

Baptist

Mississippi

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

DECEMBER 1, 2011

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Thanks for Caring



by Ralph Izard, M.D.

Jim and Paul are shown packing the last of the "Making Everlasting Smiles" boxes for 2011. Baptist Medical Missions International, commonly called BMMI, expresses a big "Thank You!" to those who helped to make this year another big success.

The children of Nicaragua, along with missionaries Oscar and Tamy Gaitan, will be able to have thousands of smiles this year. Also, Brother Anatoly and the children of the refugees from South Ossetia in the Republic of Georgia will have gifts this Christmas, thanks to you. The boxes this year were packed so full that most required two rubber bands to hold the top on!

BMMI would like to wish the thousands of members of hundreds of churches a "Merry Christmas" for giving and caring, enabling us to fill boxes that would put a smile on their own child or grandchild if they received one of them this Christmas.

Islamic immigration's effect on nations' laws

OneNewsNow - In light of the "honor killings" trial that is making front-page headlines in Canada, a pro-family leader is calling on the government to take a good, hard look at who it allows into the country.

Three Afghan immigrants - a father, a mother, and a son - are standing trial for the June 2009 murder of three

daughters and the father's first wife. The suspects claim the deaths were an accident, but authorities believe the three daughters were victims of an honor killing plot because the Islamic family disapproved of their conduct, particularly the dating habits of the two oldest

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'Mission Project' Becomes A 'Mission Supporter'

by David Dickson

My wife, Shelley, and I just returned from a quick trip to Puerto Rico, and we were thrilled to be able to attend services at the Church Without Walls in Guayama. It was our privilege to be the founders of this congregation back in May 1994. It was exciting to see how a "mission project" has become a "mission supporter!"

Today, the congregation is led by senior pastor Dr. Carlos Pacheco and associate pastor Egberto "Tito" Echandy. Under their leadership, the church has continued to be a major supporter of missions, in particular on the island of Puerto Rico.

The Guayama church is the "mother church" of all of the congregations in Puerto Rico except for the mission in Mayagüez, which is their "granddaughter." The newest

mission effort in Puerto Rico, in the city of Salinas, is a project wholly funded by the church. For the last 12 months, they have provided 100% of the missionary's salary for the mission and, now that they are able to begin to reduce their contribution to that work (as it proceeds to self-support status), they have committed to paying a portion of the salary for Bradney Lopez, BMAA missionary to Angola, Africa (who is a "son" of their congregation.)

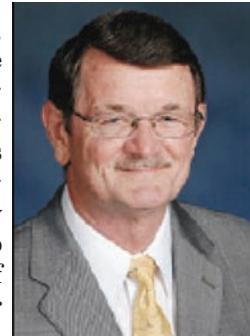
They also contribute on a monthly basis to the pastor's salary of the church in Coamo, and this year provided the lion's share of the funding for the BMA of Puerto Rico. The church also conducts its own

VSM program. Church young people have visited the countries of Nicaragua, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Peru, entirely funded by the congregation.

No, the church is not composed of "rich" people. But it is composed of people who have caught the missionary vision and take special joy in seeing the Lord's work grow and prosper. Pastors, missionaries and several ministerial students

have come out of this congregation, so the story is certainly not over yet. They continue to educate, send and support men and women for different areas of ministry. I believe this is going to be an interesting story to follow.

-from Baptist Trumpet



Dickson

How To Recognize False Prophets

by Bro. Grover Laird

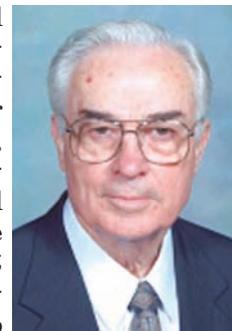
"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." (Matthew 7:15)

I feel that a study of false Prophets is important mainly because our Lord warned us to beware of them, as we find in our text. Also, because the Bible has considered them to be a problem through the ages

When Moses and Aaron went down to Egypt on their Heaven-sent mission, there were two false Prophets by the

name of Jannes and Jambres who withstood them. (11 Timothy 3:8) Though their power was demonic, they were surely convincing as they worked wonders before the people. (Exodus 7:11; 8:7, 18, 19) God permits false prophets to do mighty works as a test to His people's love and dedication to Him. (Deuteronomy 13:1-3)

When Elijah sought to turn Isreal back to God and the



Laird

Bible, there were eight hundred and fifty false Prophets who sought to keep Elijah from doing so. (I Kings 18) When Micaiah gave King Ahab and King Jehosaphat a message from the Lord that would have saved them from loss

and death, there were about four hundred false Prophets seeking to persuade them to

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How To Recognize False Prophets

continued from page 1

do otherwise, and they did succeed. (I Kings 22)

False Prophets often sought to hinder other Prophets of God such as Nehemiah, (Nehemiah 6:14) Jeremiah, (Jeremiah 28:15-17) Amos, (Amos 7:10-17) Paul, (Acts 13:6-10) and many others.

Paul often warned God's people of false Prophets. In his message to the Elders of Ephesus we find him saying-- "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (Acts 20:29, 30)

Paul also pointed out the danger of false Prophets to other Churches such as the Romans, (Romans 16:17, 18) the Corinthians, (II Corinthians 11:13-15) the Galatians, (Galatians 1:7-9; 5:10-12) the Ephesians, (Ephesians 4:14) the Philippians, (Philippians 3:2,

2) and the Colossians. (Colossians 2:8, 18)

Paul also mentioned the danger of false Prophets when He wrote to Timothy, (I Timothy 2:16-19) to Titus, (Titus 1:9-12) and to the Hebrews. (Hebrews 13:9) We also find a warning about false prophets in the writing of Peter, (II Peter 2) Jude, (Jude 4) and John. (II John 10, 11; Revelation)

The study of false Prophets is actually more important now than ever before. I say this because Jesus spoke of an increase in the number of false Prophets in the end-time. (Matthew 24:11) He also said that they would be more convincing and harder to recognize. (Matthew 24:24) Paul also warned of a greater danger in the Last Days. (I Timothy 4:1)

If false Prophets are more deceiving and dangerous in our day than before, we do indeed have a problem. For you see, they were very deceptive in Paul's day. In writing to the Corinthians he said, "For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming them-

selves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works." (II Corinthians 11:13-15)

Therefore, most of us need some help in recognizing false prophets. We need to know the characteristics of false Prophets and how they operate. This is what I will try to point out in this article. Though some of God's true Prophets may have some of these characteristics, people still need to know that they are the marks of a false Prophet.

I. They Strive To Be Recognized As Being Great Among Men

Surely all of us have to fight the weakness of sinful pride. But seeking man's praise and glory is not a weakness that false Prophets fight, it is one

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Prayers For This Year

by Tony Cleaver

Here are 366 prayers for the year! What a great encouragement for personal devotion time.

Order from Amazon.com for \$8.95

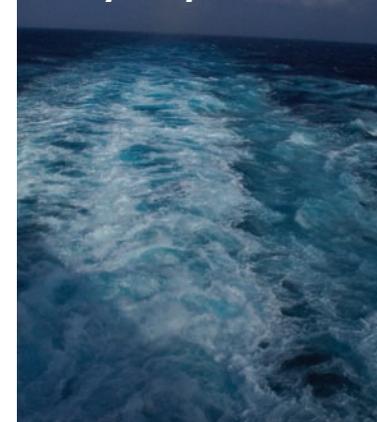
It will be delivered wirelessly to your computer, smartphone, or tablet.

Click "give as a gift" and it will be delivered with your special message.

Send as a Christmas gift

Prayers for This Year

by Tony Cleaver



Resources You Can Trust

Adult Sunday School resources from DiscipleGuide offer your church a structured curriculum for every Sunday and coordinated, Bible-intensive, life-oriented studies.

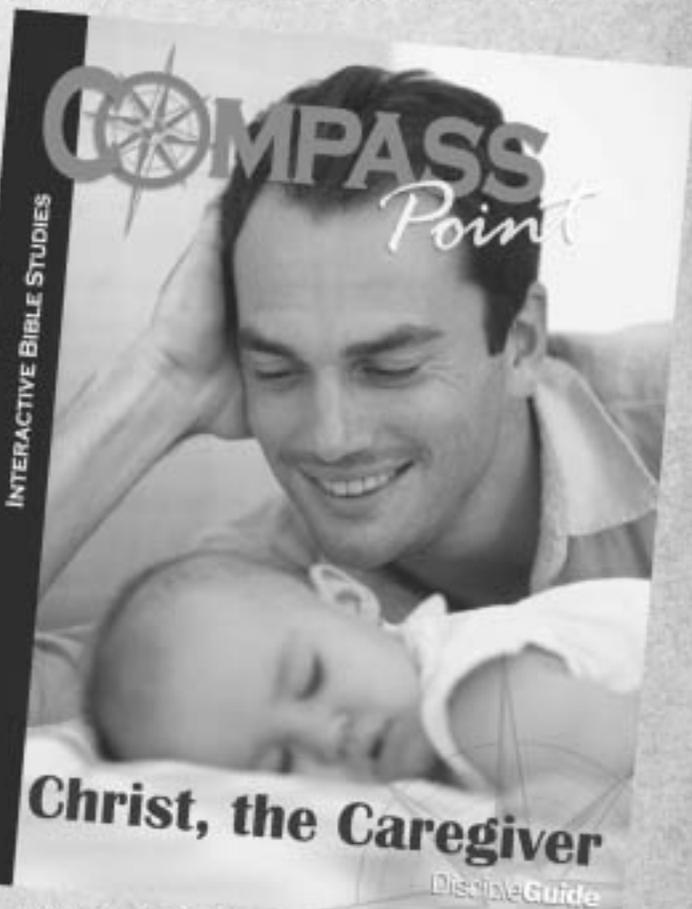
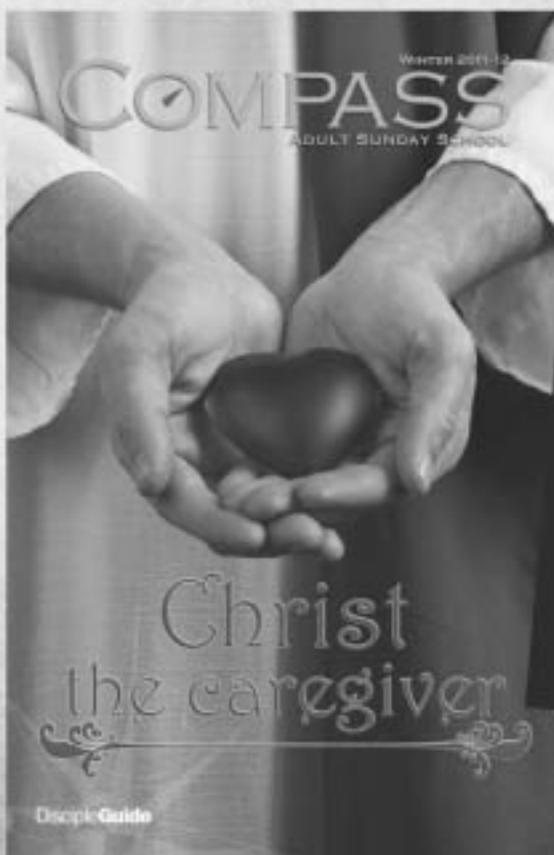
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Southeastern Baptist College

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Laurel, Mississippi 39440, (601) 426-6346



Dr. Medrick Savell
President

Serving Christ With a Biblical World View In A Christian Atmosphere

Another Semester Ending

The end of another good semester is near. We thank the Lord for the students, faculty and staff who have worked hard this semester. We also thank the Lord and the associations, churches, and individuals who have given regular and special financial support. Thanks to all who have prayed and shown concern in many ways. Special thanks to the trustees who are helping more than usual. Their support is encouraging to those of us who are serving the Lord at Southeastern Baptist College.

Because of the financial needs of the college in December, I would request churches and individuals to consider giving a Christmas contribution or end-of-year contribution that could be a tax deduction.

Special Emphasis and Financial Stability Donations for July - November, 2011

Special Emphasis

Berean Baptist, Soso
Bethel Baptist, Seminary
Big Oak Baptist, Fulton
Calvary Baptist, Taylorsville

Capitol Baptist Association (Roof)
Center Ridge Baptist, Hickory
Cornerstone Baptist,
Bentonville, AR

Cypress Creek Baptist, Brooklyn
East Fulton Baptist, Fulton
First Baptist, Bay Springs
First Baptist Calhoun, Laurel
First Shady Grove Baptist, Laurel
Forked Oak Baptist, Booneville
Good Hope Baptist, Hickory
Harmony Baptist, Hurley
Hillcrest Baptist, Yazoo City
Hobolochitto Baptist Association
Hopewell Baptist, Fulton
Lebanon Baptist, Laurel
Lee's Chapel #2 Baptist,
Picayune

Little Creek Baptist, Perkinston
New Bethany Baptist, Ellisville
Oak Grove Baptist Association
Oakland Grove Baptist, Laurel
Paramount Baptist, Perkinston
Parkview Baptist, Laurel
Parkview Baptist Crusaders
Class, Laurel

Riverside Baptist, Ellisville
Springhill Baptist, Laurel
Ten Mile Baptist Association
Union Baptist, Bay Springs
Washington Baptist Association
Washington Baptist, Neely
Westover Baptist, Hattiesburg
Zion Baptist, Anguilla
Total - \$11,641.59

Other Donations

Cane Market Baptist,
Baton Rouge, LA
Cornerstone Baptist,
Bentonville, AR
East Central Missionary
Baptist Association

Ed Crocket
Gerald Givens
Mrs. Marjorie Harper
Mike and Amy Hinton
Bro. and Mrs. Grover Laird
Jesse Lancaster
Mount Moriah Baptist, Overtt
Wayne and Vivian Parker
Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Rankin
Anonymous
Total - \$8,190.00

Special Reserve - Associations and Churches

Antioch Baptist, Soso
Big Creek Baptist Association
East Central Missionary
Baptist Association
Gulf Baptist Association
Harmony Baptist, Hurley
Harmony Baptist Association
Hobolochitto Baptist Association
Judson Baptist Association
Mid-Central Baptist Association
Paramount Baptist, Perkinston
Ten Mile Baptist Association
Tombigbee Baptist Association
Washington Baptist, Neely
Westover Baptist, Hattiesburg
Total - \$8,896.38

10 x 10 Project Donations

Anonymous
First Shady Grove Baptist Parker
Reeves WMA Circle, Laurel
First Shady Grove Baptist
Brotherhood, Laurel
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Everett
Bro. and Mrs. Lavelle Lee,
Picayune
Dr. and Mrs. Aaron Parker,
Laurel
Bro. and Mrs. Mavous Phifer
Rock Hill Baptist, Meridian
Bro. and Mrs. James Wilson
Total - \$2,600.00

Ministry Positions

Tupelo Church Seeks Pastor

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Tupelo, Mississippi is searching for a pastor. Anyone feeling led should contact one of the individuals listed below.

Ricky Sandford at 662-213-1442, Eilliam Lucius at 662-842-0552, or DAvid Langford at 662-687-1610.

Youth minister sought

Westover Baptist Church in Hattiesburg is seeking a part-time Youth Minister. If interested please call Bro. Sam Oglesby at 601-264-4843 or 601-550-8513.

Survival Tips With Family During Holiday Get Togethers

The next few weeks are a wonderful time of the year. There are so many opportunities to be with family. For some of you, being with family is a daily or weekly occurrence. For others, it is one of the few times in a year that you actually get to see your family. Either way, it is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of God with those He has given us to love. But it also gives Sa-

tan an opportunity to stir up strife and hostility. Having a nice time with family is, in large part, up to you and your choice of attitude.

Oh, you think you have a messed up family. You think you are the only one that has someone who plays the role of the Maytag washing machine in your family. (The center piece of the washing machine is called the agitator and every family has at least one). If you think you have a bad family, study the Bible.

Wow! You talk about dysfunctional families. Joseph has a dream and his brothers wanted to kill him for it. Job is sick and his loving, supportive wife says, "why don't you just curse God and die". I think Job's wife needed to come to one of my marriage retreats. Ha!

The Bible shows us that there are no perfect families. There never have been. But we do have a perfect heavenly Father, and we do know the Prince of Peace. They are always for you. They are always wanting the best for you. Seek them first, and you will be able to not only endure your family get-togethers, you may have the opportunity to change a life with your shining light.

Here are some tips to remember with the upcoming holiday season.

Let it slide.

At some point, someone always will make some comment that you particularly don't care for. They may even say something hurtful, accusatorial, or denigrating to you or your kids. You have to decide if it is worth going to World War III over. Ask yourself, "am I willing to

die on this mountain for this comment?"

I have always encouraged people to speak the truth in love. But is this the right time? Chances are if you have a family member that always makes you feel guilty over something, then they have a habit of doing this all year long, not just during the holidays. Our emotions are more elevated this time of the year, so

watch out for letting them control you. Pray for the fruit of the spirit of self control during the holidays. Maybe it would be best to let it slide, and then if it continues, speak the truth in love privately to them at some point in the future. You will probably only incite a family feud if it is confronted with the whole family gathered around. These things never go well. Let it slide. Don't major in the minors.

Be helpful.

One of the best ways to love your enemies is to help them. It is hard for people to criticize someone who is helping them. I know there are some people who actually do have that ability to criticize someone who is helping, but swallow your pride and help anyway. Find other ways to

help if you are told that you are not stirring something the correct way. Let it slide. Go set the table. If you get criticized for that, go take a walk outside and find some other way to be helpful. Just remember, a family should all work together, as well as relax together. You are not a little princess. You are not a two year old boy anymore that has to be waited on. Matthew 25:40. Serve!

Build in protection time.

With some families, you will never be able to please them. So, build in some time for self-preservation. This is not being selfish. This is a mental, emotional and spiritual restoration that is needed. Take a favorite book. Do a crossword. Go out on a walk. This is the easiest

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10 x 10 Project

The 10 x 10 Project was presented at the BMA of Mississippi meeting in October. It is a fund raising project designed to strengthen the financial foundation of the college. It is asking individuals, churches, auxiliaries, and other friends of the college to build a 10 x 10 room in the "financial building" at Southeastern Baptist College which equals \$100.00 per room. Some may want to join with another person to build a room. Some will build one room; auxiliaries and churches can build several rooms. The goal is to build 1,000 rooms.

This fund raising project is needed because the economic condition in our nation has caused the expenses of the college to be more than income for some time. We have cut expenses, but must raise more income to meet the expenses. This is one of several actions taken by the college to meet the needs.

Because of the serious financial need, we ask all who can to participate in this project. It has great potential. Already, 28 rooms have been built. This could be a good way to give an end-of-the-year contribution to the college or a Christmas gift. If you need brochures describing the project, let us know.

**10 X 10
Project**

Opinion Page

Journal of the Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

Baptist Medical Missions International

This editor is looking forward to having a report in our next issue about BMMI and its worldwide medical ministry.

Headed by Dr. Ralph IZARD, this ministry sends teams around the world to minister to the medical needs of those peoples who are much less fortunate than those of us in the United States. The purpose is not to just meet the health needs of these people, but to let them know that we love them and that God loves them. When they know we care they are more open to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

I plan to leave Friday, December 2, from the Jackson, Mississippi airport. I will meet up with some others in Dallas and fly to Miami and then to the island nation of Haiti. The plans are to minister in an orphanage and to the people of Haiti in a local church.

I have been blessed to make two previous mission trips to Mexico. They were mostly for information and educational purposes. This trip will be somewhat different. It will be short -

only lasting 5 days - but I am sure it will be a blessing to this writer.

Pray for safety, success and that God will be glorified by the efforts of His people. I look forward to the trip and to reporting on the work of BMMI.

Special Emphasis

January of each year is designated as a time of 'special emphasis' for your Mississippi Baptist Paper. Our need this year is \$10,000. This makes up a major portion of our annual operating budget and we need your help. Literature will be mailed to each of our churches to help publicize our need and to give you ideas on how to help. You may take a special offering each week, a onetime special offering during the month of January, or just designate a special amount to give to help with these needs. Regardless of your method, we do ask that each church and church member participate in this effort. Our needs are real and we need your help.

Each ministry of the BMA of Mississippi is in need of adequate financial support. The weak economy has hurt our local churches and our state and national works. The "information" ministry is needed to keep our

churches and people informed about the needs and progress of all of our work. Support for your Publications Department is support for each department and commission.

May God bless your ministry as you help this work.



Don Brown
Editor

AVAILABLE FOR SERVICE

Listing of names does not indicate endorsement. This column is for information purposes only.

Gerald Givens

Bro. Gerald Givens is available for pulpit supply. He is a member of Paramount Baptist Church, Perkinston. He has 44 years ministerial experience and may be reached at 601-928-2796 or through his pastor at 601-928-3764.

Mark McRaney

Mark McRaney is available for fill-ins and pulpit supply. He is a member of Faith Baptist Church in Florence, Mississippi. Bro. Mac Pierce is his pastor. Bro. Mark is 44 years of age and may be reached at 601-507-5873. He currently lives in Morton, Mississippi.

Dale Wirick

Dale Wirick is available for pulpit supply. He may be reached at 228-623-5466 or 228-249-3731.

Jarrad Lee

Bro. Jarrad Lee is available for revivals, fill in or interim work. Bro. Lee surrendered to the ministry in 1994. Since that time he has pastored two churches and has preached from coast to coast as an evangelist. He and his family have moved back home to Picayune, Mississippi, and are members of Lee's Chapel No. 2 with Pastor Rico Lee. He and his wife Christy of 16 years have 5 children. They are looking forward to being a blessing to you and your congregation. He may be contacted at 228-547-6159 or by email at jarrad.lee@tlwallace.com.

Church of the Covered Dish BY THOMAS TAPP



False Prophets

from page 2

they cultivate. Consider two false prophets in the Bible who had this mark.

In Acts chapter five we read about a false leader by the name of Theudas. He succeeded in gathering a large following. One thing we notice about him was, he went around "boasting himself to be somebody." (Acts 5:36) He was, however, "brought to nought" in the end.

In Acts chapter 8, we see this same selfish, boastful spirit in a false Prophet by the name of Simon. He carried on his deceptive work in Samaria. Though he was a false Prophet, the Bible said that he was able to continue a "long time." People gave heed to Simon "from the least to the greatest." They really believed that he was "the great power of God."

Then we see the mark that identified him as a false prophet. He was "giving out

that himself was some great one." (Acts 8:9) But God be praised, the preaching of the gospel of Christ brought an end to his work of deceiving and blinding the people.

May I say here, that the marks of a true Prophet are seen in men like Paul. Paul was a man who felt that he was "less than the least of all saints." (Ephesians 3:8) He even considered himself to be "nothing." (II Corinthians 12:11) According to the teaching of Jesus, we all should feel this way. (John 15:5

Though all false prophets may not be recognized by their desire to magnify themselves, and though some true men of God may have a problem with pride; all should know that this is a mark that is normally found in false Prophets.

continued on page 5

Commission On Senior Adult Work Continues

Bro. Vern Holifield had a vision a number of years ago concerning ministry to the Senior Adults in our churches. I think a controlling factor in his realizing the importance of that work had to do with the fact that he also, was a senior adult. His personal vision became a reality and will certainly continue for years to come.

This is an important work. The Trustees of this Commission have a report on page 7 of this issue. The conferences continue and the work is important. I urge you to read this report, attend the conferences, support this work financially, and pray for the Trustees as they seek new leadership.



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False Prophets

II. False Prophets Are Normally Immoral

In the book of 11 Peter we find much said about false Prophets. The second chapter of his book is given almost completely to a study of false Prophets. In that chapter he gave us a noticeable mark of false Prophets when he said, "Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin...." (II Peter 2:14)

There is a reason that many false Prophets are immoral and "cannot cease from sin." A truly false Prophet is not a "born-again" Christian. He has never moved from the devil's family into God's. (1 John 3:10) He has never become a new creature in Christ. (II Corinthians 5:17) He has never moved from darkness to light. (Ephesians 5:8) The Holy Spirit does not abide and work in him. (11 Corinthians 6:19, 20) Naturally, he cannot overcome the sinful, depraved flesh in which he lives. Though there have been some cases of this same immorality among true servants of God, all need to know that this is a mark of false Prophets.

III. Money Is a Controlling Factor in Their Life

"Not greedy of filthy lucre" is one of the qualifications for those who are ordained to the full work of the ministry. (1 Timothy 3:3) It was to a young preacher that Paul wrote the familiar words, "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." (1 Timothy 6:10) Though the love for money can bring unnecessary sorrow to all, preachers especially need to watch it. But it is common in false Prophets.

In Paul's letter to Timothy he spoke of some false teachers who considered "that gain is godliness." (1 Timothy 6:3-5) When writing to Titus he referred to some deceivers "whose mouths must be stopped," and said they were preaching for the money, or "for filthy lucre's sake." (Titus 1:10, 11) Jude used most of his book dealing with false Prophets and he referred to this same problem. (Jude 11)

Money is a need we all have, and God gives it to us regularly as a blessing. (Philippians 4:19) But to make riches our goal in life is wrong and it brings "many foolish and hurtful lusts, which drown men in destruction and perdition." (1 Timothy 6:9) A man cannot "haste to be rich" and stay innocent. (Proverbs 28:29) And while many of God's servants have some problems with this, all need to know that letting money be a controlling factor in their ministry is a mark of false Prophets.

IV. We Can Know Them by Their Fruits

When Jesus spoke the words of our text, warning us of false Prophets, He went on to say, "ye shall know them by their fruits." (Matthew 7:16) If the saying is true that "the fruit of a Christian is another Christian," then the fruit of any man's ministry would be seen in the people that he wins, the people that he pastors, and the people that he influences.

In Galatians chapter five, we have a list of things that the flesh produces. (verses 19-21) Then we have a list of the things which the Spirit produces. (verses 22,23) Since the false

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Mississippi Baptist

JOURNAL OF THE BAPTIST MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI

Extra, Extra READ ALL ABOUT IT

Strong Effort Needed !!

LAUREL, MS - Editor Don Brown urges all of the supporting churches of the Baptist



Don Brown
Editor

Association of Mississippi to make a special effort to help raise additional money for the Publication's Department *Special Emphasis Drive* during **January** 2012. Don Brown stated that the January Emphasis offering each year needs to raise about 10% of the annual operating income. "Our goal for this year is to raise at least \$10,000," he continued, "We are asking each church to give a generous offering to help us maintain a good fiscal operation."

January 2012 - Special Emphasis Our Need - \$10,000

That I may publish ... and tell of all thy wondrous works.

Pslam 26:7

Don't Mess With Our Marriage

Part Three

This series of articles has been written to help you identify what might be causing you two to slowly drift apart. Having wonderful family and friends, fun hobbies and watching TV are all ok. We just need to periodically evaluate all other people and projects, and things that might mess with our marriage growth. Marriage must be seen as a top priority. It is the number one human relationship.

Failure to put your marriage at the top, above other things and other people is wrong. And the closeness we feel towards our partner is always a gradual eroding of intimacy. We just failed to realize that slow drift away from each other by being caught up in kids, worldliness and the busy lifestyle that we have put on ourselves.

In the previous two articles, I covered these intruders that you must watch out for - TV, cellphones, internet, Facebook, computers, in-laws, friends etc. Let's look at others.

Work

Work is good. But you can let work dominate your time. You can even be at home, but mentally still be at work. If you bring work home with you literally or in your brain, you are not there for your spouse. No

job is more important than family. Work becomes an intruder at home because it is meeting some unmet need in your life. It might be that you have a lack of freedom at home, and work offers you the freedom to just be you. People are more accepting of you at work.

Perhaps you stay at work longer because you are trying to flee an unhappy, or explosive home life. It might be that work offers you more praise and you never get any

at home. There are many reasons. Examine yourself. Pray and ask God to show your heart's motives to you. You won't be able to beat back this marriage intruder until you find the root cause of why you do it. It's rarely the more money. It is usually for improving your self-worth that is sagging.

Hobbies and Hunting

Hey! Why did you single our hunting? Because there are too many to list. Fishing, shopping, golfing, working out, card playing, car races etc. See, there are many. I just listed hunting because many people ignore their marriage and family for hunting, which

for some, becomes sacred. It becomes an idol. Hobbies and having fun in any format is great. Thank God for these times of enjoyment. But these things so quickly can become addictive. Costly. Time-consuming. Even mentally consuming. You don't spend quality time with your spouse, because you are always reading up on, or watching something related to this "thing" you do.

You are home, but only in body and not spirit. All leisure activities must have time limits. They must have spending limits. You may not have time for prayer and Bible study with your spouse if you are always pursuing your favorite outside interest.

Kids

You love them more than you love yourself. You will die for them. But they should never come between you and your spouse.

When they are young, they do require so much time and energy. But you still must carve out couple's time. Many people have low self-esteem, and their kids become emotional assets for them to worship and make themselves feel better.

Kids should never be worshiped. Problems may occur in

Family Ark Ministries



Travis Plumlee



Commission on Senior Adults

658 Joe Perrett Rd, Soso, MS 39480

Trustee Report

The Trustees for the Commission on Senior Adults have met to finalize plans for the upcoming Senior Adult Conferences. Mrs. Dot Holifield met with the trustees to assist in the planning and will continue to help with the Commission's work for the near future. Her help is deeply appreciated.

The South conference will held in March at Big Creek Baptist Church, Soso, and the North conference is scheduled for Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, Fulton. Plans are in the works for a video tribute to Bro. Vern Holifield for his vision and tireless work in the area of Senior Adult Ministries. The video will be shown at both conferences.

We encourage our people and our pastors to make plans to attend this year's conferences.

Ministers who will complete 50 years of ministry during 2012 will also be presented a plaque recognizing their ministry and years of dedication. Churches are asked to sent the names of any minister completing 50 years in the ministry during 2012 to Mrs. Dot Holifield, 658 Joe Perrett Rd., Soso, MS 39480.

Director Search

Search is on for a director for this work. Anyone wishing to be considered for this ministry is asked to contact Commission Chairman Kenneth Flynt at 601-729-2613 or by writing him at 807 Soso Big Creek Rd., Soso, MS 39480.

this area for several reasons. You need to take a critical assessment to make sure that your marriage doesn't suffer because of being overly involved, and over identifying with your children. You may have too much guilt over trying to be a wonderful parent. You need to open the Bible and work on your self-worth. It is complete in Christ, not your kids.

You think your spouse can handle the neglect. You convince yourself that your kids

need you all the time. Who is the needy one? Perhaps you are using your children as a surrogate spouse. You have grown distant as a couple, so you use your kids to meet your emotional needs for love, acceptance and closeness. But kids are not ever suppose to be used as a substitute for what God called you two together for. Reconnect with your spouse and stop pouring all your emotional energy into your children.

You may have misplaced priorities. Your home should be marriage centered and not kid centered. When marriage is your priority, then that love flows to your kids and it makes a happy home. Ephesians 5:31 makes it clear that kids will eventually leave home. But the marriage is what God established as the deepest, permanent relationship. Avoid triangulation. Don't let a third party come between you two. When you were married, your vows were "forsaking all others" and "keep thee only to me, as long as we both shall live".

You both need to have a serious sit-down talk. There are many intruders to the marriage that I haven't even listed. These articles are a beginning talking point for you two. Don't let an empty marriage that has had hurt, criticism, ignoring, etc., drive you to use a home invader. Look to God. Proverb 3:5,6. He will restore your

10 x 10 Project

The 10 x 10 Project was presented at the BMA of Mississippi meeting in October. It is a fund raising project designed to strengthen the financial foundation of the college. It is asking individuals, churches, auxiliaries, and other friends of the college to build a 10 x 10 room in the "financial building" at Southeastern Baptist College which equals \$100.00 per room. Some may want to join with another person to build a room. Some will build one room; auxiliaries and churches can build several rooms. The goal is to build 1,000 rooms.

This fund raising project is needed because the economic condition in our nation has caused the expenses of the college to be more than income for some time. We have cut expenses, but must raise more income to meet the expenses. This is one of several actions taken by the college to meet the needs.

Because of the serious financial need, we ask all who can to participate in this project. It has great potential. Already, 28 rooms have been built. This could be a good way to give an end-of-the-year contribution to the college or a Christmas gift. If you need brochures describing the project, let us know.

**10 X 10
Project**

Islamic immigration's effect on nations' laws

from page 1

sisters.

Brian Rushfeldt, executive director of Canada Family Action (CFA), warns that the issue could soon become a widespread problem.

"What concerns me is we've got people immigrating to Canada, but they want to bring their own values and their own beliefs here and live in a country that promises them a lot, but they don't want to live by the law nor the values of the nation that they're coming to," he notes. "And somehow, our immigration department has to put a stop to that."

Rushfeldt believes the Conservative government of Prime Minister Stephen Harper is

more likely to clamp down on immigration than is the United States.

"I think we are going to do a better job because we've got a government now and an immigration minister who is extremely dedicated to really reviewing all of the policies that have been in place under the Liberal government for 40 years," the pro-family leader suggests. "And he's taking some heat for the fact that he wants things changed. He wants better tracking of who actually is coming."

Like the U.S. and Western Europe, the CFA executive director laments that Canada's immigration policy has been gripped by political correctness.

Georgia counseling student in court over view on 'gays'

ATLANTA - A graduate school counseling student is asking a federal appeals court to block Augusta State University from expelling her because she believes homosexual behavior is an immoral choice.

Jennifer Keeton, who said she's a devout Christian "committed to the truth of the Bible," enrolled in the Georgia school's counselor education program in fall 2009 and soon began discussing her views.

Faculty members were alarmed after she wrote in a term paper that it would be

hard for her to work with homosexual clients. The school told her that's unethical and she was put on probation and warned she could be expelled. Keeton refused when the school asked her to attend sensitivity training and mix with homosexual men and women at events like the city's "gay pride" parade.

Cristina Correia of the Georgia Attorney General's office said university faculty were concerned that Keeton was scheduled to practice counseling in middle and high schools as part of her degree program and could possibly harm young students with her views.

Home Bible studiers in the clear

OneNewsNow - A legal analyst says it was "wise" for a California city to drop a citation filed against a couple for hosting a home Bible study.

The city of San Juan Capistrano dismissed its citation against a local couple who held a growing Bible study in their home. Because of complaints from the neighbors, the city initially fined Chuck and Stephanie Fromm \$300 for holding the session. Officials had also noted that the couple needed a conditional use permit to hold the gatherings, and

they threatened to fine the Fromms \$500 per meeting if they continued. So, the pair filed a lawsuit against San Juan Capistrano following an appeal to the city, which was rejected.

Ken Klukowski, fellow and senior legal analyst with The American Civil Rights Union (ACRU), believes the city ultimately made the right decision.

"The city was wise to rescind that citation because otherwise it would have gone to court, and the city would have been beaten badly in court," he suggests.

The Associated Press reports that the city is currently reviewing how its land-use codes apply to churches, but Klukowski tells OneNewsNow

Does the Devil Make You Sin?

A little boy called his little sister a bad name. Then, he hit her with a broom stick and spit on her. The mother said to the

naughty child, "You shouldn't have done that." And the little boy said, "The devil made me call her a bad name. The devil made me hit her with a broom stick, but spitting on her was my idea."

I think we would be surprised how much of our sin is our idea – it comes from that old Adamic nature that has a predisposition to sin. Galatians 5:17 says, "For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would."

-selected

the latest move sets an example for future incidents.

"I think it is certainly a political precedent on behalf of the public officials leading the city, that they understand that pursuing families for having a Bible study in their own home is not very wise policy," the attorney concludes.

False Prophets

from page 5

Prophet works in the flesh, we would expect to see things that are in the list of "works of the flesh," showing up in his followers. And since the true servant of God works in the Spirit, we would expect to see things in the list of "fruit of the Spirit" show up in the lives of those he wins and teaches.

In other words, while hatred, emulation, strife, and envy would naturally show up in the followers of the false Prophet; love, joy, peace, meekness, and faith would show up in the lives of those who listen to the preaching of the true prophet. Looking at the fruit of one's ministry will therefore help us to know who is true and who is false.

V. False Prophets May Be Known By Those Who Hear Them

The Apostle John wrote much concerning false teachers. In chapter four of his first letter he admonishes us to "try the spirits whether they are of God." He then said, "because many false Prophets are gone out into the world." (1 John 4:1)

He then gives us some ways to recognize false Prophets. One thing he mentioned was, "They are of the world: therefore speak they of the world, and the world heareth them. We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us: he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the spirit of truth, and the spirit of error." (1 John 4:5,6) John seems to be saying that it will be easy for the false Prophets to gather large crowds from the lost and worldly, while the true may find it difficult.

I don't think John is encouraging us to become more like the world in order to grow. He had just said "greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." (Verse 4) But while it is tempting for a church to make some changes when they lose their Spiritual power, they should be careful. I really think that the best thing to do is to weep our way back to God in true repentance and rededicate our lives to the work Jesus left us to do.

VI. False Prophets are known By Their Message

If a man preaches "another Jesus" other than the Jesus of the Bible, he is not of God. This is one of the ways which John gave us to recognize false Prophets. (1 John 4:2, 3) The Jesus of the Bible was God's only begotten Son, (John 3:16) born of a virgin, (Luke 1:34,35) lived a sinless life, (Hebrews 4:15) preformed miracles, (John 3:2) died for the sins of the world, (Romans 5:8) buried in a grave, (John 19:40-42) rose from the dead, (Mark 1:6) ascended back to the Father, (Acts 1:9) is now interceding for us, (Hebrews 7:25) and will one day return back to this earth. (Acts 1:10, 11) This is the Jesus of the Bible, and the Jesus we are to preach. And if any one preaches another Jesus, he is without question a false Prophet.

This little message is not written to encourage the practice of judging and condemning everyone who doesn't believe just like we do. It is writing with the hope of helping some to find their way in this different day, and to encourage us all to "earnestly contend for the faith," until "these calamities be overpast." (Jude 3b)

Our Marriage

continued from page 6

marriage. Keep it vital, alive and flourishing. Always periodically step back and assess where you are in your marriage.

Accentuate the positive and correct the negative. Life is short. Love whom God has given you to love. Even on days they are unlovable. I John 4:11



News articles should contain information that will be of interest to the general public who are not members of the church that is reporting.

Tombigbee Association Report

The Tombigbee Association met with East Fulton Baptist Church on November 10, 2011. After the church served a great meal, Cheryl Oswald and Stacy and Gary Smith sang specials. Bro Josh Awtrey brought the evening message from James 1:22-27.

After the message the association met for business. Gary O'neal gave the report on the annual meeting and Roger Franks gave the treasurer's report. Special reports were given by Elvis Garcia, Bobby Elliott, Larry Geraldson, Roger Akers. Our next meeting will be at East Amory on December 08, 2011.

A special note - Bro. Vern Holifield will be greatly missed and our prayers go out to his family from all of the churches of the Tombigbee Association. Moderator Gary Smith Reporter Debbie Franks

Lone Oak Church Note

Lone Oak Baptist Church, West Point, is praying for the Vern Holifield family. He was loved by us all and was a great blessing to the people and churches of our denomination. He will truly be missed. Bro. Roger Franks

PASTOR'S RETREAT FOR THE BMA OF MISSISSIPPI

January 30 – January 31, 2012

Lake Tiak O'Khata

Louisville, MS

REVIVE US, O LORD

Psalms 85: 6

Wilt thou not revive us again: that thy people may rejoice in thee?

Cost: \$60.00 per person if staying in the bunk house. \$40.00 if staying in the hotel.

Both includes the conference, supper, breakfast, and lunch. If staying in the bunkhouse you will need to bring your own bed linens (bunk beds), towels, and toiletries. If staying in the hotel you will be responsible for your own reservations and room.

MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2012		7:00pm Concert Saving Grace	
1:00pm	Registration Begins	8:00pm	Message #4 James Sprayberry
2:00pm	Welcome	TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 2012	
2:05pm	Worship	7:30am	Breakfast
2:20pm	Message #1 Gary Smith	8:30am	Worship
3:00pm	Break	8:45am	Message #5 Dewitt Bain
3:30pm	Worship	9:25am	Break
3:45pm	Message #2 Dr. Eugene Anderson	9:45am	Worship
4:25pm	Worship	10:00am	Message #6 Leon Carmical
4:40pm	Message #3 Chuck Lee	10:40am	Worship
5:20pm	Dismiss for Supper	10:55am	Message #7 Dr. John Adams

Worship will be led by Chris Anderson

If you have any questions, please contact Justin Rhodes, Chairman of the Pastor's Retreat Committee @ (601)218-3364 or pastorjustinrhodes@yahoo.com

MISSISSIPPI MISSIONS

4226 HIGHWAY 15 NORTH, LAUREL, MISSISSIPPI 39440
(601) 428-8616

Thank you!

Thirteen churches and one local association sent special offerings in November totaling \$6,030.04. This is a great initial response to my request given at the State association meeting. I asked every church to go home and take up a special offering for missions, as soon as possible, so that we would not have to take out a loan. My hope is that other churches and local associations will soon respond and this number will grow. I had also asked that each church place State Missions in their budget for at least \$300.00 per month. The special offering is necessary to strengthen our present position, but the budget increase is necessary to sustain or continue operation.

This first month has been filled with



Larry Geraldson
Director

a variety of activities for me. The first thing I did was to establish a time every week when your Missions and RLF staff will spend time together in the Word. (This is non-negotiable.) I have reviewed our budgets and I am looking at ways that we can reduce unnecessary costs of operation. I have met with our auditors to ensure that I have a good working knowledge of our financial infrastructure. I have visited six local association meetings and shared my heart and my passion for missions. I have interviewed our missionaries, met their families and visited their works. I have gone through the Revolving Loan Fund item by item to gain first hand knowledge of its strength and stability. I have reviewed all the policies and procedures and have interviewed and learned the roles of all office personnel. I have preached at a number of churches and personally witnessed to the lost in this area. Cherita and I became members of

Lebanon Baptist Church in Soso. I just thought you might want to know what I've been doing.

As I conclude this first month as your Missions and Revolving Loan Fund Director, I take measure of the excitement and enthusiasm that fills my heart at the great possibilities that lie before us. I know there are skeptics, and there always will be, but I sense the tide is changing. Our cause is timeless and transcends culture and circumstances. By faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, we can conquer every obstacle to our obedient pursuit of that great commission given to us in God's holy Word.

I have already begun a dialogue with the Lord concerning six specific names of individuals that could become church planters and I am looking for number seven.

We are updating our list of churches and pastors. We hope to have a current list uploaded on Facebook and our website very soon. We will be renovating our website soon. Search for our page BMA of MS Missions and RLF and click "Like". If you need help connecting with us on Facebook, please give us a call at 601-428-8616.



Sofilthy's Attic

by Barbara White

Joy vs. Happiness

A few days ago our pastor asked the congregation to name one thing for which they were thankful and "joy" came to my mind immediately.

And with it the scripture from Nehemiah, "...the joy of the Lord is your strength" and then I remembered a song we used to sing "You may have the joy bells ringing in your heart, and a peace that from you never will depart ... Take the Savior here below, with you every where you go: He will keep the joy bells ringing in your heart."

Then today I read a little saying that went like this: "It's never too late to be happy. But it's all up to you and no one else."

I've met a lot of folks who think everything has to go their way in order for them to be happy. But I've learned from my many years of experience that Happiness and Joy are two different animals. In considering the difference I consulted Mr. Webster and according to him happiness is gladness, contentment, being fortunate. He defined joy as exhilaration of spirits, to rejoice, to exult (leap for joy).

So from that it seems that joy runs a lot deeper than happiness and happiness can be affected by outward circumstances, but joy is an inner condition that is unaffected by stuff that comes up in your life.

What do you think about it?

Letters From Our Readers

Letters reflect the opinion of the writer and not necessarily this publication or the BMA of Mississippi

Writer addresses controversy

Dear Editor,

Up front, let me say that since entering the ministry in 1975, I have always preached from the KJV of the Bible without exception. It was my choice to do so.

When the controversy over the KJV and the NIV came up, I was totally ignorant of the contents of the NIV. And when someone would say that certain verses were omitted from the NIV, I assumed that they were speaking from personal knowledge and not hearsay.

Recently, some KJV only people of our Association alienated themselves from any church that would not totally commit themselves to the KJV, which has left us with a split Association.

So, I figured it was time for me to see for myself what the issue consisted of, whereas I downloaded the NIV and KJV on my tablet and viewed them side by side. And I did some research on the history of the Bible.

One of the main verses that was upsetting a lot of folks, preachers included, was Luke 19:10. They were saying that this verse was deleted from the NIV. When I viewed the KJV and

NIV side by side, I found that to be untrue. It is in the NIV as well as the KJV.

KJV says—Luke 19:10—For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost.

NIV says—Luke 19:10—For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.

What I did find was that over the history of the Bible there have been several different translations making it easier to read for the people of that generation. There are a few word changes that make it more readable for the English speaking people of this century.

And I concluded (and will remain steadfast in my conclusion until someone shows me the error of my ways) that a few word changes do not alter or change the fundamental truth of the Word of God.

And I certainly do not believe that the word changes is just cause for the split of fellowship between my preacher brethren or the churches of the BMA.

How can we say we love God, if we can't get along as Christians?

In these last days, it would behoove us well to find more reasons to love one another and accept one another as brothers and sisters in Christ, regardless of the version of their choice.

In conclusion, let me say that I will continue to preach from the KJV, but I refuse to alienate myself from those who choose the NIV or ESV.

And for those in our Association, you know which one, may God help us to be united and grow stronger in love and fellowship.

B.J. Hudson

Holiday Survival Tips

continued from page 3

and best way to restore yourself, and reduce stress. Build in some holiday time where you get by yourself and recharge your battery. You don't owe anyone an explanation. Just do it.

Don't be so sensitive.

You need to work on your Christ-centered identity. Get into the Word and prepare yourself mentally. You are loved, accepted and forgiven by God. You are wonderfully made. This will help you to avoid being overly sensitive. Some of you get all hurt and pout over the holidays and it is your self-esteem that is hurting, not this other person. Some people like to pick and tease. Yes, it has to have its limits. But often times that is how this person shows you that they love you. You may say that is a weird way of showing it. It is what it is. Don't be looking for ways to be hurt. Sarcasm and hostile humor are not good. But sometimes you may be too sensitive over a comment that a loved one made, and that is just who they are. They are a kidder. Get over it.

Be considerate.

Accommodate others. The world does not revolve around you. I know this trouble maker thinks it revolves around them. So, pray for them. I can't control others, but I can control

Church to host concert

Good Hope Baptist Church, Columbia will host The Tim Greene Trio in concert on Thursday, December 8. This is part of the group's Christmas Tour and will begin at 7:00 pm. The church is located at 208 Good Hope Road, Columbia. For more information call 601-736-7252. Denny Patterson is the pastor.

my response to them. See them for the hurting person they are. But as a Christian, we don't treat people how they treat us. Treat them like Jesus would. He always thought of others first. What a Godly act for you to do.

Life is too short to get mad at every holiday. Love your family even when they are unlovable. Show the love of God to them and you will have a good holiday.