MOVING FORWARD IN UNITY

Dr. Dick Webster

The Global Independent Baptist Fellowship has a tremendous opportunity to participate in many great things for our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. It is necessary that we continue our vision toward God to understand what we can do as a fellowship by working together to continue to push forward for the cause of Christ.

As a fellowship, we do not usurp the authority or autonomy of the Local Church. We are a group of independent, fundamental, Baptist preachers, evangelist, and missionaries, who simply believe the same Biblical principles and hold to the same Biblical standards.

The GIBF has established and embraced an outstanding Biblical doctrinal statement. Now, it is time to continue to press forward with the Great Commission and begin to assist each other for the cause of Christ. The GIBF has established and embraced an outstanding Biblical doctrinal statement. Now, it is time to continue to press forward with the Great Commission and begin to assist each other for the cause of Christ.

We understand that the authority to establish churches is in the local church. I believe that we also need to envision that we can start more churches if our churches work together for this cause. This missions agency will enable us to unite and assist each other in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Our fellowship stands behind a great school, Heartland Baptist Bible College. God is using HBBC to educate our future pastors, missionaries, music ministers, youth pastors, and Christian schoolteachers.

The Global Baptist Times is doing a fantastic job keeping us informed on all that is taking place in our fellowship. Now we must find a way to help our missionaries, who are taking our place on the frontlines, to do the job that God has called them to do. My heart’s desire is that you will join with us to ensure that this occurs. This is not to take away from the local church, but rather to assist in getting the job done. We can do more together than separately. Please unite with us in this vision for the furtherance of the Great Commission.

The authority is within the local church. The power is by the Holy Spirit. The ability is in the unity of the brethren.

A Sincere Thank You

It was easy to recognize that the hand of God was present at the GIBF meeting. Brother Dan Tidd and the Lighthouse Baptist Church planned and prayed and prepared for a great meeting, and the LORD truly blessed their efforts. Every song that was sung and every message that was preached seemed to hit the mark and “ring the bell”. It was very apparent that everyone who preached had spent time in the Book and time before God’s Throne as they prepared to preach. The preaching was outstanding and heartfelt.

HEARTLAND BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE NEWS

PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE

by Sam Davison

It’s Still Happening at Heartland Baptist Bible College

Recently I visited with a third year student who is an R.A. (Resident Assistant). As I asked how he liked his job and how things were going with the dorm men under his responsibility, his response blessed my heart tremendously. Not only does he enjoy his job and feels like he is growing with the experience, he commended the freshmen with whom he works. In his opinion we have some really fine freshmen in the men’s dorms. Now, that was a third year student, speaking of first year students! It does not rate as a miracle perhaps, but it is certainly encouraging.

Each Thursday I teach for two hours. My subject is Personal Spiritual Development. Of the 64 students this semester, almost all of them are freshmen. For about three straight weeks, I have left class so “pumped”. It does not seem to me that I have even one disinterested student.

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The Word Was Preached in Indianapolis

by Frank Wood

Heaven came down and glory filled my soul! That describes the spirit of the services at the September GIBF Meeting in Indiana. Bro. Dan Tidd and the people of Lighthouse Baptist Church planned and prayed and prepared for a great meeting, and the LORD truly blessed their efforts. Every song that was sung and every message that was preached seemed to hit the mark and “ring the bell”. It was very apparent that everyone who preached had spent time in the Book and time before God’s Throne as they prepared to preach. I heard comments like: “the preaching was just what I needed” and “my soul was stirred and challenged by the preaching.”
FROM THE EDITOR
by Rich Farinella

The Fall GIBF Meeting

The spirit of this fellowship was articulated by a missionary in the last meeting of the GIBF in Indianapolis in September who said, “I know who I am… and I know who I want to fellowship with… but, until now, I didn’t know where to find you guys. I am grateful to make the acquaintance of so many good men.” In the last meeting we caught a glimpse of the blessings of a movement without an identity crisis. The services truly benefited the participants, rather than extolled “diversity” and “tolerance” – the mantra chants of the spirit of this world’s political and religious philosophy.

This fellowship is really not for everyone. The preacher comfortable here would be the man who is uncomfortable with so much of the spiritual fare for sale across the nation today. We do not take a fancy to being overly broad for bigness sake. The big tent actually repels the man of God who values purity over widespread acceptance or fidelity to the Word over popularity.

Business at Hand

The open sessioned business meeting displayed a unified spirit of laboring together that was confirmed by the lack of even one dissenting vote. Every proposition, presentation and piecing together of foundational policy was unanimously approved. The accomplishments of the business meeting were more a confirmation of spirit and purpose than actual specifics of policy formation. While we did make great strides in the foundation of a missions agency, the will of those who have manned the pick and shovel was clearly articulated: full steam ahead!

Changing of the Guard

We cannot move on without proper recognition of our first moderator, Dr. Bruce Turner. The Lord used him in spearheading the movement from the start. His zeal, straightforwardness and jovial attitude in serving the Lord in the capacity of moderator provided a necessary leadership. While many recognized the need to step out, Bruce actually led the charge, and consequently, took the heat for those actions. Whatever God does with this fellowship in the future, we realize that we are forever indebted for the crucial contributions Bro. Turner offered.

Dr. Dick Webster received the moderator’s baton at a full running heat! My, my, my - what an urgency and optimism! I was delighted to hear him state with conviction, “I believe that God has called me to do this!”. Bro. Webster’s years of experience as a missionary, successful pastor, fiery pulpit manner and tender heart for the lost equips him to have the heart and soul of a great director.

Bro. Dennis Fountain was elected as vice moderator and Marshall Stevens was elected as secretary. May the Lord continue to bless our movement in giving us men molded and led by Him.

In this Issue of the Times

Prepare now for Newport Beach as you learn of the next scheduled winter meeting for the Global Independent Baptist Fellowship February 17th - 19th, 2003 at Liberty Baptist Church pastored by Bro. Dwight Tomlinson. By then you’ll be ready for a break from the winter weather. Get away to sunny southern California, where pleasant climate is guaranteed! (See Bro. Tomlinson to collect!) Just seeing how the Lord blessed that church with unusually grand facilities would be worth the trip!

This issue will continue the look at the ordinances – this time, the Lord’s Supper.

If you’ve ever fielded compliments to your preaching by those outside of our independent Baptist ranks, but have wondered why the church growth wasn’t proportionate, you’ll love Bro. Russ Tyree’s article entitled, THE BEST PREACHER IN TOWN. I trust the various reports and articles from around the country will combine to make this issue an enjoyable and profitable read.

MOVING FORWARD IN UNITY
continued from page 1...

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The business meeting was a portrait of unity and desire to be used for God. I personally am elated, yet humbled, to be the new Moderator of the GIBF. I am most excited, however, at what was accomplished in the avenue of Missions.

My wife, Karen, and I are working diligently to get the GIBF Missions up and running by November 1st. God has opened many doors and it appears that we will be on schedule. We have the banking set. The web pages, phone lines, email, bonding, appreciations, and service agreements are in place. We are currently still working on the lengthy incorporation process. Praise the Lord for what He is doing! Please continue to pray for our fellowship and missions agency.

We understand that there is a cost involved in setting up and maintaining a missions agency. I want to personally thank each of you who gave sacrificially at the meeting in Indianapolis. I would also like to encourage you to consider supporting this effort monetarily.

Pastors and friends, thank you for believing and standing for the Bible, for God-honoring preaching, for missions, and for the Baptist faith.

Following His Lead, Dick Webster

Rich Farinella, Editor
Published quarterly by the Global Independent Baptist Fellowship
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The Baptist Times is dedicated to facilitate the GIBF by providing information, edification and exhortation for independent Baptist pastors, missionaries and full time workers. We encourage pertinent information, photos, articles, etc. worthy of publication. Please include permission to publish. Understand that we reserve the right to edit material for publication. Information contained within should not necessarily be interpreted as endorsement by the fellowship.

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THE WORD WAS PREACHED IN INDIANAPOLIS
continued from page 1...

The meeting began with a humorous skit that featured a fictitious preacher by the name of Bro. Otis from Chickasha, Oklahoma. The cast of the skit was made up of staff members of Lighthouse Baptist Church.

The skit was very humorous and served as a great ice breaker for the meeting. I agree with Bro. Sam Davison who said that Adam Longo is an excellent song leader; but he makes a very poor Okie.

Brother Longo and the musicians at Lighthouse are to be commended for the great music they provided for the meeting. The choir, the musical groups, and the soloists all did a wonderful job. The music was truly soul stirring and Christ honoring.

The theme of the meeting was Feed the Flock of God, and every preacher brought a message that admonished and instructed us on this all important task of every preacher. Dave Hardy reminded us that we have been chosen and set apart to feed God’s people, and he admonished us to take time to study God’s Word and prepare ourselves to preach. Joe Decker preached that we need to help them to exercise their imagination (Hebrews 5:14) and we do this by feeding them the Word. Randy Parker gave us five reasons why we should preach the wrath of God. Bruce Turner charged us to preach the Word in season and out of season, and to keep the faith and fight the good fight to the end of our lives. Merv McNair challenged us to care for our families while we bear our cross, and Sam Davison preached about preaching that cuts to the heart. Rich Farinella told us the kind of preaching that makes us a good minister of Jesus Christ, and Jeff Ables reminded us that our highest requirement is to preach the Book in the power of the Spirit of God. Dick Webster warned us that we must maintain an everyday walk with God if we want to effectively feed the flock of God. Missionary Charlie Joyce soberly reminded us of world population statistics that stagger the imagination of every follower of the Lord who desires to reach the lost for Christ.

Kevin Folger concluded the meeting with a powerful encouragement to step out in building the work of God in the particular local church that God has called us to labor in. After the preaching Wednesday evening, a bus was made available, when Richard Vogsberger eagerly jumped at the offer after he testified of the Lord’s impression on him during the invitation to start a bus route. What an encouragement to see the brethren join in to raise an offering to pay for the bus!

There was also a real sense of unity and harmony in the Business Meeting on Tuesday afternoon as we elected new officers and discussed the establishment of a missions agency for the GIBF.

We all enjoyed good fellowship with friends from around the country before and after the services and at meal times as well. Twenty-nine of us met on Thursday morning for a golf tournament at Valle Vista Golf Course in Greenwood, Indiana. The winning team was Tim Thorne, Jeff Ables, Markos Lindsey, and Eric Hopkins, and the team of Dan Tidd, Kevin Folger, Rich Hayes, and Joe Smith finished second. The ladies went shopping on Thursday at an Outlet Mall in Edinburg and in Brown County.

No doubt the September Meeting was worth the time and money invested by those who attended. Brother Tidd and his people extended true Hoosier Hospitality to all of us, and most important of all, God met with us!

PRESIDENT’S PERSPECTIVE continued from page 1...

The Lord continues to send us students that are the kind of young men and women that we envisioned walking the halls and sidewalks of the campus. Praise the Lord.

The monthly support of about 230 churches is appreciated so very much. We need to increase that number to 300 or more in the coming months. God bless you for your prayers and support.

I certainly hope you can attend the Home Missions Conference (January 14-16, 2003) for the opening day of the second semester. You will have opportunity to meet the students as we all have our vision sharpened for involving ourselves in starting New Testament Baptist Churches. On Wednesday of this year’s conference we will feature the need of reaching black America. Bro. Lou Baldwin will preach on Wednesday night following the morning session where some COEBA (Conference On Evangelizing Black America) preachers will testify and preach. Do not miss this three day meeting of fellowship, encouragement and enlarging of our vision.
FROM THE MAILBAG

Bro. Farinella,
Greetings in the Wonderful Name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ! I pray this finds you well. You don’t know me, but I pasto the Bible Baptist Church in Carthage, MO. I appreciate reading the Baptist Times you send my way. Please keep them coming! …

Kent Hogan
Bible Baptist Church
Carthage, Missouri

Dear Brother Rich,

Hey, keep up the good work on the Baptist Times. I wanted to send you some information on Missions. …Hopefully it will give some food for thought.

Personally am cautious of being too thrilled about the headlong rush to start some kind of Mission Agency… for the GIBF. I strongly disagree with the denominational mentality and loyalty which some of our brethren … have verbally expressed.

I love you and your family, and am praying for the Lord’s hand to continue to lead you.

Keep in touch.

Sincerely in Christ,

Manuel Ross
Yakima, WA

Editor’s note: There are all shades of the spectrum – those impatient to see things move, and those afraid, for good reason, to make repeated mistakes. I believe we must take inventory of the situation and ask God to lead in all we do.

Bro. Farinella,

Thanks for the Baptist Times. You do a great job. My address is a stateside a mail service as Haitian mail is not useable. Could you also send one to the same address for a friend, he is the American missionary we are helping start a church here in Haiti and would like it also.

Missionary to Haiti, Rodney Johnson

Bro. Farinella,

My name is Jerry Remington. I am currently on staff at Calvary Baptist Church in Goffstown, NH. My pastor is Bro. Les Ainsworth. I would like to get on the mailing list for the Global Times. Please let me know what the cost is. Thank you.

J.E. Remington
Manchester, NH

Bro. Remington, you’ll be getting the Times from here on. I would also like to print the story of the church that Bro. Ainsworth and you are laboring in. I haven’t had room in the last issue, but I trust I’ll be able to soon.

Suffice the picture for now. It is a blessing to see the Lord still at work through His servants. Hang in there!

Please put me on the mailing list for Baptist Times.

Thank You,

Evangelist Randy Carroll

My Dear Brother,

I wrote and asked to be included for a subscription to the Baptist Times. Nothing has been said about the cost of a subscription. However, I will be glad to pay for it, if it is not sent free to missionaries. Please let me know the appropriate arrangements. May our Lord richly bless you there in your efforts for Him!

In His Service, For Souls in Korea and ALL Asia.

PASTOR CLARENCE W. MOORE

Harvest Baptist Church

Harvest Baptist Church of Albany, Oregon continues to grow and build under the leadership of Pastor T. J. Smith and Associate Jorge Lemas. Pastor Smith started the church in 1964 and was there 5 years. Other men led the church for the next 20 years as he left and pastored elsewhere in the Northwest. In 1990 Bro. Smith returned to Harvest Baptist Church and soon led the church to merge with Bible Baptist, (which he started in 1964) where Charles Kearns was the Pastor. After the merger they started to build and for the last 11 years have been in a building and planning process.

The last building led them to build 7800 sq. ft. on the existing building giving them over 17,000 sq. ft., doubling the size of the auditorium to seat 420 and providing offices and additional classrooms. Other pastors and church men helped immensely. Bayview Baptist of Astoria, Oregon and Bro. Goodrick of Newport, Oregon helped hang sheetrock.

Bro. Dan Savage and son of Sequim, Washington and Bro. Ramos and son from Yakima, Washington helped tape and mud. Two men from Jerome, Idaho helped finish furnaces and air. Bro. George Simmons from Astoria helped with the electrical work. These men and churches will never know how grateful Harvest Baptist Church is for their help.

Aside from having to borrow only $50,000, the members have sacrificed, labored and given to provide and build the entire building, which is presently valued at $1,616,000. The church during this time of fund raising for building has held a strong Faith Promise Missions involvement.

Bro. Smith has pastored 40 years in the Northwest and looks forward to seeing the new building filled in the days ahead, realizing that sometimes it is more work to build people than buildings. The people of Harvest Baptist rejoice at the challenge.

“God willing I plan on finishing my course here at Harvest Baptist Church. I want my church, and my children and grandchildren to know that through thick and thin, God has been faithful. I want it to at least be said of me that I was not a quitter and God is able”, said Pastor Smith.

URL: Implearningusa.com 2002
I. THE QUALIFIED SYMBOLISM

The doctrine of the Supper.

We must understand the Bible teaching on what the Lord's Supper symbolizes, we may use heretical viewpoints held by many churches as a tool of contrast and clarity. The Lord's Supper is falsely upheld today in these incorrect ways:

1. I. Transubstantiation. This is a teaching held by the Catholic Church that states, “by the consecration of the bread and the wine, a conversion is made of the whole substance of bread into the substance of the body of Christ our Lord, and of the whole substance of wine into the substance of His blood; which conversion is by the Holy Catholic Church, suitably and properly called Transubstantiation.”

(Council of Trent). Made plain, this doctrine says that the elements of the Lord's Supper are mysteriously changed into the actual body and the actual blood of Christ. Therefore when a Catholic is questioned as to whether or not he ever received Christ, he can confidently say, “Oh yes, every time I take Communion.” This teaching is completely without Scriptural basis. Rather than putting words in the Catholic’s mouth, we’ll site some of their own teachings. The following is verbatim from the Catholic publication, Beginning Apologetics 3 - How to Explain and Defend the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist, by Frank Chacon and Jim Burnham from San Juan Catholic Seminars on page 5-6.

“What does the Church (Roman Catholic Church) teach about the Eucharist? For nearly 2000 years, the Catholic Church has taught that Jesus Christ is really and truly present in the Eucharist. Under the appearance of bread and wine, Christ is completely present in his body and blood as well as his soul and divinity.

“The moment the priest says the words of consecration - ‘This is my body’ and ‘This is my blood’ - God miraculously changes ordinary bread and wine into the body and blood of Christ. All the outward appearances and sensible qualities of the bread and wine remain. This transformation of substance is called trans-substantiation. The substance of the bread and wine are changed into the substance of Christ’s living body and blood. The bread and wine are gone, replaced by the real presence of Christ, while only their appearances remain.

...We adore the Eucharist as God.

“Christ’s presence in the Eucharist is stronger at the moment of consecration and lasts as long as the appearances of bread and wine remain. When a consecrated host is digest- ed or dissolved and no longer has the qualities of bread, it is no longer Jesus. When we receive Holy Communion, Jesus remains in our bodies for about 15 minutes. We should adore him within us as long as he is sacramentally present. For a short time, we are living tabernacles of the all-holy God.

“We can’t be indifferent about Christ’s presence in the Eucharist. This issue separates Catholics from virtually all Protestants. If Christ is only symbolically present in the Eucharist, then Catholics are guilty of idolatry by worshiping mere bread and wine as though it were God himself. But if Christ is really present in the Eucharist, then most non-Catholics are guilty of not recognizing - or worse, denying and rejecting - their Lord and Savior in the Eucharist. Both sides cannot be right. Whichever side is wrong on such a fundamental issue cannot claim to have preserved the whole gospel; it cannot claim to be Christ’s true Church. In true charity, neither side can continue to claim to be right. True ecumenism means charitably resolving these kinds of doctrinal disagreements, not agreeing to disagree.”

We cannot agree more with the last paragraph! We may wish we had authored the previous words, but this is from their very own teaching and perspectives. The verses taken out of context are the instances that Jesus said, “This is my body...” - Luke 22:19, and the times that He referred to a picture or symbolism of Himself - as in Jn.6:35, 48-58.

But looking at the whole of His teaching, we see His explanation is coming to Christ and believing on Him (v.35), not eating and drinking his physical body and blood. Eating and drinking is merely used as illustration - see v.63.

Over and over again belief is defined as this eating and drinking. See verses 29, 35, 36, 40... Verse 47 equates belief with this eating in v.51 & 54, which results in the same outcome - eternal life. Thus eating and drinking is in reality, believing on Him! Verse 57 also defines this “eating” as believing and living by Him. The strongest arguments in the passage is found in verse 63. Jesus explains the whole difficult passage by qualifying the teachings prior by clarifying that He is not speaking of a physical interpretation, but a spiritual application. Faulty theologians will try to separate this key verse from the previous teachings, but this is plainly referring to the prior events and discourses. The same illustration He used in Jn.7:37 is explained in the following words, “But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive”. What better illustration could the Lord use for a lost, thirsting and hungering soul in need of salvation? No, this is not referring to the Lord’s Supper at all. Simply looking at the very passage in Luke 22:19 will clear it up! He said, “this do in remembrance of me”. So, it was indeed only a symbol to remind us of what He then sacrificed for us - His real physical body.

2. Consubstantiation. This could be looked at as a sister heresy of the previous one. Consubstantiation states that although the elements are not turned into Christ’s blood and body, His literal blood and body are somehow mysteriously joined to the elements. This too is without Scriptural basis. No, Christ’s literal body is not turned into, with or in the elements. It is merely a memorial! Symbolic of His sacrifice on the cross.

Any way you look at it - the Supper does not provide salvation nor retain salvation. It is merely a memorial. Look at the divine intention of the ordinance:

Luke 22:19b - “...this do in remembrance of me.

ICor.11:26 - “ye do show forth the Lord’s death till He comes.”

Therefore we see that it is a perpetual memorial symbol of the Lord’s death.

II. THE QUALED ELEMENTS

What should the elements be? Does it matter? How about leavened (yeasted) bread and leavened (fermented) juice? To answer this we will look at the Old Testament counterpart - the Passover meal. The Old Testament symbol of the sacrifice that would enable one to avoid the judgment of God was the Passover Lamb (ICor.5:7b). John the Baptist verified this type in the words, “Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” - Jn.1:29.

Since the Passover was instituted to teach of the coming Messiah, we find abundant types and pictures of Jesus in Exodus 12. Seeing leaven as a common Scriptural picture of sin (Mt.16:6...Lk.12:1, ICor.5:6-8, Gal.5:7-9), it makes perfect sense that God counted it a major offense to mix leaven in with the symbol that was to represent the spotless Lamb of God! See Ex.12:8, 17-20, 13:6-10. Leaven (sin) would have destroyed the picture of a sinless Savior.

Now, seeing the two elements used in the Lord’s Supper (Mt.26:26, 29 - bread and the fruit of the vine or grape juice) we know that they would not have had leaven or yeast in either because this was in conjunction with the Passover meal! See v.18, 19 and 26 - the Lord’s Supper was not the Passover, but was instituted adjacent to it’s observation. Remember that leaven was not even to be found in the same building - Ex.12:19! Also, the bread and juice symbolizing the Savior would have destroyed the portrayal of our holy Lord if it included leaven. It is a fact that leaven or yeast is necessary in the fermentation process to change grape juice into alcoholic wine. Also, Jesus promised that he would partake of these elements again in heaven - Mt.26:29. Since we have the promise of God that nothing in heaven will be rotten, spoiled or “fermented” if you will (Rev.21:27), then we can safely say that if it is the same cup, then the juice must be unfermented drink.

...continued on page 6
III. The Qualified Church

Here is where we get into the narrow application of the Word of God - but the Word of God, nonetheless. What kind of a church is scripturally enabled to partake of the Lord’s Supper? I Cor.11:17-20 precludes a church with divisions or heresies. Thus the church must be:

1.) Unified. There are to be no factions or unresolved conflicts. A church that goes through schisms or disharmony disqualifies itself. It would be better to put it off till a time in the future when harmony is regained.

2.) Doctrinally Pure. Heresies also disqualify the church. If there are in the church those who refuse to forsake heretical teachings, that church cannot take the Lord’s Supper until they be removed - v.19. But how can a church change the situation if there be those causing division or heresy? I Thess.3:6, 14-15 tells us to exclude disorderly members. Heretics are to be marked and avoided - Rom.16:17.

3.) Monitored. Maybe better defined as a known church. If we are to be sure to have a unified and doctrinally pure church in order to partake of the Lord’s Supper, then how could this be attained if the Supper is opened to the public or to those of like faith and practice (that when could mean virtually anything as interpreted by the individual)? The truth is that the moment the Supper is opened to others outside of that particular local church, there is no means of controlling the purity of the congregation. Thus there would be no possible way to follow the pattern given in I Cor.11:18-20 of insuring a unified and pure church. Inevitably there would gather those who hold to baptismal regeneration, the unscriptural charismatic movement with it’s false teachings, universal church fallacies, losing one’s salvation or any number of countless heresies that they are not willing to lay down for harmony. A good pastor or shepherd is to be, “diligent to know the state of his flock” (Prov.27:23), but cannot possibly know the condition of visitors!

IV. The Qualified Saint

This argument deals with a saint underneath the disciplining authority of that local church. Remember that the Old Testament counterpart to the Lord’s Supper was the Passover meal. See: Mat.26:17-26; “as they were eating” the Passover. Also Lk.22:1, 7-15. The chronological chain of events given to us through the harmony of the Gospel accounts is as follows: 1.) Passover meal is prepared - Mt.26:19-20. 2.) Passover Meal is consumed - Mt.26:20 and Jn.13:2. 3.) Judas is singled out and eliminated from the eleven - Mt.26:21-25 and Jn.13:18-30. This seems to have been done during the course of or near the end of the Passover. 4.) Then, the institution of the new “feast” – the Lord’s Supper - Mt.26:26... - which, incidentally can be referred to as the Lord’s Table or communion - 1 Cor 10:16 which would delineate it from a common meal with the man somewhere in the New Testament. I Cor.10:16 which would delineate it from a common meal with the man somewhere in the New Testament. Thus there would be no possibility of continuing from page 5...

break between the Passover and the establishment of this new ordinance. They just finished one and went on to the memorial of His death. Mark’s account is recorded in the order it happened - Mk.14:12-26. Now, I Corinthians 5:7-8 combines the concept of both the Old and New Testament ordinances - the Old Testament Passover and the New Testament “Feast”. Both, the Passover and the Lord’s Supper portray Christ’s ultimate sacrifice on Calvary for our redemption. Remember that Jesus left both side by side when He observed them in Mark 14:22. (What were they in the process of eating? - the Passover meal - v.12.)

I Cor.5:8 refers to this New Testament “feast”, a reference to the Lord’s Supper in light of the Old (see Ex.12:14). Paul wouldn’t encourage a mostly gentile church (1 Cor 12:2) to observe an Old Testament Jewish observance. No, the New Testament ordinance was what Christ the Passover Lamb desires His disciples to observe. Keeping in mind that I Cor. 5 passage is dealing with the Lord’s Supper, we discover some very interesting truths.

This chapter is dealing with the unpleasant situation of having to discipline a member for an adverse testimony upon the Lord and His church in that community - v.1-3. The church is authorized and expected to carry out discipline to the man in question - v.4-5. They are to disallow that man from the privilege of partaking of the Lord’s Supper - v.7-13. Paul makes it clear that this is particularly referring to the Communion - v.11and not merely eating a common meal with the man somewhere in the community.

...continued on page 7
THE LORDS SUPPER
continued from page 6...

Verses 12 and 13 (along with the whole context of the passage from v.7) verify that this is dealing with a matter and observance in the church. Therefore we conclude that the qualifications for the saint are that he must be:

1.) A Member of the church - by virtue of his being under the authority and discipline of that church.

2.) A Member in good standing with his local church. That is, a member who is not underneath disciplinary measures of that church.

Question: Who’s job is it to examine and exclude from participation that immoral member? See ICor.5:2, 4-5, 7, 11 and 13.

Paul makes it very clear that it is the right and duty of the church, not the individual, to fence the Table. If you’ve been told that the only duty of the church, not the individual, to fence the Table is to “examine” concerning the Lord’s Supper - you’ve been lied to! We will get to the proper application of self-examination in the next major point.

Before we move on to the next qualification of the Lord’s Supper, let’s look at the logistics of applying the two previous qualifications: III The Qualified Church - ICor.11:18-20 and IV The Qualified Saint - ICor.5:11. Unless we practice a “closed” communion (only members allowed to partake) two impossible situations will arise:

A. Ignorance of doctrinal positions. We could not know a visitor’s belligerent refusal to obey Scriptural guidelines in any given area. They come to the table clinging to their particular division or heresy - thus violation of the command of insuring a doctrinally unified church.

B. Ignorance of personal morality. We cannot tell who of other churches have been disciplined, or unwilling to accept submission to the spiritual rule over them (Heb.13:17) - thus violation of the command of insuring a morally pure church.

The only possible way to obey the scriptural blueprint of having a doctrinally and morally pure church is to confine the Table to members only. This is in perfect accord with a practical purpose for the ordinances: purity. Baptism keeps the church pure from without and the Lord’s Supper keeps the church pure within.

THE BEST PREACHER IN TOWN
By Russ Tyree

Every preacher is encouraged by appreciative compliments on his preaching. When one of those complimentary conversations happened to me the other day it put me to thinking about this subject of “just what is good preaching?” A Christian lady who was from some sort of evangelical background said something like this: “Boy, that was some good preaching. You’re a good preacher!” My ego was pumped up pretty good for a while, until I began to wonder how much good preaching she had heard in her entire lifetime. My preaching probably was pretty good to her, but with her background, that wasn’t saying much. So much for the ego trip!

I got to thinking that every serious fundamental Baptist preacher could probably lay hold to the claim of being “the best preacher in town”. There is such a dearth of good Bible preaching in America today. Lousy preaching makes mediocre preaching look like the blazing sun if you have bibles of America hear good preaching, and a preacher makes mediocre preaching look like the blazing sun if you have bibles of America hear good preaching, and a preacher.

The Preacher’s Qualifications

First of all, a real Bible preacher must be a saved man. He must be called by the Holy Spirit to preach, and know that he knows, that he is called. The God-called preacher must love the Word of God and feast upon it daily. If he doesn’t know the Bible, he can’t do much of a job preaching it.

Besides knowing the Word of God, he must have a fidelity to the Word of God. He must be as faithful to and truthful with the Bible in his hand as a man is with his wife. He has made the Bible a part of his soul and spirit and he just cannot be deceitful with it before God or man.

The real preacher must have a prophet’s heart. The prophet owes his allegiance to the God who called him. He belongs to the God who called him, not the men he is sent to.

Being a prophet, he must have a burden to deliver God’s message, no matter how unpopular it is. He is not in the pulpit to win a popularity contest – he is there to preach the Word “in season and out of season”.

Lastly, he must not be a hireling. The salary and the honor of being called “pastor” are not his motivation or support for being in the pulpit. His message is not for sale – to anybody.

People often like the preaching style, but reject the message.

And now let’s look at that question of why many people don’t come back even though they appear to be genuinely impressed with solid, Holy Spirit anointed preaching.

1. They do not see the connection between Holy Spirit anointed delivery and the truth being preached. They just do not see that the fervency and effectiveness of presentation is there because the truth is there. They perceive that it is a matter of the skill and mannerisms of the preacher.

2. The truth of the matter is that the message is a much more important part of why they choose a church than is the message deliverer – when everything has settled out in their mind. The worldly and the worldly Christian both identify easily with a watered-down, flesh-pleasing message. They may indeed be impressed with the oratory, but when they figure out where it is leading to – they want no more of it. They may like your style, but not your message. A godly preacher must get used to such disappointing compliments.

For those with aspirations of being the best preacher in town – now is your time – you can be! Just be real, with a prophet’s heart – you will probably be the best preacher in your city. Nearly all have defaulted in order to be men pleasers. Get on your knees before God. Fill yourself with the Word of God. Promise God that you will preach exactly what He wants preached. Do it with all your might – forget about talent or the acclaims of men – just do it!
where they play basketball and volleyball, there is a television in the church where they watch the ball games, telephones are available for the soldiers to use, and some just write letters home or sleep. There is a bowling alley one block from the church which is closed to the general public on Sundays, but is opened to the soldiers for those desiring to bowl. At 4:30 in the afternoon eight different serving teams consisting of eight to ten couples take turns serving a “home cooked” meal to the soldiers. A full course meal consisting of ham, potatoes, gravy, a vegetable, applesauce, and homemade cakes is served each week. At 5:45 the soldiers attend the regular Sunday evening service of Tabernacle Baptist Church. The service is a thoroughly evangelistic service in which the gospel is clearly presented and an invitation is given for the soldiers to accept Jesus Christ as personal Saviour.

Each soldier responding to the invitation is dealt with by a trained counselor. The church uses two methods of follow-up as a means of discipleship for the new converts. Each soldier is given the first lesson of a six lesson correspondence course. The soldiers are encouraged to complete the first lesson and mail it back to the church. After receiving the first lesson, a second lesson is mailed to the soldier. When all six lessons have been completed, the soldier is presented with a Bible, a certificate, and a devotional study guide. Also, each decision card has a place for the soldier’s home address. We contact a church in the soldier’s home town asking that pastor to visit the home. In some cases the soldiers return home after training. Even if the soldier is not home, there is a great opportunity to present the gospel to his family members.

Although it costs between $80,000 to $90,000 each year to operate the Free Day Away, the results are immeasurable. Tabernacle Baptist Church has the opportunity to reach thousands with the gospel who might never have heard the good news. During the 14 years that Bro. Hightower has been involved with the Free Day Away, he has preached the gospel to more than 114,000 soldiers and has had the joy of seeing more than 47,000 of them walk the aisle to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. The program also gives the church members opportunities to serve. They serve by donating the finances to operate the Free Day Program, they serve by preparing the meals, and they serve spending the day with the soldiers, and they serve by driving the buses.

Fort Leonard Wood works in full cooperation with the church promoting and supporting the Free Day Away. In 1999 Tabernacle Baptist Church received the Scroll Of Honor from the office of the Army Chief of Chaplains at the Pentagon. The Scroll of Honor is the highest award presented by the military to a civilian organization.
**Global Independent Baptist Fellowship**

**national meeting** February 17-19, 2003

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**evening speakers:**

**Paul Chappell**

Lancaster Baptist Church
Lancaster, CA

- Monday, Feb. 17
  - Evening Service

**Sam Davison**

Southwest Baptist Church
Oklahoma City, OK

- Tuesday, Feb. 18
  - Evening Service

**Bruce Turner**

West Gate Baptist Church
Tampa, Florida

- Wednesday, Feb. 19
  - Evening Service

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**Conference Schedule:**

**Monday**
7:00 pm  Paul Chappell

**Tuesday**
8:00 am Continental Breakfast
9:00 am Sam Low, Heritage Baptist Church, Tenino, Washington
10:00 am Bill Dench, Calvary Baptist Church, Temecula, California
11:00 am Doug Baker, Lighthouse Baptist Church, San Diego, California
2:00 pm GIBF Business Meeting / Ladies Meeting
7:00 pm  Sam Davison

**Wednesday**
8:00 am Continental Breakfast
9:00 am Marshall Stevens, Calvary Baptist Church, American Canyon, California
10:00 am Tim Black, missionary to Viet Nam
11:00 am E.W. Davis, Evangelist, Santa Clar, California
7:00 pm  Bruce Turner

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**DIRECTIONS FROM LAX:**

Follow signs to the 405 South. Take 405 South to 73 South (approx. 40 miles) Take MacArthur Exit off 73 South. (stay to your right) Turn right on Bison. Turn right into Liberty Baptist.

**DIRECTIONS FROM ORANGE CO.**

(Santa Ana) Airport:

Follow signs to Campus Drive. Turn right on Campus and follow to Bristol and turn left. Get in right-hand lane. Turn right on Jamboree and follow to Bison - turn left on Bison Ave. and left into Liberty Baptist.

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**host pastor:**

I hope you will come to the February meeting expecting God to increase your vision, deepen your compassion and expand your ministry at home and around the world! - Dwight Tomlinson

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**Location Information:**

**Airport Information:**
Orange County - Santa Ana Airport (10 minutes from Liberty Baptist Church)
LAX - Los Angeles Airport (1 hour from Liberty Baptist Church)
Ontario Airport - Ontario (1 hour from Liberty Baptist Church)

**Hotel Information:**
* Newport Beach Radisson Hotel
  Phone: (949) 833-0570
  Price: $75.00 per room for two people per room (5 minutes from Liberty Baptist Church)

Best Western
Phone: (800) 432-0053
Price: $62.00
(20 minutes from Liberty Baptist Church)

* Conference Hotel

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**Activities:**

- Golfing
- Harbor Cruise
- Disneyland
- Shopping
- Beautiful Beaches

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THE PASTOR’S WIFE

Great and Mighty Things

by Kathy Farinella

The hopeless way the doctor shook his head said more to me than the medical jargon he used to describe the aggressive nature of the cancer that was found in my breast. The length of time I had felt it before it was removed, combined with its “high mitotic rate” lead him to believe that it had most certainly spread already to my lymph nodes and perhaps to other parts of my body as well.

“What are my chances?” I asked in stunned disbelief. “With this kind of cancer...” he answered, shaking his head again as his words trailed off, “I would give you a fifteen to twenty percent chance to survive.”

In the days to follow, during my most desperate moment, the Lord gave me Jeremiah 33:3 to claim as my own. It reads, “Call unto me and I will answer thee and shew thee great and mighty things thou knowest not.” The Holy Spirit urged me to ask of Him my hearts desires. Of course, the Lord’s way is always perfect, and so I asked for His will to be done. Of course, the Lord’s way is always perfect, and so I asked for His will to be done. I wanted to hold my grandchildren in my arms. I wanted to see my children married, to see my boys and girls grow up and to meet the people they would win to Christ. I wanted to hold my grandchildren in my arms. There were so many things I wished to stay here a little longer for, and so I asked to remain, if the Lord would be pleased.

Soon I learned that folks were praying for me. Not just a few, but many churches and some of the most godly pastors I knew, let us know that they were lifting me up before the Lord in prayer. I received cards from everywhere and was deeply touched by this show of care and concern by so many. Only those who know me well, know how ironic it was for this bus kid to be the recipient of such an outpouring of love. It was a great and mighty thing.

We felt led to seek alternative treatments rather than the conventional methods that the doctors were prescribing. Not to downplay their effectiveness, I simply did not feel I could survive the chemotherapy, not to mention the cancer. I had not been strong in the past few years. Alternative treatments, however, were not covered by our insurance. Moreover, it was recommended that I begin treatments immediately to attempt to halt the spread of any stray cancer cells that may have escaped the tumor. Within days of our need being known, the alternative treatment hospital bill was covered by the dear people at Woodin Valley Baptist Church. Other churches responded as well and sent enough money to cover all of the medications and supplements I would need for the entire year and more. It was a great and mighty thing.

It was just a week before Christmas when I had the lumpectomy and sentinel lymph node removal. The nurse wanted me to come in on Christmas eve to find out the results, that is, if indeed the cancer had spread as the doctor assumed. I asked to put the appointment off until after Christmas for the sake of my children, who were not aware of the severity of the situation and were hopeful that all would be well. Expecting the worst, I called the nurse on the twenty sixth and asked her to read to me the pathology report over the phone. The cancer had not spread. This was impossible. I asked her to read it again. I was amazed. It was a great and mighty thing.

When we arrived at the cancer treatment hospital, I was overwhelmed by the suffering of the people there. Most of all, the suffering of the people who did not know the Lord, yet were faced with most certain death within a short time. There were so many things I wished to stay here a little longer for, and so I asked to remain, if the Lord would be pleased.

There were so many things I wished to stay here a little longer for, and so I asked to remain, if the Lord would be pleased. I asked her to read it again. I was amazed. It was a great and mighty thing.

(Assignment: pastor’s wives: Any articles that you could send our way for this column would be greatly appreciated. Please e-mail them to Editor@Baptisttimes.org or by mail on disk to P.O. Box 570, Woodinville, WA 98072. A photo of yourself would also be nice. Thanks for your participation! - Kathy)