louis Farrakhan (1991) said the Gulf War would be the war of Armageddon. It was not.

A full page ad in **USA Today**, placed by the **Hyoogo Movement**, on October 20, 1991, said the Rapture would take place on October 28, 1992. They were wrong.

Several noted the year **2000** as the time of the battle of Armageddon; thus, they deduced the Rapture had to occur in 1993. It did not, and 2000 has come and gone.

John Hinkle picked Thursday, June 9, 1994. His specific prediction was absolutely wrong.

Harold Camping (president of **Family Radio**) said the world would end in September, 1994. Like all the others, he was in error--and a false prophet.

Benny Hinn (Assemblies of God) predicted the Rapture would be in 1993 (and that God would destroy all homosexuals in America by 1994-1995). They are still here, and Mr. Hinn is still putting forth his false prophecies.

Peter Ruckman (1611 KJV Only Baptist) said the Rapture was to come around 1990, and that the Millennium would begin by 2000. As he so often has been, on so many other issues, he was positively wrong about this one too.

James Ussher predicted the end of the world would be 2,000 years after the birth of Christ, or, according to his chronology, 1996. It was not.

Vladimir Sobolyovhas forecast the Armageddon Flood, by analyzing prophecies of Nostradamus, to be in 1997-1999. Neither he, nor Nostradamus knew what they claimed to know.

Dan Millar and Bob Wadsworth employed astronomy to predict the Antichrist would arrive at the Vatican on April 10, 1997, as Pope Peter II. He failed to keep his supposed appointment--and is not there yet. October 20, 1997 was to be the date of the beginning of the rebuilding of the temple. Thirteen years later, the temple still has not been started.

Marilyn Agee forecast the Rapture for May 31, 1998—then June 7, then June 14, and, then June 21 of that year. She was wrong every time.

Jack Van Impe said 2001 would be a year of global chaos, and the emergence of a one world church. He continues to be consistent--in his being wrong, and a false prophet.

Jerry Falwell stated in 1999 that he thought Christ's return would be within ten years. 2009 has come, and gone, but Christ has not come, proving Falwell did not have any special knowledge. Like others, who have passed from this life, he knows better now.

(Much of the above information, about date setters and their predictions, came from these

Many false prophets have set dates for the time of Christ's coming, and the end of the world, citing the so-called “signs of the times” they affirm prove we are in the “last days,” but everyone of them has been wrong!

sources: Library of Date Setters of the End of the World, <http://www.bible.ca/pre-date-setters.htm>, and Will Christ Return In The Year 2000? <http://www.thomaswilliamson.net/2000.htm>.)

Such date setters have been wrong on every occasion, and shall always be. Yet, men still listen to their lies, and follow their false teachings. The Lord

said, “Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch” (Mat. 15:13-14). Jesus said, concerning His return: “Of that day and hour knoweth no man” (Mat. 24:36); thus, He commanded constant readiness: “Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of man cometh” (Mat. 25:13). BL

Organizing Alumni Chapters Mike McDaniel

As Alumni Liaison, I have been pursuing the goal envisioned by brother Liddell and myself of creating alumni chapters around the country where there are several alumni in close proximity to one another. This would involve periodic meetings for fellowship and encouragement. In the words of our new President, Rick Lawson, we are seeking to promote more association within the association.

At these meetings, there would be discussion of evangelistic activities, gospel meetings, mission trips in which area alumni are involved, prospective students for MSOP, benevolent needs that have arisen, and seeking to encourage one another to good works. “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works” (Heb. 10:24).

Thus far, the following Alumni Chapters have been organized with their respective Coordinators.

- 1. Northwest Tennessee - Larry Powers**
- 2. Northern Georgia - Lee Davis**
- 3. Southwest Arkansas/Northeast Texas - David Williams**
- 4. East Virginia/Delaware - Gerald Reynolds**
- 5. Western Virginia/Eastern West Virginia- Eddy Gilpin**
- 6. Central Arkansas - Greg Balentine**
- 7. Southern Louisiana - Mark Lance**
- 8. Southeast Texas - Jamie Beller**
- 9. North Central Texas - Todd Crayton**

Each coordinator is given a set of goals to pursue and information about the alumni in their area. We ask each coordinator to establish the time and place for their first meeting very soon. Upon request, school brochures may be sent to coordinators to furnish our alumni at these meetings. Upcoming meetings can be announced in the Yokefellow. We are grateful for the assistance of our alumni in this effort and ask you to pray and work for its success in your area when the opportunity arises.