



The Eagle

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Called to Preach the Gospel—Baptist by Conviction

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Number II

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Number II—2015

THE EAGLE

A publication of

Tolbert Moore Ministries, Inc.

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is commissioned by

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Dear Eagle Readers,

This issue is especially special to me because of the memory of Herschel Randall and the sermon on *New Perspective*. Also, as I write this article, they are moving Mercy's Vessel from New Jersey to the Chesapeake for renovation as a mercy ship!

It is always a pleasure to publish *The Eagle*. And, we always need support—both prayer and funds. I am praying for enough funds to publish *The Eagle* in print as soon as possible. Many of our friends do not have computers.

Thank you for your prayers and support and thank you for telling others about the ministry.

God bless you.

In His Grip,

Tolbert Moore, Editor

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MAKING THE EAGLE AVAILABLE IN PRINTED FORM

We have had great response as our readers have found *The Eagle* magazine online at www.TolbertMoore.com, but there are still those who don't have access to computers and miss receiving *The Eagle* in the mail. We are going to print a limited number of copies for those who support Tolbert Moore Ministries and also to those who would help with the publishing cost of their copies. If you will send a gift of \$ 25.00 for four issues, we will send you *The Eagle* in the mail.



Please look for the ads concerning the GPA Camp Meetings this year: 20th Annual National Camp Meeting in Lawrenceville, GA, June 8-11, 2015; GPA Camp Meeting in Portage, IN, August 17-20, 2015, and GPA Camp Meeting in Nottingham, PA, September 14-18, 2015 (An ad to come in the next issue)

Plan now to be a part of these great meetings!

newperspective



by **Shannon Scott**
Preached at **Antioch Baptist Church**
Bristol, VA, February 2015



Look with me in I Samuel 17:11: *When Saul and all Israel heard those words of the Philistine, they were dismayed, and greatly afraid.*

When they heard this Philistine, this man, Goliath, this giant of a man, who came out to threaten them and make speeches, if you will, to put them in bondage, the Bible says they were dismayed and greatly afraid. The army of God was gripped by what was said. They were in a state of fear and dismay which literally means that they were broken down and confused. There was discouragement. They were frightened about what they had heard, and it was as if they were paralyzed. They were looking at this as if there was no hope.

Now, for all of us, when trouble comes, it is very easy for us to become in tune with the circumstance. Whatever it is that is taking place in our life, the troubles that come, they dictate, if you will, and even demand and rearrange our life so that we come in tune with the bad situation. Our emotions and our feelings can be captured by

what we hear. People start to go with the flow of the bad situation. As a result, as we find here, people perhaps began to procrastinate and hesitate. They are locked into something, and at some point in time it becomes evident that they have found a new status quo. The devil has offered these conditions to them, and they are operating under this bondage. They make agreement to his terms. Perhaps they have not even realized that they have become in tune with his terms, complacent in their actions and attitude.

Certainly we understand that over time church ministries can become stale, routine, and kind of humdrum. The fire goes out. We settle for less than we could have or what we should have. The church has become about people instead of being about God. We find ourselves chasing the wrong things. The centerpiece is about managing people rather than worshipping God. The purpose for our existence as a church grows cold. What God would have us do is no longer paramount in our minds. The importance

Our emotions and our feelings can be captured by what we hear.

They are not conquering new territory as God would have them to do, but they have become complacent.

of us being the spiritual conscience of the community has been reduced and replaced. Our voice is impaired. It is as though we don't even exist. They don't care what we think. No one is concerned about what we are doing. There is a change in the purpose for which we exist.

You and I are to be about compelling people to come in. We are to be about going out and seeking the lost. Yet now it seems we are sitting around waiting for them to come in, rather than going out to look for them.

Let's go back just a little bit to I Samuel 15 where we find Saul operating in this fashion because of previous disobedience. He is in tune with a new fear. His standard operating procedure has changed as he has faced fear. A change has taken place in Saul's life, and he has settled for the terms that have been offered to him.

They are not advancing. They are not serving God. They are not following after the heavenly cause as they should be. They are not conquering new territory as God would have them to do, but they have become complacent. The devil has said to them, "This is where you are going to be," and it is obvious that Saul has lost his edge.

When we have not obeyed, guess what? We have lost our edge as well. We get scared to fight.

The conversation in I Samuel 17:25 turns to temporal things. *And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel.* If you will engage in this battle, there is a temporal reward you can

have. That is what everybody is talking about when David comes on the scene. "What can I get out of this?" instead of thinking about what God gets out of it. We hear lustful talk instead of spiritual actions.

They needed somebody with a fresh point of view, somebody who could help move them forward.

So when David comes onto the battlefield, he arrives with a new perspective, a different way of thinking. When we consider their dismay and their prostate position, we understand that they needed a new perspective. They needed somebody with a fresh point of view, somebody who could help move them forward. They are paralyzed with what the devil has done to them at this point in time.

Although they needed somebody with a new perspective, when David gets there, guess what? They rejected his message. They refused him saying, "You are just a beautiful-faced, ruddy, little boy. Be quiet."

By comparison, certainly, David was smaller, but David had a new conversation. He was trying to help them.

Consider some others who had a new perspective. Think about Moses. When Moses came with a new perspective, what did they tell him to do? They said, "Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Get out of here." Think about Nehemiah. Nehemiah was just going through the motions of routine life when Hanani and some others came with a new perspective about what was taking place down in Judah. Guess what? He needed that.

Certainly we have to be careful as to where we get this new perspective.


In the book of Esther, we find Esther in her plush, comfortable position. She is satisfied. All of a sudden, Mordecai comes with a new perspective. She says, "You need a fresh outfit, a new suit. Why don't you get rid of the sackcloth and the ashes?" However, she was the one in need of the new perspective, not him. He says to

her, "You're the one who needs a new perspective, Esther. You need to die to yourself." Guess what? She did, and people were saved. I am afraid that she had the attitude of a lot of churches today. "Come to Palace Baptist Church where we specialize in comfort and ease." She needed a new perspective, and so do we.

Certainly we have to be careful as to where we get this new perspective. We have to be sure we know how to move the ark before we just use the Philistines' ark-moving equipment. We ought not, as Asa did, hire the wrong people to help fight your battles for you. We don't want to be like Jehosaphat and go join with Ahab in the wrong battle. We have to be careful as to where we get our new perspective.


The Bible is certainly clear that there are times in our life when we need this reviving. We need somebody to come with a new perspective, and that is exactly what we see in this passage of Scripture as you look at David. Twice a day for forty days, eighty different times, Goliath came out and made that same speech, and it paralyzed the people, but David had not heard that. He had not been sitting around with everybody else's perspective and their way of thinking. David had a new perspective.

By the way, David was not just some naughty, little boy as they accused him of being. Look in I Samuel 17:17-18: *And Jesse said unto David his son, Take now for thy brethren an ephah of this parched corn, and these*



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ten loaves, and run to the camp to thy brethren; And carry these ten cheeses unto the captain of their thousand, and look how thy brethren fare, . . . He was not down there as a nosey, little boy meddling in somebody else's business. His daddy sent him down there. It was a call for David to get involved. "Look how thy brethren fare." Have the oversight. Involve yourself. They need some help. Where have they been for these forty days?

David shows up with a new perspective, and yet he is accused of all the wrong. As David gets involved, he is asked to try on Saul's armor. David was a little bit concerned. Certainly one size does not fit all. David was a bit concerned that there were not any fresh scars or dents on the armor. Maybe there was not any fresh blood on that armor. Maybe the only stain was from pomegranate juice.

David says, "I don't need that!" Why? Because **David already had what Saul was lacking.** In fact, he was the only one who could come on that battlefield and fight that battle. Why? Because the Spirit of God was on his life and that was why he had a new perspective. He had the Spirit of God, and that made all the difference in the world as this battle was raging.

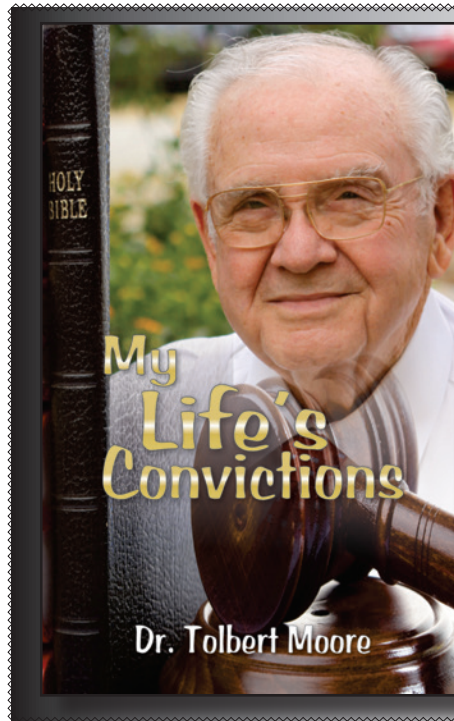
David had a new perspective for them. He wasn't interested in the temporal things he could get out of this. He was concerned about something higher.

We do know that later the Philistines were scared of David. In fact when Achish wanted him to join and fight with him a little bit, the princes of the Philistines said, "No, you are not bringing that David fellow." They feared David after this battle. They knew who David was, and they knew what he was all about.

I like what the Bible says in the New Testament about spiritual warfare. Look in Acts 19:15:

He had the Spirit of God, and that made all the difference in the world as this battle was raging.

It would be good for you and me not to just be known in Heaven but to be known in Hell. Hell should know who we are.



My Life's Convictions

Dr. Moore addresses practical, timely subjects such as DOCTRINE, SERVICE, and FELLOWSHIP in this compilation of his "My Life's Convictions" articles.

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And the evil spirit answered and said, Jesus I know, and Paul I know; but who are ye? It would be good for you and me not to be concerned about being known around the group and among the brethren. It would be good for you and me not to just be known in Heaven but to be known in Hell. Hell should know who we are. "Hey, this Jesus I know, and this Paul I know, but who are you?"

Maybe we should run some buses down in some of the neighborhoods he thinks he owns. Maybe we should have revivals, mission conferences or something in our church to have a new perspective. Maybe it would be good for you to call somebody that God would lay on your heart and tell them that you want to pray with them. Instead of

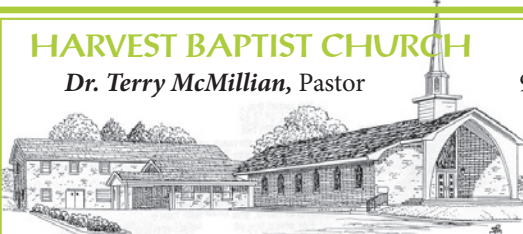
going out to lunch with them, maybe you should have a prayer meeting with them. That might give them a new perspective.

I liked the new perspective that Ralph Sexton brought us last night from the Holy Land. I needed that. We have something that does not fade away, expire, or change. It is the Word of God. Everybody wants to tell us that the Bible is old, decrepit, and no good for today. I want to tell you that right here is our new perspective—the Bible.

You know what David's new perspective was? Look with me back in I Samuel 17:26: *And David spake to the men that stood by him, saying, What shall be done to the man that killeth this Philistine, and taketh away the reproach from Israel? for who is this uncircumcised Philistine, that he should defy the armies of*

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the living God? Notice that David didn't want to talk about all the stuff he could get. You know what his perspective was? God!

Notice that David didn't want to talk about all the stuff he could get. You know what his perspective was? God!

I appreciate this meeting. I appreciate the different things that have been said. I like the emphasis being on God. I like the emphasis not being about a man and who you are versus who I am. You don't even know who I am, and I don't know who you are. The perspective that you and I needed to get from this meeting was God.

Now, let me ask you this. How do you see it? What is your perspective? Are you looking at circumstances from God's perspective or do you need a new perspective? Can you help someone else have a new perspective? ☩

You can e-mail Evangelist Shannon Scott at pastorsascott@aol.com

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What Can I Give?

by Jerry L. Schock

Acts 20:35 “....It is more blessed to give than to receive.”

I grew as a young Christian, looking for God's goodness, knowing His protection even through trials and valleys. I could find good in the worst of circumstances, and 71 years later it is still the same.

He said, “You cannot afford to give that much to the church,” and quickly I replied, “I cannot afford NOT to give it.”

There is so much to praise the Lord for as the years pass quickly, bringing me one step closer to Heaven and home. If you were to ask me to tell you of anyone God has blessed more than me, I can find no one. My finite mind cannot grasp the thought that God would love someone like me enough to sacrifice His only Son and bless me as He does. Oh that I could understand that love, comprehend it, know why. Yet the Lord continues to allow me to do things I only dreamed of as a young Christian, blessing me through it all.

Giving is a biblical principle and one of Mother's life lessons. I was raised hearing the benefits of giving, over and over, and it really stuck. She told us if there was anything we wanted to do or say, do it today, tomorrow may never come. God's Word even tells us life is like a vapour in James 4:14. But we must never give, expecting to get, and when the Lord touches us to do something, NOW is the time.

The years have taught me that it truly is a blessing to give. It is one of my greatest pleasures in life. It can be giving to others, to the Lord, being an encourager, a prayer warrior, whatever the Lord wants. How many times I have been told, “You are reaping the benefits

of what you give,” and I can tell you, we reap what we sow.

There is nothing special about me, but I am so blessed. It is ALL about the Lord and what He can and will do. It is NOT about me. Mother always made me feel special growing up. She would tell me I had an angel on my shoulder, saying “Honey, I have watched that angel protect you for so many years and have seen him work out things for you that would never work out for anyone else.” Mom is in Heaven today and has no idea the effect that statement has had on my life. I grew as a young Christian, looking for God's goodness, knowing His protection even through trials and valleys. I could find good in the worst of circumstances, and 71 years later it is still the same.

It pains me to think of how so many Christians miss God's blessings because of disobedience or just plain selfishness. Early on I learned about tithing, faith promise, and mission giving. As a young Christian, my boss was working with my budget. He said, “You cannot afford to give that much to the church,” and quickly I replied, “I cannot afford NOT to give it.” If I tell you I have always faithfully tithed, that would be a lie, but I CAN tell you, it did not take the Lord long to

teach me that He could do more with 90% than I could by keeping 100%. Today 10% is not nearly enough to give for me.

My first memory of Dr. Moore is not the first sermon I heard him preach in June of 1992, when God brought me to Galilean, but what he said to me on the day my letter was moved from Bible Baptist Church in Florida. He asked if I had any questions. I said, “Where do I get tithe envelopes?” Preacher Moore looked startled, then laughed and said he had never been asked that question, explained the envelopes were in the pews, and said we would get along fine. Twenty-three years later we are still getting along fine. I love you, Preacher Moore.

A few years ago Bro. Don Strange introduced us to “try God” giving, promising God to give away half of all unexpected money we received. I could hardly wait to see what the Lord would do with that and was not disappointed. Within a few months, He had put over \$3,000.00 of unexpected money in my hands, and it was a thrill to pick out a missionary to get 50% of it. Four years ago God allowed me to buy a new car. My intent was to donate the old one to *Cars for Christ*, but that was not God's plan. He sent me a young man who needed a car.



When the Lord touches you to do something, ask for His guidance in whatever it is. Keep your eyes, ears, and heart open, and the blessings will come your way.

Since the \$800.00 he paid me for the car was unexpected, it was “try God” money. I called Pastor Rex to see if we had a missionary with a need for the \$400.00, explaining what had happened. A missionary was in need of a car, and again, God allowed me to help meet the need of others, all for His glory and to His credit! My life’s verse is Romans 8:28, and the Lord has proven this time and again.

My most favorite time of year is not Christmas, but is the time when the tithing statements come out. Several years ago now, I asked the Lord to allow an increase in giving every year, and He has not disappointed me. Each year as I open the envelopes and add it all up, I praise God as He continues to give the increase. I never keep track of it just for the thrill of seeing it grow.

If the Lord allows, I will continue to work, selfishly. The reason is to be able to continue to give more each year to the Lord’s work as His blessings continue. Matthew 6:19-20 tell us “Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth. . .” and I want plenty of treasure in Heaven.

My prayer is for others to see the Lord in me. God has allowed me to work in a place where it is easy to find people

to do things for daily. I am blessed with a spiritual freedom unheard of in the secular world today. My bosses call me the spiritual leader of our company. Never in my wildest dreams could that have been imagined—just another blessing, for God’s glory.

If you want the Lord’s blessings, you must be willing to listen and obey. When the Lord touches you to do something, ask for His guidance in whatever it is. Keep your eyes, ears,


and heart open, and the blessings will come your way. They come in all forms, the privilege of someone who needs prayer, a hug, maybe someone to listen to them. Perhaps it will be a missionary or a preacher who has a special need. We never know, but the Lord does. His guidance NEVER fails –but we must be willing to be the vessel and allow Him to use us. Our best ability is availability. May the Lord richly bless as you seek His will, asking, “What can I give?” ☩

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My Life's Convictions

Part XLIII

Power & Influence

by Dr. Tolbert Moore

Through the years I have come to realize that many people think if you have **influence** you have enough. Many people absolutely dote on having influence. If they can have influence they can cause, or lead, people to do whatever they want them to do. There is a difference between having influence and having power.

Look in Psalm 29:4, *The voice of the Lord is **powerful**; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.*

Then in Luke 24:49, Christ is instructing His apostles and disciples just before He goes back to Heaven, and He said, *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with **power** from on high.*

The word *power* there is translated from the word *dunamis*, which is the same word from which we get the word

dynamite or dynamo, talking about a miraculous power, an explosive power. This power, although God does not necessarily make a noise like dynamite, has even more force.

In Acts 1:8 they said to Him, *Would you restore the Kingdom at this time?* He said to them, "No." *But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. You will have **power**.*

Acts 6:10, *And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.*

So we are to have power. He said in Mark 16:15-16, *And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.*

Watch this, I will be with you all the way even unto the end of the world. If He is with us that means the anointing is there. See Matthew 28:18-20, *And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all*

things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen. The writer said Christ was anointed with power.

Now look in Acts 16:16-28, *And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour. And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans. And the multitude rose up together against them: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded to beat them. And when they had laid many stripes upon them, they cast them into prison, charging the jailor to keep them safely: Who, having received such a charge, thrust them into the*

There is a difference between having influence and having power.

If He is with us that means the anointing is there.

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So, maybe Paul didn't have **influence** but he had **power** with God.

inner prison, and made their feet fast in the stocks. And at midnight Paul and Silas prayed, and sang praises unto God: and the prisoners heard them. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken: and immediately all the doors were opened, and every one's bands were loosed. And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here.

When Paul and Silas were accused of false teaching and preaching in chapter 16, they did not have enough **influence** to keep from going to jail. The masters of the girl had enough influence to cause Paul and Silas to be put into prison. However, Paul and Silas prayed, and there was a power that shook the place until the doors came open. So, maybe Paul didn't have **influence** but he had **power** with God.

Then Paul talks about being filled with the Holy Ghost in Acts 9:17, *And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost.*

Paul said in II Corinthians 1:21 that we have been anointed with the Holy Ghost, anointed with power, *Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God.*

What I am about to say I am just using as an illustration. I am not picking on anybody, but I have met many men in the Baptist church who were leaders who had no anointed power from God. This is true

with preachers, deacons, teachers, etc. There would be no witness of the Holy Spirit with them ever, but they had influence. That influence, many times, has led people away from the Word of God. These men of influence had a certain religion that was supposed to be based on the Bible, the New Testament, the doctrines of Christ, but actually it was based on religious tenets, rules, and orders.

Now, having said that, influence can be good or influence can be corrupt. The power of God, however, cannot be

diluted. It can be imitated, but the true power of God is pure. It has no dilution, pollution, or corruption.

The power of God is what is needed now as much as anytime ever. The power of God is not limited to only educated people. Educated people can have the power of God. They can have power, rather than influence, or they can have both, but you must understand, if they don't have the Spirit they are none of Christ's. The Bible says in Romans 8:9, *But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so*

I am not picking on anybody, but I have met many men in the Baptist church who were leaders who had no anointed power from God.




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be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

I love the Baptist church. I am a Baptist for many reasons. I have been reading Dr. Louie Newton's book on *Why I Am a Baptist*. He gave many good reasons, and I agree with every reason he states.

I believe I am a Baptist because of the Book. The Baptists claim that the Bible, the Word of God, is their only rule for faith and practice. That is the number one article of faith. But now, you need to check up on the system, the organization,

the institute, the way the church is constituted, rules of order, so on and so on. Other things may have been added. You need to check that out. Then you need to check the practice. Is that teaching or that practice absolutely spelled out in the New Testament Scriptures?

I love the church. I love the word church, but the word is an English word. It did not even appear in the Greek language until 325 AD and was called the House of the Lord.

Constantine believed in the House of the Lord, and his lord originally was a sun god,

The power of God, however, cannot be diluted. It can be imitated, but the true power of God is pure. It has no dilution, pollution, or corruption.

but his mother had become a Christian, according to history, and he claimed Christianity so he made Christ the Lord of the House of the Lord.

I agree that the assembly, or the congregation, that meets in the name of the Lord Jesus, their designated place at that point is the House of the Lord.

I'm talking about power and influence. One of the most powerful congregations I ever preached to did not have a high school graduate in the leadership of that church. Some high school graduates and a few people who had been to college attended that church, but they were not in leadership. The leaders did not finish high school, but I tell you there was as much power in that place as in any place I have ever pastored over a period of time.

At Shiloh Hills Baptist Church, from 1970 until 1975, was a powerful time as well. When you walked into that place, you knew there was energy and life there.

I think that is true with any church that really has the anointing of the Spirit of the Lord. Power is energy, and if there is no energy there, there must not be any power there. If it is all just by influence, by rules, by edicts, then there is a question about it. This has become my conviction through the years. ✠

The leaders did not finish high school, but I tell you there was as much power in that place as in any place I have ever pastored over a period of time.



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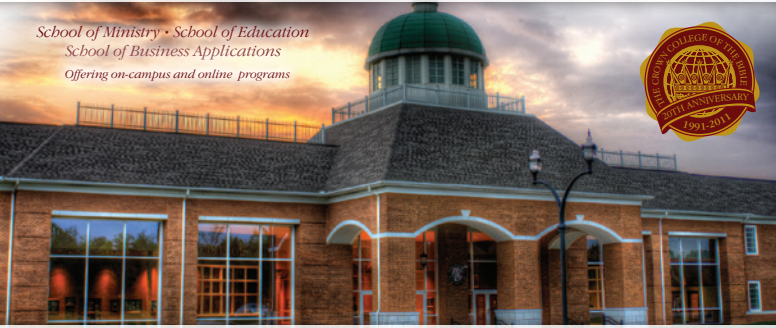

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Precious Memories How They Linger



The Obituary says:
Rev. Benjamin Herschel Randall
(June 4, 1924 - March 7, 2015)
Passed Away *Peacefully*

by Dr. Tolbert Moore

He got, what we called, "under conviction." He was convinced that he was lost, and if he didn't get saved, he would go to Hell!

The plan of salvation doesn't change! It is always the power of God that saves through calling on the Name of the Lord, trusting Him, and Him alone, for your salvation.

After being busy for a couple of days and not checking the messages on the phone, I decided I'd better look to see if I had any calls. One of my calls was from Sister Elsie Swetmon who left a message that Herschel Randall had passed away. In her message she asked, "Wasn't he the one that got saved one night after church when we all went to his house after the service?"

"Yes," I thought to myself, "that was Herschel!"

When I called Elsie back, we talked about that glorious night. It was in the late 50's or early 60's. I was the pastor at Sentell Baptist Church in North Atlanta. The Spirit of the Lord had moved in the congregation, and a spirit of conviction was there. People (I mean, grown men from their 40's down to their 20's) were coming to the Lord. Some of them were business leaders such as the sales manager of Apex Plumbing Supplies, the manager and president of Atlanta Flooring—folks like that. God was moving in a mighty way. They would come forward, pray, and get it settled! They were men of high caliber, and it had to be convincing to them—which was good!

Herschel Randall was one of those young men. He had a wife and family, but he had never trusted Christ. He had never been saved. He got, what we called, "under conviction"—He

was convinced that he was lost, and if he didn't get saved, he would go to Hell!

He would come to the altar and pray and pray and pray and couldn't get satisfied. Then, the next service, he would do it again and again! We would pray with him and talk with him many times after everyone was gone.

Then one Sunday evening after he had prayed in the altar and hadn't gotten satisfied, he said, "Would you come over to my house?" So, we left to go to his house. Farris and Elsie Swetmon had recently been saved and baptized, and Farris had gone through a series of services before he got satisfied, so they came along with us.

We prayed with Herschel and he asked a lot of questions. He said, "How will it happen? What will it feel like?" I went over the plan of salvation with him again and again, the same way every time! The plan of salvation doesn't change! It is always the power of God that saves through calling on the Name of the Lord, trusting Him, and Him alone, for your salvation.

Finally, after we prayed, he sort of leaned back and sat down on the floor. Looking up at me, he said, "When your heart just begins to swell and fill up with joy—is that it?"

I said, "Sounds like it to me! I don't know for you."

He said, "Well, I GOT IT!"

What a rejoicing time we had. Elsie and I remember that night as if it were yesterday although it was probably 60 years ago now. Thank God for the opportunity to be present when people get saved!

Herschel became a real light in that area and in the churches there. He was a layman and gave his testimony, giving the Word of God and winning people to the Lord. Everyone who went to church on the north side of Atlanta soon knew who Herschel Randall was and that he got saved.


Through the years I had lost track of Herschel but wasn't surprised when I read his obituary and saw his name: Rev. Benjamin Herschel Randall. Thank the Lord for his life and his home going! ☩

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Building a Great

by Dr. Lee Roberson

Taken from "A Winner Never Quits and a Quitter Never Wins!"

Consider the title of this chapter, "Building a Great Church." I didn't say "building a large church"—some large churches are far from great. I am not primarily concerned about bigness in numbers and finances, but I am concerned about "greatness." Let the local church be great in spirit, great in concern, great in missionary outlook, great in work, and especially great in soul winning.

I have seen great churches in rural communities, small towns and mission fields—churches great in spirit, attitudes and accomplishments.

Leadership is the key. Everything rises and falls on leadership. The pastor is to be a leader. Normally, the church will do no more than the pastor wishes or does. The pastor who wants his work to go forward must give himself to his task.

For more than fifty-five years I have been declaring, "Everything rises or falls on leadership." Original? I don't know. It has been a part of my thinking for a long time. And it is true! Leadership is the key to success and victory. Failure comes when leadership fails.

Nations fail because of leadership. A study of Israel shows this. King Saul and King Solomon illustrate this truth. The

kings of the northern and southern kingdoms picture it vividly. But in every age, yes, in this twentieth century, nations rise and fall on leadership.

States, countries and cities fail when leadership fails. Churches fail when leadership fails. The pastor, God's leader for the local church, must do right, or the work will fail. Sunday school classes fail with poor leadership. Youth work fails, missionary enterprises fail with weak leadership.

But with the right leadership, miracles take place.

I have seen abandoned churches reopened, revitalized, revived and restored to great usefulness. I have seen dwindling Sunday school classes catch fire, begin to grow and reach scores of people when the proper leader was found. I have seen churches and Sunday schools touch an entire city when the power of God moved through dedicated leaders.

This is a very informal book. I speak out of my heart. I want to "sum up" my sixty-six years in the ministry. I want to go back to my home church near Louisville, Kentucky, where I made my profession of faith in Christ, followed the Lord in believer's baptism, and where I learned my first lesson in building a successful work. My pastor, Rev.

Let the local church be great in spirit, great in concern, great in missionary outlook, great in work, and especially great in soul winning.

For more than fifty-five years I have been declaring, "Everything rises or falls on leadership." Original? I don't know. It has been a part of my thinking for a long time.

J. N. Binford, was my teacher. The church was not large, but it was aggressive, active and Bible-centered. The pastor believed in organization and being faithful to Christ. I worked with him; I saw his zeal and compassion.

My first full-time work was at the Virginia Avenue Baptist Church of Louisville. My pastor was L. W. Benedict from New York State, a graduate of the Southern Baptist seminary. There is where I got my first lesson on the importance of visitation. Brother Benedict kept me visiting night and day, covering the west end of Louisville.

In addition to visitation, I directed the church music. I worked at the church's radio station, WLAP (We Love All People). I taught a Sunday school class (all of this before I was twenty). At the same time, I attended school at the University of Louisville and took some classes at the Southern Baptist seminary. (My salary was \$40.00 per month. This was in the Depression days.)

My first pastorate was at the Germantown Baptist Church, located at the edge of Memphis, Tennessee. This church called me. Virginia Avenue Baptist Church ordained me. The ordination sermon in 1932 was by my first pastor. Rev. J. N. Binford.

Thirty-two people were present on my first Sunday morning at Germantown. The church was organized about 1865. The building was old but beautiful. I remained at my first church one year. There I baptized many converts. There we built a Sunday school building and filled it with happy people, young and old.

In my first full-time work as pastor, I visited constantly. We organized the Sunday school. We grew.

And then, a big mistake! I stepped out of the will of God. Without prayer and meditation, I accepted the position of assistant pastor of the Temple Baptist Church in Memphis. I experienced three months of misery. Soon after taking the position, I knew I was out of God's will. The pastor insisted that I stay, but I had to leave.

Then followed five months of emptiness—no church, no work.

Then I was invited to speak at the Greenbrier Baptist Church, Greenbrier, Tennessee, twenty-two miles from Nashville. The little church called me. This time I waited on God. I prayed earnestly. The Lord directed me to take the church. I spent three happy years there as pastor. I lived in a tiny room at the back of the church. There was no bathroom, no telephone—just one room; but I was happy, for I was in His will.

In 1935 I was called to be the evangelist for the Birmingham Baptist Association. I was elected by the association. I received no salary but love offerings from my meetings. I preached fifty-five revivals in churches and tents and enjoyed a great season of soul winning for two years.

In 1937 I was called to pastor the First Baptist Church of Fairfield, Alabama, adjoining Birmingham. That year I got

married! I entered the work of the pastorate again. For five years we worked with the Fairfield church. It grew from 125 to an average of 850. Evangelism, both public and private, was pushed. The Sunday school was expanded. There was growth in every division of the work. We were very happy.

But one Sunday a pulpit committee appeared from Chattanooga. The Highland Park Baptist Church there had endeavored to get Dr. John C. Cowell of the Central Baptist Church of Decatur, Alabama, to be their pastor; but when he refused their offer, he gave the committee my name.

The committee heard me preach and invited me to Highland Park for a service. I did visit the church for one Sunday morning in October of 1942. The church called me, but I was not sure of God's will. I waited. I prayed. Dr. T. W. Callaway of Chattanooga came to see me to add his emphasis to the call.

It was a struggle, but I finally knew the will of God and accepted the call. I knew it was God's will. I never doubted this.

This pastorate lasted forty years and six months. Oh, what miraculous, wonderful things took place in over four decades!

There were souls saved every Sunday for forty years and six months.

Our motto, THREE TO THRIVE, came into being—Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday.

First and foremost the soul-winning program began at once. Sunday after Sunday people walked the aisles. There were souls saved every Sunday for forty years and six months.

The Sunday school began to grow! From a few score in Sunday school, the attendance went to many thousands. The people were faithful and responsive.

The visitation program started and continued without abatement. Evangelism was emphasized.

From the church auditorium (now Phillips Chapel) we moved to a sawdust-floor tabernacle, spending four years in that rough building. It was hot in the summer and cold in the winter. Next, we built the tabernacle (now Chauncey-Goode Auditorium) which seated about 2,500. We continued to grow, so we expanded the balcony and sides of the tabernacle to seat 3,500. This building was used for all services from 1947 to 1981.

From the beginning at Highland Park, the midweek service was the center of our work. We placed great emphasis on the Wednesday prayer service—"The Sweetest Service of the Week." Our motto, THREE TO THRIVE, came into being—Sunday morning, Sunday evening and Wednesday. At the prayer service, we had the choir and orchestra in place. There was a song service, with perhaps two specials and a season of prayer. A prayer list was mimeographed and given to the people, listing the sick in hospitals and homes, the shut-ins, the bereaved and a few of our 560 missionaries. Two or three men were called to the platform to lead in prayer.

An offering for missions was received each Wednesday. The people gave generously.

In every service, a message was given, followed by an invitation. †



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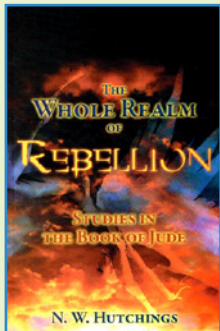
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I Love America!

by *Dr. Tolbert Moore*

What do I see that causes
 me to love America?

I love the land, sea, the climates, and the four seasons.
 I love America's great natural beauty.
 I love the liberty in America.
 I love the foundation on which America was built.
 I love the people from all nations, kindreds, and tongues.

We have our problems, but the American people have always found solutions. One of our presidents said, "The government is not the solution. The government is the problem!" We complain about our government, and yet we must remember "We voted them into office!"

We are entering a critical election cycle with opportunities to set the course for generations to come. The consequences could be the most dangerous in my lifetime.

Some 50 years ago I was bi-vocational. My calling has been preaching since I was 14 years of age (I am now 86). My trade, however, was printing and newspapers, so I became acquainted with the governor, senators, and secretary of state in Georgia. I learned that **politics** is a blood sport and as vicious as the organized crime syndicate.

Somehow the voters always vote for officials who care more about their careers or their own personal agendas than they do for standing up for the American people as a whole. A great man once said, "You can fool some people all the time, all of the people some of the time, but you cannot fool all the people all the time!" I am praying that the majority of the voters in 2016 will not be fooled but will be well informed and vote for America: that is, the American people, their protection, liberty, and their family's wellbeing and happiness.

God bless America. ✝

The Gospel Preacher Association Missionary Journal

“As an eagle stirreth up her nest...” Deut. 32:11

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Is There Not a Cause?

"And David said,
What have I now done?
Is there not a cause?"
1 Samuel 17:29

by Dr. Gary S. Moore

As David watched the men of Israel cower in fear before Goliath and the army of the Philistines, he was stirred to ask, “Is there not a cause?” To him the cause of God’s people was great enough to fight and die for. He had proven his courage in defending his family’s flocks and herds from the wild animals that would have devoured them, and he stood now ready to defend the honor of God and the sovereignty of Israel as a nation. I believe David would rather die than allow the nation to be mocked in his presence and the cause of God to go undefended. I see in his life a great example to follow and a measure of character that is hard to find as was exhibited by the soldiers around him including his own brothers.

David’s question rings just as demanding today as it did then. Many Christians live in fear and cower from the onslaught of the world that grows more hostile to Christ and His teachings every day. While those who oppose Christ grow bolder by the moment, Christians retreat further into the shadows and seem to have less and less influence with each

passing year. It seems no one is willing to stand up and say, “God is alive. The Bible is true. Sin is the problem, and salvation is the answer.”

David saw the cause clearly and was ashamed of the actions of those around him as Goliath put them to open shame every morning. I believe it’s time for God’s people to take up the cause today and stand up to the enemies of the cross.

There is a cause for the truth. I see on every hand the Bible derided and its eternal truth mocked and maligned by the academic community, news media, and the entertainment world of today. To say out loud that God is the sole creator of the universe, that Christ is the only Saviour, that human life is sacred, that homosexuality is sinful, and that every word of God is true, and eternally so, is social suicide. There is a cause for the family, for morality, political change, and personal responsibility.

Any and all of these should be addressed but since this is the *Missionary Journal*, let me take a few lines and say that there is a cause for Missions. Gospel mission is defined as

“an organized effort for the propagation of the Christian faith.” I believe there is cause to be concerned for missions, in our generation, here in the United States and Western Europe. I word it this way because many areas of the world are experiencing an explosion of mission work. China is a prime example of a nation that is moving the Gospel forward at an unprecedented rate for the post-modern world.

Here in the US and other western countries, Christianity has, in a word, lost its way. Since the early sixties we have seen a steady decline in the number of missionaries serving year after year. The church has one great work to do and that is the Great Commission. Preaching the Gospel, winning people to Christ, reaching the lost world are the heart and soul of the church. When that stops, we cease to actually be a church. Add to that the fact that the percentage of those attending church is also declining at an alarming rate, and we have a problem. We have Youth Group, Deacons' Meetings, Senior Saints' programs, and choir practice every Sunday afternoon, but we rarely see anyone walk the aisle and get saved. When they do, many of them are not to be found in church three months after their baptism.

There is a cause. The lost die and go to Hell, and the saved often act as if they could care less. I know some reading think that this is rather harsh, but if you look at the evidence, like David did that day he fought Goliath, it will make you ashamed of the effectiveness of our outreach. If we don’t wake up and proclaim the Gospel, we are going to lose another generation to the world.

The temptation is to organize meetings to discuss the issue, do some

strategic planning, have a few conferences, or add some new classes to our Bible College programs, but the truth is, it's time to just tell people about Jesus. It's time to offer ourselves in service to missions and pray that God will use us to win the world.

The other day I was talking to an American missionary serving in the Philippines. He said that often the national pastors just do things on a whim. He stated that just the other day several of them made a decision on the spur of the moment. After spending a few days witnessing in a certain town and having several families saved, one evening they decided to just start a church there. In about two hours, they had divided up the preaching and teaching responsibilities, and

the next morning they went looking for a place where they could have church services. He paused a moment and said, "Maybe we could learn something from that." Yes, I believe we could.

There is a cause, and we need to rise up to the call of the Great Commission and seek with earnest hearts to reach our friends, neighbors, and family members with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

To continue to let the fear of what a hostile world thinks keep us from speaking the truth, to allow our unconcern to disable us and adversely affect others, is to bring shame on the church.

We need a David in our day to awaken us. We look back on the mighty King he was and remember him as the man after God's own heart, but the day he slew the giant he was just a boy who asked the question, "Is there not a cause?" †



To keep up with Unsheltered International Philippines, Inc. visit their website www.unsheltered.org



Check out what our partners in the ministry, Travis & April Sharpe have been up to since they arrived in the Philippines.

January 6th
Arrived in the Philippines

January 8th
Rented a house for our family to live in while we are here and purchased a lot of the furniture and appliances.

January 10th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/blog-post/3081>
Visited a couple of the meal centers yesterday and got to see some of the children that we have been investing in each week since September of last year.



January 21st
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3122>

We visited a dump in Bacolod. The poverty is unbearable. We met the people who live and work there. Many of them are kids. Our plan, Lord willing, is to go there each Saturday. We will take a meal for everyone and also have a preaching time.



January 30th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3143>
We have learned that love + action = COMPASSION!

February 6th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3161>
We desperately needed a vehicle, so we were able to purchase a 2007 Nissan



Urvan. It is perfect for transporting the children to whom we minister.

February 14th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3178>

Our first building project for the children in an impoverished community here in the Philippines.

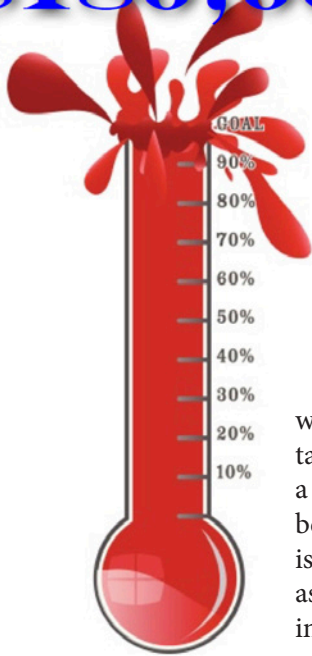
February 16th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3192>
I have learned that selfies aren't all that bad if you take them with the right people! Three "life lessons" that I have been learning: humility, trust, patience.

February 27th
<http://www.unsheltered.org/?p=3228>
Unsheltered International Philippines, Inc. has been established!



Praise God for His Wonderful Blessings on Our Ministry

\$180,000



Now that the ship is paid for, we move to the next all important phase of refitting it for use as a mercy ship. The goal has never been to just own a ship. The goal is for the ship to be used of God as a true vessel of mercy to those in great need in Central America and the Islands of the Caribbean. Please pray with us as we seek God's guidance to finish the work

of renovation and then get the ship in service spreading the Gospel and touching lives with the medical teams.



"Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." Jeremiah 33:3

On Monday, February 23rd, we received word that a \$50,000.00 gift was on the way for The Mercy Project! Yes, you read that right, fifty thousand dollars for the ship. That means we should be able to pay the ship off and get it moved from New Jersey to the Chesapeake towards the end of March. What a glorious answer to prayer and what a wonderful blessing from the hand of God. Over the past two years, we have had around four hundred different churches, organizations, businesses and individuals make a gift to The Mercy Project.



THANK YOU to everyone who gave, and thank you to those who could not give financially, but you prayed, gave of your time, and offered support in many other ways. We are so excited we can hardly contain ourselves.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

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Three Personal Virtues Belonging to Christ

by **Dr. Dennis Petty**, Missions & Evangelism, Co-General Director



JOHN 14:27, “Peace I leave with you, MY PEACE I give unto you. . . .”

JOHN 15: 9, “As the Father hath loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in MY LOVE.”

JOHN 15:11, “These things have I spoken unto you, that MY JOY might remain in you, and that your joy might be full.”

Last words are precious, and the farewell discourse in John’s Gospel chapters 13-17, which compose the last words that Jesus spoke to His disciples in the upper room on the eve of His crucifixion, has always had an irresistible appeal to the children of God. In these chapters (13-17) the Master speaks of three personal things: “MY PEACE” (14:27), which we are to embrace; “MY LOVE” (15:9), which we are to experience; “MY JOY” (15:11), which we are to enjoy. Reading these chapters is like discovering the last will and testimony of a wealthy man and discovering also that we are the beneficiaries.

I. “MY LOVE” (JOHN 15:9)—HIS HOLY CHARACTER

The Lord loves because the character of His being is love. The love of Christ is faithful in all covenants, graceful in all conduct, thoughtful in all circumstances, and cheerful in the conflicts of life. Love is personified in the character of our Lord Who is “altogether lovely.” When He resides in us, He adorns the soul with His own adorable beauty. He beautifies His bride, to manifest His own comeliness.

This love that is “shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost” is not a natural resident there. We are dealing with a supernatural love. No wonder it is said to be the “greatest” (1 Cor. 13:13) and is no doubt the grandest experience of the Spirit life.

The love of Christ is not so much something to be explained as it is something to be experienced and then exhibited in our lives. His Holy character is the atmosphere of the Christian life. The Christian must “walk in love” (Eph. 5:2). His Holy character is the apparel of the Christian life. Paul’s charge to the Colossians is that they “put on charity (love)” (3:14). We are to be clothed in the beauty of His love. His Holy character is the aim of the Christian life. “Let all your things be done with charity (love),” that is Paul’s word to the Corinthians (1 Cor. 16:14).

II. “MY JOY” (JOHN 15:11)—HIS HOLY CONDITION

The great secret of joy is that you are rightly related to God. What a joyous life is the life hid with Christ in God. Joy is the fruit that will not grow in nature’s barren soil. Joy flows from Christ’s person, “My joy.” “My joy” is very emphatic. The joy which is Mine (the inner life of the Saviour), I give unto you, not as a passing emotion but as a permanent possession.

Christian joy is known by experience. It cannot be described. Words cannot express its charm. It is an experience that is so beyond description that Peter calls it “unspeakable joy,” i.e. a triumphant gladness too great for words. It’s the consequence of the experience of salvation. It is the joy of the Lord Jesus Himself in us. AWESOME!

III. “MY PEACE” (JOHN 14:27)—HIS HOLY COMPOSURE

Peace is one of the sweet words of the Bible, a treasure of grace, a fruit of the Spirit, and the blessing for every child of God. “Peace” is the sunshine of love and joy resting in Christ. It is unclouded communion with God that makes for mental and spiritual welfare. Peace is not something but **SomeOne**. “He is our peace” (Eph. 2:14). “My peace,” i.e. peace that is Mine. The Holy Spirit puts within the child of God, Christ’s own disposition.

The peace of Christ, which is beyond the reach of Christian explanation, is within the reach of Christian experience. We have the peace of God because we have the God of peace. †

**“As an eagle stirreth
up her nest”**

Dent. 32:11



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