XM RADIO CHANNEL 173 SIMULCASTS WLW PROGRAMS



ALL CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR MINISTRY ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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Issue 11

A Tribute To Ed

I celebrated my 89th birthday October 1. I've been preaching for 65 years and on the radio 45 years. Thank you for the hundreds of cards and remembrances I received. A special thanks to the FI-COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSOC., Steve Wetterhan, evangelist with the Wilmington, OH Church of Christ, and Jim Bush, evangelist with the Hillsboro Church of Christ for the great Tribute to me on Tuesday October 2, 2007 held at the Wilmington Church of Christ. Thanks to all who attended and were part of the program, it was a night I'll not soon forget!

THE PHANTOM - A Communion Meditation

There are a few things in the life of Jesus that many have heard about, even though they may never been in a church service, or read one page of the word of God, and one of those things is the account of how Jesus at one time walked on the water.

Matthew fourteen has the best account of that true historical event. After the feeding of the 5,000 with five loaves, and two fishes the multitude wanted to take Jesus by force, and make him King.

Jesus sent the disciples away in the boat before they could be caught up in this madness and He went up into the mountain to pray. John tells us it was now dark and a great storm was rising because of a great wind that blew.

The Apostles rowed that boat for about seven or eight hours against the wind, and covered only a little over three miles. Jesus came to them in the fourth watch of the night and that would be about three AM. All the while they rowed, Mark says he saw them toiling at the rowing.

When He came to them walking on the sea, they supposed Him to be a spirit. The word spirit in this case is translated in English phantom, or ghost. And when the disciples saw Him walking on the sea, they were troubled, and cried out for fear. And the word for cried out indicates they shrieked, or screamed. They thought Jesus was a phantom, a ghost: a specter, something unreal.

The disciples knew the boat was real, they knew the wind was real, they knew the sea was real; they knew they were in danger of dying a real death by drowning, and they knew this was no nightmare. Every thing about this situation was real, except Jesus, He was a phantom, a ghost: unreal.

We wonder how many people today think Jesus is a phantom, He is unreal? Today many are living in fantasyland. We read, and see all kinds of crime, and horrible murders, and nothing is referred to as sin. Sin is not real, no one is a sinner; we make our own rules of morality; right or wrong is what we think. Some people may be maladjusted, but no one is a sinner. The church is a fantasy, and has no real purpose in life. The Bible is a collection of myths, like Hans Christian Anderson's fairy tales, and even most, quote, Christians unquote, never bother to read it. Baptism has no relevance to salvation, and the Lord's Supper is a meaningless ceremony where people eat a little piece of bread and take a sip of grape juice, and many ignore it altogether.

The disciples found out that Jesus was not a phantom; Jesus was for real, and the only answer to the problem of certain destruction. Times have not changed; Christ is the answer, and the only answer, the one and only way, of escape from the horrible future that looms before the human race.

Sin is for real, the Devil is for real, and when we gather at the Lord's Table on the Lord's Day, that piece of bread, and that sip of the fruit of the vine, is not a meaningless ceremony, it represents a real cross, where a real Saviour died, and arose from the dead for real sinners who were damned to a real hell. The Lord's Supper on the Lord's Day is not a phantom. It's the real deal.

A GREAT MIRACLE A COMMUNION MEDITATION

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In John chapter six is the story of the great miracle where Jesus fed the 5,000 with five loaves and two fishes. Jesus saw a great multitude coming unto him and said to Philip, "Whence are we to buy bread that these might eat?" Jesus said this to prove Him for He knew what He would do. Philip looked over the crowd, made a few quick mental calculations, and came up with the two hundred penny worth figure. Jesus was asking about bread and Philip thought about money. Philip thought like modern day American Christians. If the Lord speaks of sending the gospel around the world, our first thought is how much money it will take.

Andrew said, "There is a lad here with five barley loaves and two fishes, but what are these among so many?" Jesus said, "Make the men sit down." Now there was much grass in the place, and the men sat down in number about 5,000. Jesus break the loaves, gave thanks, gave to the Apostles, and the Apostles to the multitude, and they were filled, with twelve baskets with broken pieces left over.

There is no question in our minds that this was one of the major miracles of Jesus. It is the only miracle that is recorded by all four of the gospel writers, with the exception of the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The Holy Spirit must have had some special reason for repeating it four times.

However as great a miracle as it is, there is another event similar to it; that takes on even greater proportions than feeding 5,000 with five small loaves and two fishes, which took place about the time of the Passover.

About one year later at another Passover the Lord Jesus would institute the Lord's Supper. He took a small amount of bread, and a cup of the fruit of the vine, and gave to the Apostles. According to Paul He told them as oft as we do this we show forth his death until he comes.

Starting on the day of Pentecost there were 3,000 who continued steadfastly in the breaking of bread. In the fourth chapter of Acts the number was increased to 5,000. Then in Acts, the sixth chapter, the number of disciples in Jerusalem alone was multiplied. The multiplication was not such a simple example as two plus two, but the number was multiplied exceedingly.

And then the number grew to such an astronomical number as it is recorded in Revelation the seventh chapter when John said, "After these things I saw, and behold, a great multitude, which no man could number, out of every nation and tribes, and peoples and tongues; standing before the throne, and before the Lamb, arrayed in white robes and palms in their hands. Then this multitude which could not be numbered was identified as: These are they who have come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

Since we are told in the twentieth chapter of Acts that the disciples assembled every Sunday for the purpose of breaking the bread; what an overwhelming thought it is to realize that the Lord Jesus Christ in the last 2,000 years has been feeding the loaf, and the cup ever Sunday to a number that no man can number. So as we come to the Table of the Lord today, and eat of the bread, and drink of the cup, let us remember this is a greater event than when the Lord fed the 5,000.

UPDATE FROM IKE & LEE

* * * * *

THE TRUTH/GIJAPA collaboration is doing well and our aim to start more congregations of the Church of Christ in the several towns and villages in Ghana is also on course with Agona Nkwanta in the pipeline. Sooner or later this congregation shall be started and we need your prayers. We are still surveying and running a research work on the area before we finally move in there. So far we have gathered that there are 6 villages by the way side between our town and Agona Nkwanta (which is about 7-8 miles away), 4 immediate villages after this town and some 7 more unseen villages in the forest away from the wayside without a Church of Christ.

Fianko Church of Christ

FCC is also doing very well with more visitors and conversions weekly. We still have to plant two more churches in two other villages in this area but we are waiting and relying on this congregation at Fianko in the mean time. God willing, we shall begin to worship in the mornings instead of in the evening at Fianko to pave way for more people to come and worship with us so that they can go back to their villages in broad day light. Pray for us. That means, Ike will have to teach at Park Side Church of Christ in the morning and then leave for Fianko to teach and worship there and then travel on to Agona Nkwanta to teach and worship there too in the evening (in the mean time) if this congregation is planted.

Bible study courses

More people are enrolling for the Bible study courses and are submitting their completed lessons for grading though some take months to return them. We have more than 80 packets of 22 each completed lessons to be mailed for grading. We are still receiving requests for the lessons and thank God we now have new lessons on Acts and John, which we have, began enrolling students... Nevertheless, the unfortunate and sad news we hear is about people telling us how they have understood and received the word but there is no church or Church of Christ near to their villages or town so are not attending any church. This is a sig-

nal to us that we need to get up before God Himself get up to go and look for the lost sheep. 'When we did not know, God closed His eyes on it, but (now that we know that there are no churches of Christ in several towns and villages in Ghana), He asks us to repent and get up to go and plant more of churches for the people' (Acts 17:30 paraphrased).

Bibles

We thank Ed and Nomi for the Bibles and tracts for our work here. A day does not pass without us receiving a letter requesting for Bibles and study lessons. PTL! We thank you so very much for your support and prayers for this program of GIJAPA,

Ed's Sermon Translation

We do our personal works on Tuesdays and Fridays and close early to go do teach people about Christ through Ed's radio broadcast sermons, and God has won over souls into His church through this program. At least we know of 6 people accepting Christ through this program only last month. People are now calling and writing daily to book an appointment with us to come to their homes to run this program for them, and it's amazing! We though people will not be interested but it is overwhelming how people are asking us to come to let them listen to this plain and easy to understand sermons. It's an opportunity for those who have no access to radio or can't catch the wave or the meter band where this sermon is broadcasted to also benefit. At the time of going to press, we have 61 appointments with homes and churches to honor their invitation to preach the word through Ed's Sermons.

Baptisms

These days most of our baptisms are done in the night, especially of converts at Fianko because we worship there in the evenings, and we travel to Bawjaise to do the baptisms because there is no good water at Fianko even now that there are more rains. We also make sure that we trace these converts to see if they remain in Christ and are strong. We say may God bless you.

The Truth/GIJAPA & Park Side Church of Christ Ghana.

LETTERS

Mr. Ed, the Man,

I am here at Mechanicsville, VA, Pole Green Church of Christ. Last evening I met a wonderful Christian gentleman (sixties). He related his conversion to me in some detail and among other things; he spoke of listening to you via radio for some time and was convinced of his need for a savior

I believe, while sitting beside Eddy Jones in revival, during invitation, he leaned over and whispered, "Do you think they would immerse me for the remission of sins right now." "Of course," Eddie said, "right now." The gentleman responded, "I'll be back in a minute or two for I have something to take care of right now," he was immersed into Christ. Your ministry is widespread and fruitful for our great God. I rejoice and am proud to be called your friend.

1st Corinthians. Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord

Saint Dick from Hanoverton, OH

Brother Bousman,

To God be the glory in your life through Christ, Amen.

I have today taken delivery of two boxes of clothing and twenty four Bibles. I thank you so much. Please thank Sister Naomi also for me.

I am very happy for this gesture. These are the main things we need in this hard soil. Truly speaking most of the people are very poor to the last extent, it is indescribable. It is common to see me asking assistance from some brethren to assist many at a time I myself is suffering. I thank God for your life, Amen.

Brother Bousman, I am very grateful for your love, care and concern for the work I am doing here. Life is very tough here for me and my family but I am determined to work harder. Keep on praying for me and the work here. This year we have won more souls and I thank God for that. You are indeed a brother who has serious concern towards the Lord's work. God keep abiding with you and your family through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Alexander Ofori, a servant of the Most High God From The Gambia, W. Africa

Dear Sir.

I thank you for the Bible I got from you through the hard working preacher of your Church here—Alexander Ofori. I am a Catholic with all my family members, but Mr. Ofori has taught me from wonderful Bible lessons I never knew before in my life. That preacher knows the Bible very, very well and is very serious to work for God in all parts of The Gambia. I love my Bible. Thank you sir, through him I know the truth and I know I have to change now.

Francis from The Gambia, W. Africa

Dearest Brother & sister in Christ,

Hello there! Sure pray this finds you folks both still doing fine. Thanks again for all the good works you both do for the Lord. We are blessed in knowing you both. We heard you, Ed preach for the first time 34 years ago, the Sunday we were born into Christ. Never will I forget that day. You have helped keep us as strong as we are for all these years. Wish we would have started sooner in life, living for Him.

Love and appreciate you both, John & Doris from Peru, IN

Dear Bro Ed & Sis. Naomi:

Greetings. I'm glad to inform the long awaited box of Certificates, Gifts of Books and Cassettes along with Graded Sheets arrived here today. It would be my proud privilege to give them away to them at our chapel in front of hundreds of students. I feel they also would feel honored and it might also inspire some more to join the course of study. I have some sets with me IF NEED BE I will ask

for more. I intend to take photos of the occasion and the congregation that can use some of them on your web. It will again be a tremendous impetus to them.

Recently I invited one of our old chaplains to come and preach at chapel. He came and spoke at chapel on September 16. After the service was over I took a picture with him and the present Chaplain. I am standing in between them. The picture was taken on the steps of the Union Christian College chapel.

A small servant, Ed, India

Dear Brother Ed Bousman,

May God bless your ministry. We have a brother, Bob Arthur, in Dublin, Ireland who hears your broadcast. We thank you for your world-wide ministry. We are asking if you could plan a speaking at our church in Mansfield with a 2-day weekend in 2007 or 2008. Please respond.

Mae from Mansfield, OH

Brethren:

We greet you in His grace of our Lord Christ Jesus. We are pleased to inform you that the elders of the Smythe Rd. Church of Christ now has oversight responsibility of our ministry and work here at Bong Mines.

They can be contacted at the following address:

Smythe Rd Church of Christ;

P.O. Box 11064;

Monrovia, Liberia

West Africa

We also write to appeal to you for material support in the following:

Song books, used or new

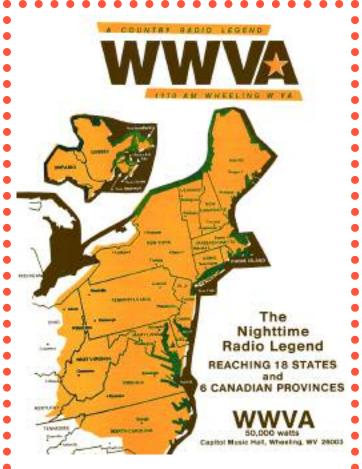
Bibles, used or new

Other books and evangelism items.

Our mailing address:

Bong Mines Church of Christ; P. O. Box 1606

Bong Mines, Liberia, West Africa



GIJAPA EXPANDS:

GIJAPA will start broadcasting on station WWVA 1170 on dial at 9:30-10 PM on Sundays in Wheeling, WV on November 11, 2007. See coverage map covering 18 states and 6 Canadian provinces.



Return Service Requested

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ED BOUSMAN

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