A Medical Doctor looks at the Crucifixion

By Dennis Humphreys, M.D.

As a physician, I am confronted daily with the wounded and injured human body. It has often amazed me when I consider the degree of trauma the body can withstand and yet cling to the thread of life.

Since becoming a physician, I have been made acutely aware of the passion of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. How the Creator, the King of Kings and Lord of Lords, could allow Himself to endure incarceration in mortal flesh and submit to the ignominy of the cross arouses in me a profound wonder and holy admiration for my Saviour.

Our Lord’s passion started prior to His betrayal and arrest. While praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, He became engaged in a fierce battle. He wrestled a problem so great that His sweat is described as great drops of blood. The Bible does not reveal the nature of the struggle, but its fierceness was such that capillaries in the skin ruptured causing blood to leak from the pores as sweat. This was similar to the stress bleeding we see in severe head injuries or the skin hemorrhages that occur in people that are strangled or suspended head down for long periods of time.

Though I do not know the natures of the stress which our Lord prayed to “let pass,” I can say that it was similar in magnitude to those above. It was a stress so great that the very cellular integrity of the body was compromised.

We are told that Christ suffered every temptation to which you and I are subjected. Perhaps the physical body of Christ was dreading the torture that lay ahead and Christ had to conquer that physical dread. While in the garden, the betrayal took place. The soldiers, under Judas’ direction, seized Christ and brought Him to Pilate’s Judgment Hall. There, under Pilate’s command, Christ was whipped. Jewish law states that a man should not receive more than 40 lashes, but it does not specify the type of whip. Man’s depravity devised a whip called the flagrum, a stout handle with several leather strips, each studded with a stone or metal tip. In this way they could fulfill the letter of the law while satisfying their own cruel nature.

The back is the only area of the body that could withstand this type injury. It is the most muscular and toughest part of the body. The lashes from a whip of that type could amputate a leg. The chest wall would be easily perforated, thus mercifully killing the victim.

By the end of the whipping, the back of our Lord was a shredded mass of crimson tissue. Long strips of torn skin

continued on page 3

Skyway Hills Church hosts 50th Missions & Evangelistic Conference

People from across the state assembled at Skyway Hills Baptist Church, Pearl, for the annual Missions and Evangelistic Conference. The theme of this year’s conference was “It’s All About Him, Not Us!”
**Iron Sharpens Iron**

*By Douglas Laird*

Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the couteanne of his friend... (Prov. 27:17).

Tools of steel usually grow dull with use, and none is resharpenned or remaining in isolation. Days and even weeks could pass, and the tool would never grow a whjt sharper. The carpenter’s saw must be filed. The farmer’s hoe and axe must be honed. The carpenter’s saw is sharper and the gardener’s hoe is keenest only when each has an encounter with the metal of a file. Left alone, the dullness only changes by rust.

“Iron sharpeneth iron; so a man sharpeneth the countenance of his friend.” (Prov. 27:17). One’s life is sharpened by the association to encompass the ever-broadening scope of knowledge honed away little by little as one’s education broadens. In the tide of alleged civilization by the voluminous material afforded the ears, the eyes, and even the mind. In the process, others and to read of others. Salesmen read books or magazines. Others have sharpened their mental countenances and forward. In the tide of civilization by the voluminous material afforded the ears, the eyes, and even the mind. In the process, others and to read of others. Salesmen read books or magazines. Others have sharpened their mental countenances and effectively extended their usefulness. Boys and girls attend the classroom to listen to others and to read of others. Salesmen read books or attend lectures so they may knock off the dullness and more effectively pursue their goals. Golfers brush up on the manual as well as the club. Millions are moved forward in the wave of civilization by the voluminous material afforded the ears, the eyes, and even the touch of man. By these the dullness of ignorance is filled or honed away little by little as one’s education broadens to encompass the ever-broadening scope of knowledge. One’s life is thereby sharpened by the association with another.

The inevitable dullness follows one who fails to allow encounter with others whose “tempered” theology, social science, athletics, biological science, political astuteness, etc., could well enhance his effectiveness and “ease of operation.”

Unfortunately, many people resist encounter with the “file” under the pretended fear of loss of identity, only to lose perfected and effective identity and subsequent rejection or neglect as a dull tool that affords little or no good for anyone. And tragic still, dullness seems to harden with neglect.

There is another application. In a very literal sense, the expression on the countenance of a friend will impress the countenance of another. The story has been told of two friends who planned that each would tell a selected person how he would appear when first met him on a designated morning. The “victim” at first answered of his good health each time he was interrogated about his feelings. Each time he was told how he appeared to be ill. Finally he knew it and returned home. You know how depressed some encoun-
ters will leave you because the person seemed to wear a rain cloud for a bonnet. Others leave you smiling and walking on air because they were cloaked in sunrays and wore daisies for a hat.

Today you will sharpen or dull the countenance and life of someone you encounter because of your own frame of mind, joy of soul, and philosophy of life. And the way you leave people may largely deter-
mine the desires of others to see you again.

So maybe before you leave for the office or from the office you should engage in a private orientation session. Strangely, you will feel better, you will make others happier, and you know what?—they will further sharpen your countenance in return.

**Suggestion for orientation?** OK, here it is:

1. Love people.
3. Have faith in God Who is Greater than your opposi-
tion.
5. Recognize the vanity of the present.
6. Possess a proper relationship to eternity.

**California Church Seek Pastor**

Our church is seeking an under-shepherd; a God called minister of the Word, sound in doctrine and faith. We are a conservative Missionary Baptist church and hold fast the faith, doctrines and ordinances as taught by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Please contact us if you feel God leading you to us. Further information about us is available on the internet at www.rbmbc.org.

First Missionary Baptist Church
Riverbank, California
209-809-3401

**Central Church, Corinth**

We appreciate all your prayers, because we have definitely felt the presence of the Holy Spirit. We are blessed to have Bro. Daniel Spencer and his wife, Leslie, serving as our interim pastor. Although we have been hit with a lot of sickness throughout the church in the last few weeks. Our

**Background Check Time Again**

Daniel Springs Campground
by Director James Speer

Summer camp is just around the corner and so it is time for some of the sponsors to do the background check again to qualify them for the Texas State Health Department rules. This year, it will be easier on us at Daniel Springs if you include an e-mail address for each person who sends information to us for the background checks. We need your name, date of birth, social security number and e-mail address which we will submit to the company doing the checks and they will then send you your own log in information. The background checks are good for a period of two years and then you have to go through the same process again.

**Flip This Cabin**

Another new item this summer is an old program which we have revived and given a new name. It is called “FLIP THIS CABIN”. This is a take-off on the HGTV program called “FLIP THIS HOUSE”. First Providence in Livingston, Texas, got the ball rolling by adopting a cabin on the girls side of the camp and totally gutted it and renovated it with a new metal roof, painted walls and floor, gutted the bathroom and re-modeled it, took out all the old beds and built new ones and purchased new mattresses. They did all the work and paid for all the materials which totaled a little over $10,000.00. They have also started on one cabin on the boys side by putting a new metal roof on it, also.

Some of the old cabins are structurally sound enough that they can be used for a few more years, but several are going to have to be replaced. Our plans are to tear down at least 4 cabins this summer and start building new ones. We have a plan to have 4 new cabins built by the start of the 2009 camp season. Our plans are to pay for the cabins as they are built without borrowing any money for this phase. The cost of the demolition and building 4 new cabins should be between $160,000.00 - $180,000.00.

We had planned for the last few years to start building a retreat center this year, but the cost and length of the project in this economy has made us rethink our strategy. We feel that it will be better for us to replace the cabins now and take care of the group leaders who have been so faithful to support us over the years than to try to attract new clientele at this time. Hopefully we will be able to replace another group of cabins about every three or four years if the funds continue to come in.

If you are interested in helping us Flip a Cabin or build new ones, please contact us at 800-332-2309.
It’s Not About “Rights”  
It Is About Being Called “Normal” 

Dr. Roy McLaughlin  
Director 

It could well be said that the courts are the most undemo-
cratric arenas for settling public policy disputes. This is certainly true when it comes to the Cali-
foria State Supreme Court which began hearing a consoli-
dated case seeking to overturn the Golden State’s law on tradi-
tional marriage on March 4, 2008. The law supporting tradi-
tional marriage was overwhelm-
ingly approved by voters in 2000. The far ranging effect of this State Supreme Court’s decision will have tremendous national im-
plications. Here is how one ho-

mosexual rights activist de-
scribed the importance of this case: “Because it’s California, where one-eighth of the U.S. population lives, with its enor-

mous influence on culture and politics, the stakes are huge. If we can win marriage in Cali-

fornia and see the next Congress have one-eighth of its member-

ship from a state where same-

sex couples can marry, that changes everything politically and it will vastly accelerate the general momentum already in our favor.” 

It is a tragedy anytime a court gives “a stamp of approval” to the radical notion of homosexual “marriage” and underlines the fundamental principle that boys and girls deserve a mother and a father. This fact is not based on bigotry, but common sense sup-
ported by biology. The courts in California have approved of men “marrying” other men before. In 2000, a judge in San Francisco 

struck down the state’s marriage laws, a decision that was later overturned by a state appeals court. Now the case is going before the State Supreme Court, which is expected to issue a rul-

ing in 90 days. I’m not optimis-
tic. The militant homosexual movement and the radical Left growth are afoot. As they are trick-

sticking their cases and courts. 

On March 5, 2008, a report in the Los Angeles Times suggests the justices were very divided based on the questions they were posing to the attorneys. Accord-

ing to the Times, “at least three of the seven justices repeatedly noted that California voters have defined marriage as a union be-
tween a man and a woman, and that the public might not be ready to embrace same-sex marriage.” One Justice, Carol Corrigan asked the pro-homosexual law attor-

neys arguing for the court to in-

validate the law “to show here where the state constitution ad-
dressed same-sex marriage.” “To all of us who are pro-biblical marriage, this is a sign that she may be unwilling to invent a new right that has clearly not been recognized in law or tradition.” 

It was Justice Carlos Moreno who cut to the heart of the matter in question. Moreno asked the San Fran-
cisco city attorney if the state’s domestic partnership law, which provides the legal rights of mar-
rriage to homosexual couples, was sufficient. The city attorney said it was not, and Justice Moreno asked, “Doesn’t this just boil down to the use of the ‘M’ word, marriage?” (There you have it, dear reader.) The San Francisco 

attorney conceded, “That sym-

bol has deep meaning.” Indeed it does, for this is why the militant homosexual rights movement has focused so much attention on 

achieving what it refers to as “marriage equality.” But equal-

ity in terms of legal rights and privileges simply isn’t enough. The homosexual movement is not seeking legal rights. Most of 

the rights that are frequently handled about in this debate can be achieved through simple legal 

instruments widely available to anyone for any reason, such as wills and power of attorney. What the militant homosexual movement is seeking is the ac-

ceptance and normalization of its lifestyle. I am sure praying that this never happens. For all 

of recorded history, marriage has meant one thing, and it has a very true meaning virtual-

ly in all societies. By circumventing the elected legislatures, the ho-

mosexual rights lobby is asking our courts to use the brute force of big government to override 

popular opinion, biblical teach-

ing and biology when it comes to the 

meaning of marriage and the common sense understanding of 

family. But the government does not possess such power and not even the unanimous rulings of the United States Supreme Court can overturn “the Laws of Na-

ture and Nature’s God.” 

It is sad but true, that too many liberal judicial activists do not 

have the wisdom, nor the humil-

ity to clearly understand the lim-

its of their own power and strangely seem to lack the ability to 

comprehend the true mean-

ing of written law. Therefore, it is absolutely essential that every 

committed Christian educate himself on how their elected rep-

resentatives vote on all key moral issues. May each of us encour-

age our elected officials in State and National office to put a mar-

riage protection on the ballot.

May 19-20, 2008  
BMA of Mississippi Midyear Meeting 

Big Creek Baptist Church  
Soso, Mississippi  
10 miles west of Laurel on Highway 84 West
Missionary needs assistance

BMA Missionary Fiodor Baraniuk, who currently serves as Russian Church Planter Coordinator for North America, has run into some immigration difficulties. I could not begin to share all of the details with you in this space, but they are of a serious nature. Bro. Fiodor is currently in Russia for the purpose of obtaining new, up-to-date passports for his family.

He has an attorney who is handling this matter. The cost of these legal proceedings will total about $11,000. This money is the responsibility of the Baraniuk family and will certainly be a financial strain. Our national missions office has advanced funds to care for this, but these must be replaced.

His home church of Calvary Baptist Church in Horn Lake, Mississippi, has already raised around $2,500, but more is needed. If you or your church could help, please send your gift to the national missions office and earmark it for the Baraniuk immigration needs.

Pastor Bob Steele passes away

Robert L. (Bob) Steele, 63, passed from this life on March 6, 2008. He was Pastor of the Canaan Baptist Church in Purvis. Bro. Bob surrendered to the ministry at Pine Grove Baptist Church, Purvis, on Easter Sunday, March 30, 1975. After being ordained by Pine Grove he served as Pastor at Bethel Baptist Church (Wiggins), Fairhope Baptist Church (Beaumont), Mulberry Baptist Church (Wayne County), East Main Baptist Church (Lumberton), Calvary Baptist Church (Purvis), in addition to Canaan.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rev. William E. and Annie Rose Rector. He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Gloria Cook Steele, three sons and two daughters-in-law: Mickey and Lynn, Ken and Shellie, and Scott and Olivia. He had seven grandchildren: Matt, Logan, Kaitlyn, Kristen, Kerri, Lane and Lori Anne Steele. He was also survived by three brothers, Fred Steele and Lane Steele and men of Canaan Baptist Church.

Services were held at Pine Grove Baptist Church on Sunday, March 9, 2008, with Ed Steele, Mickey Steele, and Sidney Farmer officiating. Music was provided by granddaughter Kristen Steele, niece Melanie Dunnam, Robyn Cagle, and Roger and Sharron Blackwell. Pallbearers were grandson Matt Steele, nephews Randy Steele, Dave Steele, Ricky Steele, Alan Cook, and special friend family James Cagle. Honorary pallbearers were grandsons Logan Steele and Lane Steele and men of Canaan Baptist Church.

Holiﬁelds to celebrate 60th Wedding Anniversary

Rev. Harold and Mrs. Ann Holfielfd of Laurel, Mississippi, plan to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on April 12, 2008 at First Baptist Church of Calhoun, Laurel. A reception will take place in their honor from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall.

Hosting the celebration will be daughter and son in law Rev. Sidney and Mrs. Pat Davis of Laurel, MS. They have two sons, Danny and David. Rev. Danny and wife Jennifer are pastoring in Meridian, Mississippi, and have two children, son Connor and daughter Anna. David works with his parents at the Mississippi Baptist Children’s Home in Laurel.

Also hosting the celebration is daughter and son in law Charles and Kathy Holfielfd of Taylorsville, Mississippi. They have two daughters, Kristen and Kelly. Attorney Kristen and husband Darrel Martin have one daughter, Audrey. Kelly Cantrell has two children, daughter Sarah Layne and son Levi.

In August 2008, Bro. Holfielfd and Mrs. Ann will have been in the ministry 50 years. He has pastored eight churches and was interim at another. He was also interim director at the Mississippi Baptist Children’s Home. Two of these churches he pastored twice. Presently he is pastoring First Baptist Church of Calhoun, Laurel, and is in his 10th year. His longest pastorate was at Antioch Baptist Church, Soso, Mississippi, for 24 years. Mrs. Ann has followed him every step and was and is the greatest pastor’s wife one could ask for.

Each one is invited to come by and help us celebrate. Your presence will be our gift.
Part One
Raising Visionary Sons and Daughters For God

You are standing around in church after services talking with other adults. Your two year old comes up and you ask him or her to say something to the pastor. Your two year old Sticks his tongue out and yells, “no”. They run off. You are embarrassed. The other adults say things like “tris is okay” or “mine did the same thing”, or “they are like that at two”. You run off after the child and everyone tries to make you feel better about it. Do you want to talk about the behavior and to accept it? It is never too late to understand and again is forgotten.

The only problem with this scenario is that the behavior violates God’s Word in Ephesians 6:1,2. When parents do not deal with this behavior biblically, the child will grow up to be disobedient and disrespectful. They have established a pattern of behavior that is totally against the spirit filled life of a young person. Their teen years will be spent demonstrating marked disobedience and dishonoring towards the parents. This behavior must be corrected at an early age or they will grow up and no one will want to be around them. Not even you, Christian parents are becoming too accepting of dishonoring behavior because we allow society to say that’s no big deal.

It should not require us to yell at our children. We don’t want our young recruits (children in God’s army) to become enemys and camps and groups. They should adopt the enemy’s teachings that our children. We don’t want our young recruits (children in God’s army) into enemy camps and groups. We should be able to speak in clear, normal tones to our child and expect only a be raw shout.

There should be natural consequences for every defiant or dis-honor We cannot expect our children to be perfect, but they must clearly understand that disobedience will be met with consequences. Obedience and honoring are the fulcrum of child-rearing in the Christian home. Sadly, too many Christian parents live like everyone else in our culture. There is little distinction with the way we raise our children and the way the last parents down the street raise their children. We watch the same movies, listen to the same music, dress in the same provoc- ative clothing, read the same magazines, shop at the same stores and act like we are raising future major league sports stars instead of warriors for the cause of Christ. We should not be surprised when we send our young recruits (children in God’s army) into enemy camps and groups. We should be able to speak in clear, normal tones to our child and expect only a be raw shout. Behaviors such as these will grow into the habit of dishonoring the name of God.

It is high time that Christian parents start teaching their children the ways of the Lord.

As I contemplate Christ on the cross, my heart fills with sadness, my eyes dim with tears. I do not understand how the Great I Am, the Word, the Truth, the Life, the very Son of God could die such a miserable, pitiful death. He said He died because He loved us. (John 3:16). How can God love a creature that would do what we did to His Son? When God let us go? Sinful and depraved creatures though we are, God chose to redeem us, for He loved us so much He gave us His Son. He was willing to suffer the Cross to show us how much He loves us.

Religious activity can never be a way of life. It should not require us to yell at our children. We don’t want our young recruits (children in God’s army) into enemy camps and groups. We should be able to speak in clear, normal tones to our child and expect only a be raw shout. Devout mothers look up into the darkened sky and say, “I trust you Lord to bruise him; he hath put him to grief...” (Psalm 146:2). And God’s Son, our Lord Jesus, says to the Lord, “Thy will be done...” (Matthew 6:10). Even to the uttermost extremity of His love, the Son of God said, “Father, forgive them.” (Luke 23:34). The suffering and sacrifice of our Lord Jesus Christ, “it is finished!” (John 19:30).

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National WMA Project Procedures
Nominations for the National WMA Project are to be presented in writing to the Project Promotion Committee at the registration table on the day of the annual meeting. Each nomination may have one person speak briefly on nominated project, amount needed to complete the project and details regarding the ministry.

Ladies Retreat Hosted by Providence, Amory
Providence Baptist Church of Amory will host a ladies retreat May 17, 2008, at 10:00 a.m. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. Kay Fortenberry is the featured speaker. There will be a fee of $20.00 for the retreat. For more information, please call 662-261-0441.

Northeast District WMA Report
On February 12, 2008, Bogtufala Baptist Church served a delicious meal to the Northeast District WMA prior to our quarterly meeting. Decorations and favors carried out the theme of Valentine’s Day. There were 65 present, including many of our husbands. The meeting was opened with “Love Lifted Me” sung by the congregation. Anita Akers reported that the music CD’s generated around $2,100.00 for the National WMA projects. Since the Mission Symposium, offerings for those projects have picked up to $80,000.

We voted to continue to support the State WMA project, El Camino Mission Land Fund, through August.

Elaine Smith encouraged each of us to en courage our ladies in our WMAs and seek to get them more involved.

A special musical was offered by Betty Dillard and Burma Schumpert. Ann Smith gave a devotional using I John 4:1-8 and I Corinthians 13-13 - “Love motivates; love is a vital life force; and we show our love through our actions.”

Providence will host our Ladies Retreat on May 17, 2008. Registration will begin at 9:00 a.m.; the meeting will begin at 10:00. Kay Fortenberry will be the featured speaker. You will miss a blessing if you do not attend.

Patti Harlow, president
Beth Haden, reporter

We have gone over $80,000! Are we shooting yet?

To be specific, we have $80,986.40 to be exact. We will still collect until April 22, 2008, for this National WMA Project. The Seminary will get 40% and BMI will get 40% while the other 20% goes to the youth fund and general fund. Now some of you may remember that the Seminary and BMI requested $40,000.00 so for them to receive that amount we really need to strive for a total of $96,000. This is still possible before April 22. Thanks to everyone who has contributed and supported this project. This has been accomplished only through prayer and the power of God to move people to give to such a worthy cause.

I thank each of you for allowing me this means of keeping you updated on our National WMA work. Janet Wider

Trash Talk
by Danny Pitts, Pastor
First Baptist Church of Shady Grove
Laurel, Mississippi
(from church newsletter)

Proverbs 30: 11-14 "There is a generation that curseth their father, and doth not bless their mother. There is a generation that are pure in their own eyes, and yet is not washed from their filthiness. There is a generation, O how lofty are their eyes! and their eyelids are lifted up. There is a generation, whose teeth are as swords, and their jaw teeth as knives, to devour the poor from off the earth, and the needy from among them.

Solomon identified the next group as the Cocky Generation. That surely seems to fit many of our day. Pride describes almost everyone in our culture. In the 1960’s when the shouting boxer, Cassius Clay, declared, “I am the greatest in the whole world,” many were appalled at his brashness. Today, almost all athletes are known for their “trash talk.” They promise their opponents that they will desolate them in their competitions: They call it “trash talk” because it does not mean much if a person cannot deliver. Amazingly today even poor players are expected to do this bragging. Obviously this attitude is out of step with the Bible: This outlook has reached almost everyone of our generation. Rather than humbly admitting faults and limitations, people are pushing themselves forward to the exclusion of others and God.

An humble spirit does not mean that a person is so lacking in confidence that he or she cannot be successful. In fact Solomon suggested the opposite: “A man’s pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit” (Proverbs 29:23). Confidence must be expressed in the Lord’s Grace.

Trusting in the flesh may appear to work for awhile, but ultimately it will bring disastrous results. Solomon expressed it: “Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall (Proverbs 16:18).

Even if a proud spirit brought some rewards, the Godly person should not be drawn into such a way to live. The Scripture says, “Better is it to be of an humble spirit with the lowly, than to divide the spoil with the proud” (Proverbs 16:16).

Jesus gave an illustration which suggested that more honor and less embarrassment comes to those who avoid a cocky attitude. He tells the parable in Luke 14:7-11. He told them not to sit in the highest seat of honor, but in the lowest. If you claim to be deserving of the highest seat, you will be shamed when asked to move down. If you take a lower one, you will feel better when asked to move up to the higher room.

Our text in Proverbs may be a play on words with the references to the eyes and eyelids. Do not the eyes of many give them away in their prideful spirit? Keil and Delitzsch wrote, “the lifting up of the eyebrow as an expression of haughtiness.” It appears difficult for the proud to keep their haughtiness to themselves.

Wisdom says, “The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate” (Proverbs 8:13). All who love the truth and fear the Lord will react to pride and arrogance in the same way.

A Book Review
The Pearl Button: Meant to Be
by Sandy-Jones

Continuing granny’s stories from the button box the author takes us into the heart of John Snow, Dimple’s father. Having raised her alone, after his wife’s death in childbirth, he now faces the emptiness of the house and his own heart following Matt and Dimple’s honey-moon departure for Texas. His Trapper Valley Colorado friends and neighbors begin to notice a real change in John, such a change that alters his very personality.

Where will he find fulfillment? Will he find peace in his work on the ranch or in the things he has always enjoyed, or is it possible that there is room in his heart for another love after so long?

Cynthia Ann Solleke had something in common with John Snow. She too had lost her life’s companion. Robert, Ann’s husband, had been killed in the War of Northern Aggression and since that time her Baton Rouge home was simply not the same. When her sister invited her to visit in Colorado she hesitantly accepted. Maybe she could forget. Maybe she could escape the pain of loneliness. Is it possible the answer awaits her out west? Is it possible she has no idea how?

If you enjoy high adventure, or heartwarming romance without the compromise of Christian values or Biblical, truth this one is for you. If you enjoyed the author’s first story, The Brass Button, then this continuing saga is a must. This edition can be ordered on the Publish America website or through your local bookstore.

Sandy-Jones is the widow of C. Bert-Jones, a pastor of over forty years and currently serves as the dorm director at Jacksonville College in Jacksonville, Texas.

South Mississippi Senior Adult Conference
March 27, 2008 - 8:30 am
Big Creek Baptist Church
Soso, Mississippi
(10 Miles West of Laurel on Highway 84)

Children’s Home
118 Love Road, Laurel, Mississippi 38443
601-426-3528

Children’s Home Rally
The Gulf Baptist Association had their annual rally for the Home on February 14. The meeting was held with the Spring Hill Baptist Church in Ocean Springs and Pastor Duane Ledlow. It was a joy to have the opportunity to report on the ministry of the Home and also share a message from God’s Word to those in attendance. Our appreciation is extended to each church and individual who gave towards this rally. Hallelujah! He Arose!

We serve a living and risen Savior! During this Easter season may we as Christians take the opportunities afforded to us to declare to the lost world around us the message of the resurrection. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4. Jesus died in order to save us from our sins. The penalty for our sin debt has been paid for all because of Calvary. Now sinners everywhere can be saved through faith in Jesus Christ. Thank the Lord for the saving power of Christ’s resurrection. Hallelujah we serve a living Savior!"
Study: Behaviors Americans Consider 'Sinful'

Americans overwhelmingly believe in the concept of sin whether they are religiously involved or not, according to a new Ellison Research study released Tuesday.

“Sin,” as defined by the research organization, is “something that is almost always considered wrong, particularly from a religious or moral perspective.” The study questioned more than 1,000 American adult respondents whether they believe in such a thing as “sin” and then asked them whether 30 different behaviors were sinful.

Out the list of 30 behaviors, adultery was most often described as a sinful behavior by American respondents (81 percent). Following adultery was racism (74 percent); using “hard” drugs such as cocaine, heroin, meth, LSD, etc. (65 percent); not saying anything if a cashier gives you too much change (65 percent); abortion (56 percent); and homosexual activity or sex (52 percent) rounded out the top five behaviors most often considered sinful by Americans.

Other behaviors with significant moral objections included reading or watching pornography (50 percent); swearing (46 percent); sex before marriage (45 percent); harming the environment as a consumer (41 percent); smoking marijuana (41 percent); getting drunk (41 percent); and not taking proper care of your body (35 percent).

Not surprisingly, religious people are much more likely to believe in sin, with 94 percent of Americans who regularly attend religious worship services saying they believe in the concept of sin. The number drops to 80 percent among those who do not attend service, although the percentage is still a large majority.

But perhaps more surprising is the differences in the beliefs of sin between political divides. Political conserv- atives (94 percent) believe there is such a thing as sin. The number remains high among moderates (89 percent) but then drops to 77 percent among political liberals.

Among Christian traditions, Protestants are more likely to believe in the concept of sin than Catholics (83 percent to 75 percent) but then Catholics to include most of the 30 different behaviors as sin. The biggest differences included gambling (50 percent of Protestants compared to 45 percent of Catholics); failing to tithe 10 percent or more of one’s income (32 percent to 9 percent); getting drunk (63 percent to 28 percent); gossip (70 percent to 45 percent); and homosexual activity or sex (72 percent to 42 percent).

However, Catholics are more likely than Protestants to believe that not attending church is a sin (39 percent to 23 percent). The percentage gap widens when religious Christi- ans are stacked against the general American popula- tion. Ninety percent of evangelicals believe getting drunk is a sin, compared to 35 percent of all other Americans. Likewise, 92 percent of evangelicals believe sex before marriage is sinful, compared to 39 percent of the general U.S. population.

But only a minority of evangelicals believe it is sin to work on the Sabbath, not attend church, drink alco- hol, dance, play the lottery, watch an R-rated movie, or not tithe 10 percent of their income to church or char- ity, according to Ellison Research.

Furthermore, the study reveals how Americans weigh the concept of sin. In case you haven’t heard, Moses was on drugs. Yep, he was just some whacked out old man hallucinating about the burning bush and about God on Mt. Sinai, because of partaking of the bark of the acacia tree. Before you think I am speaking tongue-in-cheeks about these are serious allegations from a psy- chology professor at Hebrew Univer- sity in Jerusalem. This professor also claimed that the Israelites used mind altering substances as a basic part of their worship. After reading these claims and other outrageous musings from Breitbart.com, I noticed a glaring absence in the professor’s statements: PROOF. No biblical, archaeological or historical proof was ever mentioned in the article. Here are some exact words or phrases found in the article: (1) "Israeli researcher claimed" (2) “a professor...wrote” (3) “very probable” (4) "was probably". There was, however, one emphatic, statement made, by the “researcher”, concerning him- self: he has “dabbled” with drugs. Hey, that’s where I prefer to get my historical bible truths: from a psychol- ogy professor who is also a self professed drug user.

Dr. Neil Road Ellisville, MS 39437.

www.miniedition.net

miniedition

Joseph Harris

This professor must be a Democrat or the Israeli equiva- lent, since no one in the media has bothered to call his hand on his obvious lack of proof. You know the old liberal media philosophy: if it slams God or Bible truth, then it must be true, and don’t you dare ques- tion it. This discovery was considered “news” and most internet search en- gines will give several references to this discovery.

This is great news for fornicators, adul- terers, liars, thieves and all other commandment break- ers. If Moses was just some dope head, then the Ten Commandments would naturally be the ravings of his wild and drug influenced imagination and therefore, not authoritative (the truth is, God authored the Ten Commandments, not Moses). The woods are full of doubters, skeptics and atheists. They never seem to tire of attacking God and the Bible, but I get weary when their opinions are treated as gospel truth with no challenge.

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Joey Harris publishes new book

The Rediscovery of Common Sense is now available. The book contains 77 writings arranged under the chapter headings of Personal Responsibility, Family: Abortion, Homosexuality, Moral Deterioration in Cul- ture & Society, Patriotism, Politics, Church: Religion, Ethics and Education. It can be purchased online through Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Target, or the Publisher, PublishAmerica.

From the back cover:

The Rediscovery of Common Sense is a look at American culture, society, religion, politics and the family in the 21st century through the lens of common sense and scripture.

The breakdown of the family, the moral deterioration in society, excessive corruption in politics, and the lack of ethics in the religious realm all have one common factor: they are di- rectly linked to the abandonment of common sense, based on a literal interpretation of the Judeo-Christian scriptures.

Written in the style of some today’s popular conservative pun- dits, it contains the clarity of Rush Limbaugh, the common sense of Ann Coulter and the boldness of a biblical John the Baptist.”

NOTES: The original price of the book is $19.95, but if you would like to order it from the author, it will be $15.00 and that will include the postage when it is mailed to you. Mail your check to: Joseph Harris 77 Nell Road Ellisville, MS 38437.
When God Doesn’t Guide

I have prayed and prayed for God to guide me. He hasn’t answered my prayer. I have asked God for direction for my life. He has not given me direction. What do I do? Gideon (Judges 6) asked God for a sign that the fleece to be wet and the ground be dry. Then he asked for the ground to be wet and the fleece dry. God replied as Gideon had requested. What happens when all is wet and all dry at the same time? What do I do? Here are some things we can do as we ask God for leadership when there seems to be no immediate answer:

• Keep on asking. God is interested in your well being and the well being of His Kingdom. God is not annoyed at your asking direction of Him. He is honored when we truly ask direction from Him. Ensure it is His direction we seek rather than blessings on our escape plans when we are in trouble.

• Look for change. Many times prayer changes me. Many times prayer changes circumstances; even those people around me. There may be movement in the condition I find myself. New insights do occur when we are open to the presence of the Living God.

• Enquire of spiritual mentors. Some people are good guides. They are spiritually sensitive to your journey and will give you Godly and sound counsel — not “Here’s what you need to do now” kind of advice.

• Try a “new” path. If I am stuck at a dead end, maybe I need to go back to the crossroads to find my way. Returning to “basics” and the starting point many times reveals which end of the rope you are holding.

When God seemingly does not answer my request for direction, what do I do? Rather than giving up on God, follow these tried and proven ways.

Go-ahead given to lawsuit against teacher for ‘anti-Christian diatribes’

OneNewsNow • A lawsuit accusing a public school teacher of making anti-Christian remarks during a history class will move forward.

Chad Farnan, a sophomore at Capistrano Valley High School, claims his Advanced Placement European history teacher, James Corbett, made hostile remarks toward Christianity. The Christian student cites an incident from last December when Corbett stated that conservatives do not want women to avoid pregnancies because that interferes with God’s work. In another statement, recorded by

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Farnan, the teacher claimed that when people put on their “Jesus glasses,” they cannot see the truth.

Jennifer Monk is with Advocates for Faith and Freedom, which is representing Farnan. She agrees with the judge who denied the school’s motion to dismiss the case. “At stake really is Christian student’s rights to go to public school and be able to express their faith and hold their faith without being discriminated against in the classroom,” she argues.

Monk says the judge clearly saw there was probable cause for the case to proceed, but attorneys for the school argue the teacher in question is a 35-year veteran educator whose statements were taken out of context. But Corbett’s statements are “definitely not passing remarks,” says Monk.

“These are anti-Christian diatribes by this teacher pretty much almost every day in class,” says the attorney. In addition to the comments about “Jesus glasses,” says Monk, “he’s said things like ‘Aristotle argued that there has to be a god. Of course, that’s nonsense.’”

The case should be heard by the end of the year.