

September 2013 Address all mail: Ed Bousman Evangelistic Assoc., P.O. Box 511, Lynchburg, Ohio 45142-0511 Issue 9

POINTS TO PONDER

From Archives of Ed Bousman

The Teacher, The Doctor, The Farmer

A teacher teaches a class. Lectures are given. Text books are placed at the disposal of every student. At last the end of the semester comes and the class is given an examination. Much to the amazement of the teacher everybody in the class fails. Everybody gets an "F". Not a single "C" much less an "A" or a "B" by any student in the class.

A doctor has a Clinic. His waiting room is full of sick people. One by one they are called in to the Doctor. He examines each patient. He makes an adjustment, gives a shot, or writes a prescription. He treats thirty or forty patients and none of them get well and most of them get worse and die.

A farmer spends unbelievable amounts of money buying farm equipment. He labors from sunup till sundown and some times since he has lights on his tractor he may labor well into the night. He is putting out a crop of corn. The weather man cooperates and in spite of the labor and perfect growing weather the farmer's corn only grows about one foot high and not one ear of corn.

Sounds like a nightmare for the Teacher, the Doctor and the Farmer. But here is a worse nightmare. I can't help wondering what would happen in most Churches of Christ if a faithful gospel preacher after a year or two would give the congregation an examination with this one essay question: What must I do to be saved? Please give the book, chapter and verse for each step of the plan of salvation. Personally I would be afraid to give such an examination in ninety-nine Churches out of a hundred. If their soul salvation depended on a passing grade my guess is that the overwhelming majority of the membership would get an "F" and go to hell!

"Give 'Em Hell Harry"

The Apostle Paul has a statement in Ephesians where he said the truth should be preached in love. This is a very important statement. But the problem is that even if every word you say is dripping with honey, sugar; maple syrup and molasses, some folk will be offended anyway.

I am reminded of a statement of a former President, Harry Truman. People called him, "Give 'em hell Harry." Many times people told him, "Give 'em hell Harry." One day President Truman said, "I don't give 'em hell." "I just tell them the truth and they think it is hell."

No matter how you present the truth, if it is unacceptable the preacher has no love - honey or no honey, sugar or no sugar, molasses or no molasses, syrup or no syrup. They cannot blame God so they blame the preacher. So what is a preacher to do? He has no choice but to continue to preach the truth in love, dripping with honey, coated with sugar, and sticky with molasses. However you present the truth somebody will say you are giving 'em hell.

A GREAT MIRACLE

A Communion Meditation

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 numbers 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.

Robert commented on your Facebook link.

Robert wrote, "Warms my heart to hear Ed every Sunday Morning! God bless

you and those that continue to support the ministry. Love you!"

Letters

Dear Bousmans,

Thank you for the studies on God's Word. I am learning of Him and hope to be like Him, so I too can go out and be a light in the darkness. We both know there is a lot of darkness in prison. Grimes Unit in Beaumont, TX was once Satan's domain, but I declare it to be Christ's dwelling place. Pray that we can help those who are looking for the light, but are scared because of what others will do to them.

Thank you, Glenn

I want to take the time to thank you and your ministry for the wonderful Bible and Bible Studies you have sent me. My many years in prison have brought so much pain and suffering. I just hope and pray one day God can restore my relationship with my two daughters - Emily and Sarah - which I have not seen in so many years due to my incarceration. I know with God nothing is impossible.

Thank you, Chester from Plainfield Correctional Facility, Plainfield, IN

Dear Naomi and Staff,

My wife and I would like to thank you for sending Bibles and study materials into Galveston County Jail, Galveston, TX. We live some 250 miles north, but know the area very well. We are Sunday School teachers and part of our ministry is writing to prisoners. Usually a relative of a prisoner gives me a name and address and I start the correspondence which is often one sided except with Kevin which has been four years long. Kevin was paroled this year out of prison to a sleazy half-way house filled with accessible drugs. He complained and was sent to LaMarque. We sent Kevin money for a bicycle to go find a job. He said he rode up to 15 miles from the half-way house, but could only get a few days' labor jobs. Later he was picked up for breaking and entering and is now back in the Galveston Co Jail. Bob and Letha from Groesbeck, TX (See letter below from Kevin)

Dear Sister Naomi,

I just wanted to write and thank you for all the Bibles and Bible Studies you have sent. To date you have sent 22 Bibles and the courses to go with them and you have set a fire under us here that is being noticed throughout the Galveston Co. Jail. Almost half of the 48 men in our dorm have now received Bibles and lessons from GIJAPA. Our prayer circle is growing and the fellowship is awesome. Our dorm is known as the GOD POD by the law who work here. I got two different groups all in different lessons in the course which I'm teaching every night - I've already finished all 30. I have two that are slow to learn, but they finished a lesson by themselves the other day and to see their excitement was a reward in itself. You and your efforts have made a difference here. Men are turning to God and changing their lives. Thank you very much and God bless. Kevin: P.S. One brother in here received your GIJAPA newsletter, but still has not received his Bible and lessons, can you please check on it for me? His name is Wilford.

Naomi,

Ed Bousman has always been a favorite preacher since I was a young boy. I can remember two week revivals when Ed preached at my home Church - Danville, OH. He spent time in our home, ate meals and would talk with my folks. Later in life, I would hear Ed at local revivals and the National Prayer Clinic in Grundy, VA. That was also where my son-in-law, Aaron Davis first heard Ed and was impressed with his message and memorization of the scriptures, Aaron has continued on in the spirit of Ed as he preaches the full truth of the gospel message. This morning I read from Matthew six, as Jesus talked about treasures, food, clothing and trust in our heavenly Father to provide, then I read the recent newsletter from GIJAPA - I'm always moved by the letters from around the world. I could not help but feel that God was leading me to trust Him more and that I should do more to share the "treasure" of the gospel with others. So on behalf of the memories of Ed as a boy, the knowledge of him as an adult, for my mom and dad, for Aaron, and for the needs of others around the world, please use this offering for Bibles, shipping and shortwave radio to continue God's work around the world. We love and appreciate so much all of your work and sacrifice for His kingdom's sake. We are all just servants.

Love in Christ, Steve and Debbie and family from Pikeville, KY. (I have already ordered over \$3,000 worth of Bibles, thanks to Steve and Debbie for their very generous gift.)

To Whom It May Concern:

I received the Bible and study lessons yesterday. I was so happy once it came in. I had forgotten about it and was amazed at how much material came with the "Good Book." First I read the newsletter and found that the story from the man who had given me the information had been printed. He is no longer in this facility and I pray he is doing well out in the free world. As for me I'm still here. I've been re-classified from max-security to medium-security. This means I can now go to Bible study and services at the chapel here. I am in two prayer circles - one English and one Spanish. I being Puerto Rican and bilingual, I attend both circles. Thank you for everything your Association is doing. I look forward to completing the first 30 lessons - Survey of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

God bless, Santana from Del Valle, TX

God is awesome. Y'all are like a family I've been seeking and wanting. Thanks for the love and everything y'all have given me. I wish I could hug and kiss y'all! Well, I am going to be doing the study I received and return it to you for grading. Praise God for y'alls' ministry.

Stiles Unit, Beaumont, TX

Dear Naomi and GIJAPA,

God bless all of you and Ed's preaching. What a treat to still hear Ed preaching. What a treat to still hear Ed's ser-

mons every Sunday, and to hear the unadulterated "Word of God" and to hear it straight and to the point. Thank you, Lord, for Ed, Naomi, and all of the GIJAPA family.

Because our Savior loves and lives, Art from Columbus, OH

My Dear Sister Naomi,

I have been invited to attend the first seminar organized by Kyansange Church of Christ, the first church we established after our graduation from African Christian College in 2007, with the recent opened Church. Kyansange Church of Christ and the newly opened church is located in chief Mujimanzovu area, 85 kilometers away from Solwezi town, are conducting a three day seminar from 26-29, September 2013. As an evangelist who established these Churches, as you know and appreciate, I am called to every need and meeting that comes. We have received the second box of clothes. Thank you very much. Naomi is fine together with the other children. I am very, very happy to report the baptism for our new brother added to the Lord's Church from the Jehovah's Witness, brother Mick Machayi. The happy event took place on Sunday, July 28, 2013. We are overjoyed to see that our spiritual family continues to grow. We are looking forward to hearing from you. When you write to us, we are encouraged and our spirit lifted up and pressed forward to do more for His glory.

In His service, John Maseka, Evangelist, Messenger Church of Christ in Zambia

Sister Naomi,

Thanks be to God for your life on earth. We are very grateful for your help to us. I am always thankful, I met only one congregation in The Gambia, but praise be to God we now have five unto His glory. Apart from this we have planted some congregations in Sierra Leone and in the Cassamance region of Senegal, our God is truly great.

Sister Naomi, I am now better in health in Ghana and wish to be back to the Gambia in some two weeks time. Please keep on praying for me. It is my aim to plant the Church in Guinea Bissau, a country where there has never been the Church of Christ worship center, ever since our Lord ascended into Heaven. This is very serious. Since the two of the Pentecostal preachers converted recently in The Gambia come from that country, I know God is telling us to plant the church there for them to go back to handle that.

Alexander Ofori, a servant of The Most High God, in London Corner Church of Christ in The Gambia

Hello Madame Naomi,

How are you and GIJAPA? Pray you keep on doing well in-spite of pressures. We really have to work hard according to what we have and let us leave to HIM those things that are lacking for HIS Glory. We are keeping you always in our earnest prayers in our local churches. As for us, it's been a month now I did not make some email for you. Our local churches keep on mentioning you in our prayers as we are one in spirit and work with you for the preaching of GOD's Precious Word around the Globe. For now we are doing OK in our local churches and we are

preparing ourselves again for the rainy season. In fact, my prayer for this wet season is that I would not be soaked with rain water while on my way to my schedules, and never mind if I would be dipped with it on my way home. Things are beginning to deteriorate in me as well. I am in my early 40's now and sometimes I have felt some pain now on my knees during cold season. We have moved now to our new renting house for workable space. Now I am a bit comfortable to work on some night-time preparations of my stuff as a Gospel Preacher, and have the rest and privacy I needed which I did not have in my former place. Please continue to pray for us. The past couple months are really difficult ones. My district is in a "hot area" with the recent election. We have seen some political goons and military men everywhere that really gave fear to us. Yes, I was hindered twice to pass-by for my appointment to other places. Thanks be to GOD we are now behind those things, and it seems we are back to normal now. We are doing great in the churches and we are learning to really depend on GOD for HIS work. PRAY the LORD continues to pour out HIS Blessings, and PRAY HE would always be with you all at GIJAPA to accomplish HIS Great Things for our generation and beyond if HE wills. We miss you all and hope to hear from you soon. We and our children in the churches LOVE You All, GOD Bless!

Ed Domingo, Evangelist, Sunset Beach Church of Christ, Philippines

Dear Ed Bousman Evangelistic Association,

Some inmates here told me about you. I'm Jerry, an inmate with Arkansas Department of Corrections in Brickey. I am in prison for soliciting on my phone and Facebook. I got a four year sentence. I was addicted to alcohol and pot and pills. I'm looking for a way to turn my life around. I need the Lord to be a beacon of light to pull me out of this. I need a Bible and I would greatly appreciate it if you would send me the Bible Studies also and keep

me in your prayers. Keep my mom, Patricia and my dad in your prayers too. My mom got skin cancer and my dad got bad legs. God bless you.

I would like to enroll in your Bible Study program and receive a new large print King James Version Bible. I have been to prison four times and now awaiting for court and facing the rest of my life behind bars. I want to learn more about God's plan for my life.

Thank you, William in Conroe, TX prison

Dear Naomi,

Hi my name is Adam and right now I am currently locked up inside Travis County Jail in Del Ville, TX. I have made some bad choices in this life trying things my way. It has got me locked up several times in life. I was a serious drug addict and alcoholic and was a very self-centered person. Now I am a seeker of God's Word. I have an ordained minister in my tank in maximum security. We have Bible Study two times a week. He has a Bible that you guys sent him. I am requesting one just like it to further my study and walk with our Lord. I am hungry to learn more about the Word of God so that it may transform my life. I want to learn and know what God's purpose is for me in this life. Can you please mail me a Bible and also the Bible Study too? I want to become a preacher and take the Word to the streets where I spent the last 15 years of my life. I want to help other drug addicts and alcoholics as well as homeless people. I'm being released on the morning of September 24th. If you can please get it here by then I would be so grateful. Here is all the information you need, and be sure to put my booking # next to my name otherwise I won't get it.

Your friend in Christ, Adam





Return Service Requested

Evangelistic Association, Inc. P.O. Box 511 Lynchburg, Ohio 45142

