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PLAINLY SPEAKING:
The late Doyle Spears talks about changes in the Apostolic movement in "Unchangeable Truth."



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APOSTOLIC NEWS:
Sister Thetus Tenney discusses the World Network of Prayer. Plus other "Apostolic News."

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I. B. C. PERSPECTIVES

Apostolic Information Service

Vol. 5, No. 7

David Robinson: In The People Business



Above: The exterior of New Life Center United Pentecostal Church in Tonawanda, a suburb of Buffalo, New York.

By Pamela Taylor

Pastor David Robinson is a people person; his church - New Life Center in Buffalo, NY - is a people oriented church. All this is because, in Robinson's eyes, the ministry is all about the souls of men and women, and the church is in the people business.

Brother Robinson's people-approach to ministry seems to have borne good results. Four hundred regular attendees testify to the growth and revival he has brought to Buffalo since starting the church in 1972.

A Farm Boy's Roots

Brother Robinson was raised in the Methodist church and recalls a childhood which included being very God-conscious, even as a young boy. He recalled, "In the Methodist

church, we had what was called 'Protractive Meeting,' which we Pentecostals would call revival meeting. I remember going to the altar during those services. My heart was always touched by God. For as long as I can remember, I have had an awareness of God. I learned some important things from the Methodists - things like honesty, trustworthiness, and upright living. They didn't have the Apostolic truth, but that didn't mean they didn't have any truth."

Robinson also recognizes his mother's great influence on his ministry. He explained, "She exhibited good Christian values. She was a kind and gentle person, very unassuming, self-sacrificing, and she worked very hard to raise all of her children. I think that influenced me quite a bit even before I had

the Holy Ghost."

It was through the witness and influence of his girlfriend, Patricia, and her family that
(Continued on page three)

Below: Brother and Sister David Robinson, pastor of New Life Center in Buffalo, NY.



"We're in the people business, and we must make regular contact with people in our ministries. We must speak in language they understand."

Opinions

Our Next Opinions Topic: How to Increase Church Name Recognition

Send your comments on this subject to: *Apostolic Information Service, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800) 800-AIS.*



Sylvia Clemons, M.S.
Apostolic Counselor
Greenville, TX

Today's pastors face complex issues and demands on their time and abilities. Various factors make it important that pastors seriously consider the issue of referring some within their congregations to professional counselors.

For example:

1) Time management. Being the primary counselor may not be the most effective use of time. 2) Expertise. A pastor may not have the training to address serious and emotional problems in a professional, ethical way. 3) Lack of suitability. The pastor's personality may not fit with the task of ongoing counseling. Not everyone is naturally suited to be a counselor, sitting for hours listening to people's problems. 4) Confidentiality. Pastors who have counseled and learned of intimate details may be perceived to have or be actually accused of violating confidentiality when they later preach on similar life problems.

Once the decision has been made to refer, a pastor must be cautious in selecting the professional to whom he refers. Counselors, whether Christian or secular, would not be good choices if they have negative attitudes toward Oneness Pentecostalism.



Pros & Cons of Professional Counselors

AIS VIEW: *If he is committed to Biblical values, a Christian counselor can play a valuable role in helping the process of repentance from compulsive sin.*

I am very reluctant to refer people out to secular psychologists, although I do feel that at times it is helpful to make use of local Christian counselors. A pastor would do well to find a competent person in his area with whom to align himself. Make certain that the counselor is willing to work with you and not contradict your beliefs.

More importantly, I think the area of support groups is an area that we have for too long neglected. By establishing such groups within the church setting, we can handle many of the problems that we would otherwise refer out. Support groups are very common in a non-professional setting, and therefore don't require professional counselors. It's just hurting people supporting other hurting people. They become "wounded healers."

The key to making support groups work in the church is a good leader - somebody who can make sure that certain guidelines are kept and that the group remains within a Biblical framework. This combined with pastoral counsel should effectively handle most problems. Then, of course, a professional counselor can help the pastor with the more serious needs.



Larry Arrowood
Pastor / Counselor
Seymour, IN



David Becton
Pastor
Boyle, MS

I try to talk with people first and find out the nature of their problems. But if I find out that they've got serious problems, I tell them to see somebody with more professional experience. Then, I would tell them to see me afterwards so we could make sure that the counselor's advice lines up with the Word of God.



Donald J. Baker
Pastor
Ottumwa, IA

You would have to examine this on a case-by-case basis. But in most instances, I would be reluctant to refer somebody to a professional counselor, because so often they come from a humanistic background. Even so-called "Christian" counselors, in many cases, have adopted a humanistic approach.



E.D. Bernard
Pastor
Gonzales, LA

If a person is not willing to receive pastoral counsel, and I decide that he has serious problems, I'll tell him that he needs to get help somewhere, even if that means from a secular psychologist. But by and large, I would not recommend that pastors refer people out to professional or even "Christian" counselors.



Jared R. Arango
Pastor
Newport News, VA

It would be great if every pastor could refer saints to an Apostolic counselor, but that's not always possible. Therefore, I have made use of denominational Christian counselors. I would recommend that a pastor meet personally with a counselor that he plans to use, to make sure of his counseling perspective.



Jay Stirnemann
Pastor
Tiverton, RI

Sometimes it's beneficial to refer people with emotional problems to Christian counselors. However, I would caution a pastor that if he does make use of professionals in this area, that as soon as he suspects the counselor of utilizing an approach that does not come from a Biblical perspective, he should back away.



V. Arlen Guidroz
Pastor
Dallas, TX

I've found in counseling people that, if after the second session, they're obviously not taking your advice, you either have to cut off the counseling or refer them to somebody professional. In most cases, though, the pastor can help without a professional if the person is willing to follow the pastor's advice.

David Robinson: In the People Business

(Continued from page one)

Cover Story



Above: Brother Robinson baptizes an inmate at Erie Correctional Center.

Robinson was born again. He married Patricia in 1948 and began attending church. They both were baptized and received the Holy Ghost. "Six months later," Robinson recalled, "I felt the call into the ministry."

At age 20, Robinson preached his first sermon near Bloomington, IN. "It was a little church on the side of a hill. It had a humble beginning, but my heart was sincere and we made it through. After taking the pastorate of that little church, I was there about 10 years."

Robinson later pastored again, when he took a church in Huntington, WV in 1960. Then, in 1972, he felt the tug of the Holy Ghost pulling him in a new direction. He recalled, "I was really searching - thinking that God wanted me to go to the northeast to start a church in a large, metropolitan area. I began seeking God to that end. So while at conference in Miami Beach that year, I found direction to go to Buffalo, New York and

Below: One of the classes at New Life Christian School.



pioneer this work."

Moving In

The Buffalo church, like Robinson's earlier church, had humble beginnings. Still, it didn't slow him any. "I couldn't find a place to have services, but then I heard that sometimes fire stations have a small room that can be rented. So we rented a little fire station clubhouse with just one little room. We were there only three weeks, because we had done some visitation and had 31 on that first Sunday morning! Early in January, we were able to rent a little Free Methodist church building. We held services there for about two years.

In 1977, the current facilities of New Life Center located on Luksin Drive in Tonawanda were purchased - but not without a struggle.

"We were the successful bidder on the building, but when the bids were opened and the city realized what had happened, they began threatening litigation against the Board of Education. The building had housed an elementary school. It was less than 10 years old and in very nice condition; the city wanted the school board to give them the property. The school board, of course, wanted the sale to go through. During the year that the sale was tied up, we raised \$30,000 toward the purchase price of \$130,000. I kept the faith and knew we were going to get the building. About a year had passed when I went to the man who represented the opposition and made an appeal. By the end of our conversation, he had promised to recommend at the next council meeting that the city drop its pending suit. We were there at the meeting. We needed four votes and got five! So during July, 1977, we moved in."

It's been necessary to expand the facilities since then to accommodate growth. The former school building - built in 1968 - had 10,000 square feet. "There was a little multipurpose room in it," Robinson said. "We made it into a chapel, and we used it until 1982, at which time we added the present sanctuary which has a seating capacity of 500. In 1991, we added another 6,000 square feet for our Christian school classrooms and offices." The church has also purchased two houses close to the church.

Meeting People's Needs

Since those early days, the key to growth in Buffalo has been focusing on people's needs. When speaking with Brother Robinson, his philoso-

phies of ministry come through loudly - and they always have people at the center.

"We're in the people business, and we must make regular contact with people in our ministries," Robinson stressed. "This means we must speak in language they understand. I'm not terribly impressed by sermonizing and trying to impress people with clever phrases. I like simplicity, so that people can get a handle on it and understand."

And, as one would expect, at New Life Center, there is no shortage of contact with people: "In addition to myself and my assistant pastor," said Robinson, "the church has five outreach ministers. The Buffalo area is divided into zones by zip code, and each outreach minister is responsible for the families in his zone." The specific outreaches, as well, are very people-oriented. "We're convinced that bus ministry is a wonderful tool. We've used it almost from the beginning, using both vans and buses. We now use three large buses.

"Of course, we also have a Sunday school department, a daycare, and a Christian school. We also have a man and wife team who head up a Spirit of Freedom outreach for alcoholics; this is bringing several people into our church. Plus, we've sponsored close to 200 Russian-speaking people from the former Soviet Union, and we have a sizeable group of them coming to church." Prison ministry, too, has worked well for the Buffalo church, as they recently baptized 21 inmates at the Erie County Correctional Facility.

"I should also point out that home Bible study has been very effective for us," said Robinson. "I was raised up with the thought that a church should have two major revivals a year for two or three weeks, and this would be your 'outreach.' I have learned that a better way is to teach Bible studies followed up by a three-night crusade. This way, you have people who are ready to be brought to church. You can do as much in two nights as you could in three weeks the old way!"

Focusing on Involvement

Another way New Life Center places people at the center of its ministry is by getting others involved. One way he does this

D. Robinson:

"One of the worst things a pastor can do is preach negatively when things aren't going too well. Have a good attitude when you go into the pulpit. And always put people first."

(Continued on page 14)

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM

**The Christian Freedom Foundation Urgently Needs Your Help
In Fighting For The Apostolic Movement And Prisoner Rights**

UPC Board Approves Christian Freedom Foundation

The Christian Freedom Foundation is an educational and legal defense organization for key issues confronting the Christian community, and in particular, the United Pentecostal Church International. Owen Taylor, an attorney, feeling that the costs of litigation and legal protection of legal rights is prohibitive for the local church and ministry, approached Nathaniel Urshan, General Superintendent of the UPC, with the idea of founding a legal organization that would represent churches and clergy without charge. Individuals, churches and clergy would be asked if they would make small contributions to the CFF to fund the support staff for a legal arm of the Apostolic movement.

A presentation was made to the General Board of the UPC, and it overwhelmingly approved the concept and gave approval for fund raising within the constituency. It was decided by Bro. Taylor and the UPCI General Board that the Christian Freedom Foundation would be supported much like the Partners in Missions program. Then, in exchange for a church's monthly contribution, they are encouraged to contact CFF with any legal problems they might encounter.

Since its formation in 1988, the CFF has been performing many services for churches and the ministry. Bro. Taylor has conducted legal seminars in various churches, and has also helped ministers with questions concerning tax laws, church and state issues, and zoning problems. Bro. Taylor also writes a monthly legal column for the Apostolic Information Service.

What They're Saying About CFF. . .

• "I have been supportive of the efforts of Bro. Taylor and the Christian Freedom Foundation since 1988. I encourage the men and churches of the United Pentecostal Church International to be as financially and prayerfully supportive of this ministry as possible.

--Reverend Nathaniel Urshan,
General Superintendent, UPCI

• "The General Board approved the work of Brother Taylor and the Christian Freedom Foundation several years ago. We believe the work to be of extreme importance to our men and our churches. I heartily support this ministry."

--Reverend Jesse Williams
Asst. General Superintendent, UPCI

• "The work of the Christian Freedom Foundation is and will continue to be of great value to our movement. I hope our people will take advantage of the opportunity to advance this cause for prisoner rights.

--Reverend James Kilgore
Asst. General Superintendent, UPCI

• "Truth is priceless. We need to support the Christian Freedom Foundation as the legal arm of our movement and for these prisoner rights."

--Reverend Lee Stoneking
Evangelist,
Ballston Spa, NY

CFF To Take On New Prison Cases

"After I interviewed Larry Looker for several hours, I got to talking with him about the goodness of the Lord. Through tears in his eyes, Bro. Looker said that it had been over two years since any one had preached to him," said Attorney Owen Taylor. After receiving a call from Rev. William Bennett, he went to the Ross Correctional Institution in Chillicothe, OH to meet a potential new client. Learning of the complete absence of any reasonable accommodation for Larry Looker's beliefs the CFF has agreed, if finances permit, file suit.

The work of the CFF involves many types of cases. Unfortunately, prisoner rights cases are not new. Officials in most institutions fail to understand that Apostolic Oneness believers are a separate and distinct faith group from the traditional Protestant and Pentecostal churches. This issue forms the core of the case as it goes to court.

"It appears that in order to have the UPC and its teachings recognized as a separate faith group, we will have to convince them in court," observes Taylor. The CFF has agreed to help Larry Looker and is now preparing the necessary suit papers for filing when funds are available.

"At the same time we got the call regarding Looker, a call came from Indianapolis concerning an identical situation at the Indiana Reformatory regarding a Mr. James Ridenour."

These cases will be expensive and time-consuming. The present resources of the CFF are insufficient to pay for the costs of filing fees, discovery, depositions, etc., of the litigation. The support by the ministry and churches of the UPC is essential to going forward with these cases.

YES! We want to be a part of the Apostolic Law Association.

Please include our names as a contributor, and keep us informed of important legal issues affecting our church.
Our monthly support will be \$ _____, or a one-time contribution of \$ _____.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Church / Organization: _____ Telephone: _____

Please remit to: **CHRISTIAN FREEDOM FOUNDATION, 1304 Harmony Lane, Annapolis, MD 21401.**
Information: (410) 757-8080

Unchanging Truth

.....
AIS Interview With the Late Doyle Spears

Writing assistance by Pamela Taylor

Editor's note: Before his passing last year, Brother Doyle Spears pastored the Pentecostals of Pearl church in Pearl, Mississippi. Brother Spears was probably the first "missionary-evangelist" in the United Pentecostal Church, traveling to more than 60 countries. He was valued by other ministers as a man with uncompromising convictions. Before his passing, Apostolic Information Service interviewed Brother Spears on the subject of truth and convictions. Portions of his remarks are printed below. This interview represents the last known printed words of Brother Spears' appearing in a Pentecostal publication.

.....
On Commitment to Standards

Of all the needs today within the Apostolic movement, I believe that number one is commitment. There must be a commitment to the message we preach and to the principles that have made our church strong. We have to learn that as pressure mounts, there can be no letting up of strong preaching. We have to stay on the job. The minute you let up, trouble starts. For instance, whenever you let up your control of a ship, the ship gets off course.

Let me be more specific. We seem to have lost sight of the fact that there are absolute principles, because we don't preach like there are anymore. There seems to be no such thing anymore as a "good old-fashioned sinner." But in my concept of things, nothing is relative, and the truth *certainly* is not relative. It stands on its own, no matter what happens around us. We need to get back to that idea. That, in my way of thinking, is the toughest challenge facing the church: to retain our original identity and not lose our landmarks.

On Generational Differences

Some people ask if Apostolic preaching has changed in this generation. Well, I think the key word is "Apostolic." Certainly Apostolic preaching hasn't changed. But preaching in some churches calling themselves Apostolic has. There appear to now be some who are involved in preaching as a profession, and when you have that concept, preaching changes with the times. So these preachers kind of "wet their finger" and see which way the wind's blowing. Then they go with that in their preaching.

To me, though, that's not really "Apostolic" preaching. That's just professionalism

which is born of a desire to be in the ministry as a profession.

Having been a district board member for many years, I have a serious feeling that many of your younger men do not have the old-fashioned convictions that we had 30 years ago. I don't know where the breakdown has come; it's probably because we have been in a rush to license men to preach too quickly without thorough examination of them and without appropriate preparation.

Here's what I believe: When somebody is truly called of God to Apostolic ministry, that person's principles will be settled. They won't change with anything that comes and goes. Unfortunately, I've seen men become officials in this movement who seemed at first to have strong convictions of every kind, and then I've seen them, for political purposes, change these principles. They got to the place that they checked how the wind was blowing before they made a decision. To me, that's a tragedy.

On Changes In Pastoral Ministry

Now what I've said before doesn't change the fact that methods can change to suit the circumstances. Every situation demands a different type of approach, and pastoral ministry will reflect that.

For instance, the approach I used in pastoring in a rural area is completely different from the approach I used in the city. It would take a book to describe the difference, but as an example, when I started pastoring here in the city, we instituted an outreach in which we prayed at each house in the city - 6,900 of them! This is the type of thing that would not have been as effective in a country setting.

The point is that methods do change. And it has to be that way. It used to be that when somebody got saved, the person just got in, stayed in, and flowed with it. Today, because of changes in society, you have to have a different sort of structure to keep them in the church long enough for them to really get a hold of it. So you have to institute more organized approaches and programs.

On Changes In Oneness Organizations

Along these same lines, there have also been definite changes within the United Pentecostal Church and other Apostolic organizations. I think we've seen signs of change that in some instances are for the better and in some instances for the worse. For example, the



commitment to the ideals with which we came into this movement and the reestablishing them on a yearly basis is a great thing. I think that anybody who does not believe what he believed when he signed his application does not belong in the organization any longer. If they decide that they believe something else now, then they should start or join some other organization that believes what they now want to adhere to. In short, I think the strength of our movement has been in its conservative nature, and that's a good thing.

Ultimately, the church is vital to our world, and we can confidently know that God is going to sustain it. There is going to be a church that is ready to meet Him and which is holding fast to Apostolic standards that are characterized in the book of Acts. **AIS**

.....
Brother Doyle Spears passed away on February 9, 1995. During his 50-year ministry, he served the Mississippi district as secretary-treasurer and foreign missions director. Brother Spears was 65.

IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION...

for any of these columnists, please address it to AIS Managing Editor, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Or call (800)800-AIS.



Paul Mooney

■ Ministry

With all the challenges and, yes, even difficulties, confronting the church, what do you consider the most important thing facing us today, the area where we should most place our priorities?

A good question, one which all of us should consider. Let me say, first of all, that there is a bit of self-indictment in the things I want to say, but I will nevertheless foolishly plunge ahead.

The call to evangelize is still the "Great Commission." It is still the chief priority of the church! Therefore, I believe that the greatest anointing lies ahead for the church when we accept in our hearts the challenge of reaching the world and make this our number one priority.

In our own movement, we need, it seems to me, to expand our thinking to include more creative ways for people to get into the church. Using only one approach to evangelism in this multi-cultural, self-centered, and recalcitrant society is not likely to succeed. Mass evangelism works, but so do many other things, such as: dramas, seminars, concerts, luncheons, clinics, family services, telephone hot lines, church planting, home Bible studies, etc.

The point is this: We must learn to be creative and bold. God is with us, and consequently, we must do *something*, because doing *nothing* produces *nothing!*

Solomon said that "there is nothing new under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9), and this is so true, even in the work of the Lord. Therefore, realizing this, may we begin to do some of the old things to reach the lost. *This* is our chief concern.



Owen Taylor

■ Legal

I've been asked about the rights of dismissed members of my church. Can they challenge the decision to dismiss them as members?

The courts are not very consistent in their decisions in this area, thus it is unwise to take a position that gives the impression of security in my answer. Nevertheless, there was a recent case that may give you something of an answer.

A federal court in South Dakota ruled that it has no authority to interfere with a decision by a church to oust some of its members. In short, the court faced a situation where the church members had split in the decision to remove a church official. Those who anted to remove the official were eventually expelled from the church. They filed a suit challenging their dismissal. The court threw out the suit because the guarantee of religious freedom forbids civil courts from disturbing church decisions. The court said, "...the Constitution requires that civil courts accept the decisions of ecclesiastical tribunals as binding upon the church." The court said it would be "a gross violation... for this court to become involved in this dispute that would require an extensive inquiry into religious doctrine and beliefs."

In this instance, the courts stayed out of the entire affair and left the parties where it found them. Another court in another state might disagree, but it seems the courts are for now leaning in the direction of keeping out of inter-church disputes.

Owen Taylor is an attorney specializing in church related issues. Write: Apostolic Law Association, 1304 Harmony Lane, Annapolis, MD 21401, or call (410)757-8080.



O. C. Marler

■ Family

What would you say is the number one problem in marriages today?

Even though I don't consider myself an expert, I do feel that after 26 years in the ministry and the same amount of time as a husband, I have possibly progressed beyond the "learner's permit" stage. Marriages fail early and late. They flounder in poverty and affluence, but in all my years of experience. I have found the major cause of marriage problems and failures to be a lack of communication. This often occurs among the kind, peace-loving Christian families where the husband or wife keeps "suffering in silence," feeling if he or she ignores it, it will go away.

After 24 years of what the family and friends all considered a "perfect" marriage, a husband left his wife and two teenage children. Shocked, the family could not understand, for he insisted: "We never had a cross word." That was because there was no communication. Grievances were all locked away, covered with a blanket of silence.

No one enjoys bickering and nagging, but a good, healthy, occasional "clearing of the air" is quite necessary for the nurturing of a healthy marriage. We make much of "the twain shall become one flesh," but we tend to think it is as automatic as the flipping of a light switch. We sometimes won't accept that a perfect, full-grown marriage is not produced by the mere repeating of vows.

Two individuals pledge themselves to each other, but without constant communication and exchange of ideas, rather than a strong structure that can withstand all the storms of adversity, they have a lopsided straw house that will sooner or later collapse.



T. W. Massengale

■ Outreach

I've heard you talk about the benefits of "prospect evangelism." What is it and how can we get them?

Prospect evangelism is something that any pastor who desires church growth should consider. And it's really quite simple!

In a Sunday service, hand a three-by-five card to everyone. Ask the people to write the name of someone they know who is not saved, but that they feel is possibly hungry for God and would be a good candidate for a home Bible study. Next, ask for that person's phone number. If the phone number is un-

known, ask the people to write the name of the street that the person lives on. Tell them a church worker will look up the phone number and address. Ask the members to write and circle their own names at the bottom of the card and place this card in the offering plate. Using this process, you have just received an instant prospect.

Some of you are thinking, "Everybody won't respond." You're right. Take those who will respond. With these names as targets, you can visit, telephone, write, or use a number of other approaches.

So then the question is: Where do we find these prospects for our prospect files? The answer: *Everywhere!* We will find them behind the masks that so many people wear every day in life - masks of financial wealth,

of worldly pleasure, of frenzied activity, all trying to hide the lonely, meaningless existence of their lives. We will find them behind barriers of racial, social and economic discrimination. We will find them behind religious labels, living out a life of formalized religion, having a form of Godliness, but denying the power thereof.

The church has often been paralleled to a mighty force of salesmen who are seeking people to "buy the truth and sell it not." Any good salesman will tell you that the key to sales success is good contacts. For a church, these are prospects. They may be family, friends, work associates, or neighbors. Regardless, there is some kind of an *oikos* relationship - an intimate connection that attracts them to what we have to offer.

PROPHECY

Catholics, Protestants Strive for Unity

A May 30 encyclical by Pope John Paul II is just one of the latest pushes for Catholic and Protestant unity, and has many students of prophecy intrigued. Most conservative Christian scholars find in the Bible the prediction of a unified world religion in the last days, controlled by the Antichrist. In his encyclical, *Ut Unum Sint* ("That They May Be One"), the pope invited Protestants and Catholics to join together to work through long-standing theological differences. "Could not the real but imperfect communion existing between us persuade church leaders and their theologians to engage with me in a patient and fraternal dialogue?" he asked.

This encyclical followed an April, 1994

statement, "Evangelicals and Catholics Together," which called for cooperation among Catholics and evangelicals on social and cultural issues. Concern was raised among some, however, because it went to significant lengths to emphasize mutual belief and adherence to historic creeds, justification "by grace through faith," and encouraged discourse over doctrinal differences. The statement was signed by prominent Christian leaders such as Charles Colson, J.I. Packer, Bill Bright, and scores of others.

Interestingly, in recent months, cult-watching groups such as the Christian Research Institute, which regularly criticize Oneness Pentecostals, have defended signers of the document and sought to emphasize a cautious unity with Catholics. And Apostolics, for their part, remain unconcerned that they are one group the Catholics and Evangelicals would rather leave out.

RICHARD C. BROWN

TECHNOLOGY

Some Christians Fear Online Law

AS recently reported on the Communications Decency Act of 1995, which has the stated purpose of protecting people from pornography on computer networks. This controversial bill, also known as the Exon bill after sponsor Senator James Exon (D-Neb), recently passed the Senate as a part of a sweeping telecommunications reform.

This bill had strong support from evangelical lobbying groups, but not now it appears that not all Christians support the bill. According to Morality in Media president Robert Peters, the bill "has serious constitutional problems and does a disservice to the American people. It is a giant step backwards."

MIM contends that the Exon Bill undoes much of the anti-porn law now on the books. Because of restrictions and loopholes in the bill, nobody is actually liable should a minor view obscene material via telecommunications equipment, these critics contend.

Also according to MIM, the bill "destroys the wording and effectiveness of the existing dial-a-porn" law, and few would ever be convicted for either dial-a-porn or computer pornography. MIM said it destroys "the Justice Department's ability to prosecute computer obscenity transmitted over interstate telephone lines," and "prohibits any state or local body from punishing those who permit their telephone . . . to be used [for] dial-a-porn or computer porn."

RICHARD MASONER

RELIGION

Religion Healthy For African-Americans

According to a recent study, African-Americans who attend regular worship services are healthier than their non-religious counterparts. The findings by sociology professors Kenneth Ferraro of Purdue University and Jermome Koch of Texas Tech University were published in the *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, and is based on a survey of 3,617 adults.

Ferraro noted that religion is a more important predictor of health of blacks than for whites. "Religion provides a source of comfort to blacks who face plenty of disadvantages." Ferraro also remarks that religion has traditionally been one of the few areas where African-Americans could find support: "When you consider the institutions that blacks have had to rely on, the church . . . has been an empowering institution throughout American history," he said, noting the link between civil rights movements and religious leaders.

Some academics did think the black church would lose its importance once civil rights were attained, but, according to Purdue associate professor of sociology Roger Finke, "That didn't happen. In fact, most black churches are either growing or holding their own."

RICHARD MASONER

BIBLE & SCIENCE

Matthew Fragments Validate Gospels

The possible validity of a popular hypothesis among liberals, as set forth in a paper known as the "Q Document," has been dispelled due to the findings of Carsten Thiede, a scholar and expert in the field of papyrology.

The "Q Document" hypothesis previously established the date of fragments of Matthew 26 at 200 A.D., which would have caused doubt as to it being an eyewitness account of the resurrection of Christ. Thiede's expert findings, according to an article written for the *Journal for Papyrology and Epigraphics* (a German publication), however, date the pieces of text at 75 - 100 A.D. due to style and script. This finding is supportive of the traditional view that the gospel account is a first century writing, and is indeed an eyewitness account.

During his examination of fragments of Matthew 26, Carsten Thiede, a recognized expert in the study of papyri, noted that first century Jews believed in not only the resurrection of Christ, but also in His Deity. Thiede noted in his article that the name of Christ was abbreviated in this papyrus in the same way that the name of God had been abbreviated by monotheistic Jews in the Old Testament.

The Jewish people, out of reverence for God, did not spell out His name in the Old Testament texts, but rather abbreviated it or replaced it altogether with LORD ("Adonai" in Hebrew). Likewise, in the Matthew fragments, Jesus' name was often abbreviated, apparently out of the same reverence. Thiede's findings not only throw serious doubts on the liberal notion that the book of Matthew and other gospels are merely works plagiarized from a single document written during the second century, but also cast doubt on the notion that the concept of the Deity of Christ was developed sometime between the late second to early fourth centuries A.D.

PAMELA TAYLOR

News In Brief...

- A bill that would outlaw dilation and extraction abortions in the last four months of pregnancy was passed by the Ohio House of Representatives on June 1.
- Georgia's law requiring a minute of silent meditation at the beginning of the school day received a boost this summer when a federal judge upheld it as being constitutional.
- The Netherlands parliament is scheduled to vote in September on allowing homosexual couples to marry. Some 73.

World Network of Prayer: UPCI Links People to Pray for Revival

Apostolics On Internet

Being "flamed" in cyberspace is almost as blistering an experience as close contact with natural fire; and, according to Richard F. Masoner, who attends Apostolic Life UPC, Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, pastored by David L. Rogers, "the absence of an Apostolic voice on the Internet may have been due to the fear of just



R. Masoner

that - being 'flamed' (insulted in an openly hostile manner)." Still, that didn't stop Masoner. During the Summer of 1994, after finding only a few Apostolics along the information superhighway, he began the only known Internet E-mail list devoted to Apostolic discussion. The name of the list is Higher-Fire, and it makes communicating almost instantly with Apostolic Pentecostals around the world possible.

An E-mail (electronic mail) list is "distributed," which means members do not have to all be on one system. Those who subscribe to Higher-Fire automatically receive all E-mail directed to the Higher-Fire address: higher-fire@prairienet.org. Higher-Fire runs on Prairienet, the East-Central Illinois Freenet which is located in Champaign, Illinois. A software package called "ListProcessor" automatically distributes messages to all subscribers.

"The purpose of Higher-Fire is three-fold," explained Masoner. "First, it is a way for Apostolics to get in touch with one another via e-mail. The most distant member of Higher-Fire is a saint who lives in Trondheim, Norway! Secondly, it is a general discussion forum on issues that concern Apostolics; everyone is encouraged to give input. Currently, there are close
(Continued on page 14)

A major new prayer initiative by the United Pentecostal Church will link saints around the world in an effort to develop a more focused prayer effort, according to Sister Thetus Tenney, wife of Louisiana District Superintendent T.F. Tenney.

Sister Tenney, who has been appointed the international coordinator for World Network of Prayer, said the program will be officially launched at General Conference in October. According to Sister Tenney, "The World Network of Prayer actually came out of the burden of Brothers N.A. Urshan, Harry Scism and Jack Cunningham." She said the Network's ultimate purpose is "to furnish a stronger prayer base and support for our efforts at world evangelism."

The hub of the prayer Network will be a massive computer database. Sister Tenney said that Apostolics around the world will be invited to send in cards, detailing areas in which they have specific burdens. The cards will also contain their promise to pray for needs in those areas as they become known.



Thetus Tenney

Also in the database will be needs from various countries and churches. As these needs become known, people in the Network will be alerted by mail to pray for those concerns that match the area that they have agreed to pray for.

"It has to do with the dynamic of 'synergy,'" Sister Tenney said. "That's when the whole becomes greater than the parts that comprise it. And this is precisely what happens with a concerted, corporate prayer effort. It's a principle well-established in Scripture that when two or three are gathered in prayer, there is great power.

"I have been using the illustration of light. God's Word is light. When we focus our prayer directly on a situation, the power of that light comes into play. There is power in that focused prayer, just as there is power when light is focused in the form of a laser."

Sister Tenney said that churches as well as individuals will be invited to participate.

"At General Conference, we will solicit information from pastors about churches' burdens, and we will ask them to pray specifically for things that the network informs them of. So they will promise to spend a certain amount of time during midweek service praying for those needs that come up.

"We have great anticipation for this great prayer effort. What I hope to see is a concert of prayer, where people are blending together on a consistent basis with other saints in their prayers. We're taught in Scripture that the stronger we pray in concert with each other, the more power there is. So our ultimate desire is to a tremendous outpouring of revival and a continual supplying of needs."

By RICHARD C. BROWN

RESOURCES

'Scribes & Eagles' Leadership Training

When Pastor Bill Douglas saw the need in his church for leaders, he brought in the scribes and eagles. It was the spring of 1985 when Brother Douglas began pastoring Emmanuel Tabernacle United Pentecostal Church in Virginia Beach, Virginia; by the end of 1987, he was confronted with a dilemma. "Seven men in the church felt a call to preach," Douglas said. "They couldn't go to Bible college, so I knew I had to train them. Having seen the need for leadership training, I had already written training material for that purpose which

I called 'Eagles.' After reading several books that dealt with the training of young ministers, praying and feeling the direction of the Lord, I began writing the outlines that I would use to meet the need in the Virginia Beach church. The outlines were specifically geared toward the training of young ministers; and the course was named Scribes. I began teaching the subject matter in addition to the Eagles material which I had already developed and was teaching. The two courses combined well, so I require all those men and women who feel a call to preach and their spouses to go through both



Willard Douglas

courses."

Brother Douglas's material not only worked, but it worked well. More than half of the 14 people who have graduated have now been licensed by the United Pentecostal Church. Five are pastoring home missions works, one is assisting in Louisiana.

(Continued on page 14)

Indiana Bible College maintains a growing electronic database of research and Bible study files to assist pastors, students and church leaders. All files in the database are free to AIS subscribers and can be accessed by modem (dial (317) 781-7700) or by voice telephone ((800)800-AIS). When ordering by phone, specify photocopy or computer disk, and have your User ID and Password ready. (A small photocopy/computer disk fee will be added to your monthly statement.)



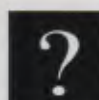
new bible study files

EVPR55.TXT	5705	Destiny of the Internet. Interesting article that says the Internet might play a part in prophecy.
EVPR56.TXT	10272	Pre-Tribulation Rapture? The other side: This author says a post-Trib Rapture is the right view.
EVPR57.TXT	46837	Heaven, Hell, & the Hereafter. Good prophecy study on man's ultimate destiny.
EVPR58.TXT	8857	Hail & the Book of Revelation. Bible study on the judgment of God in the form of hail.
EVPR59.TXT	22339	With the Sound of a Trumpet. Jewish trumpets are discussed in light of Bible prophecy.



new apostolic doctrine files

ADGE06.TXT	8915	Acts 2 Commentary. Verse-by-verse commentary of a favorite Pentecostal chapter.
ADGE07.TXT	36088	God, Doctors, & Drugs. Article that says Christians should not be ashamed to use medicine.
ADBA16.TXT	46283	Infant Baptism? Article that shows the errors of those who practice infant baptism.



new controversial issues files

CUCH15.TXT	9508	Dangers of the Positive Confession Movement. Expose' of the "Name It & Claim It" belief.
CUNA24.TXT	29172	New Age Update. Contemporary trends are analyzed in light of the New Age Movement.
THCR27.TXT	95210	Was There Life Before Adam? Biblical and scientific analysis of man's origin.
CUNA25.TXT	11428	Why I Witness to New Agers. Article on proper reasons to reach New Age adherents.
THCR26.TXT	17680	The History of Life. Excellent research article on how life began according to Biblical creation.
CUNA23.TXT	43200	Gnostic Jesus. In-depth refutation of New Age concepts of an impersonal God.



new graphics files

BUCA48.PCX	264190	Chains of Sin. Picture of the chains from which we have been loosed through Jesus Christ.
BUCA49.PCX	129921	The Good Shepherd. Nice picture of Jesus tending a flock of sheep.
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BUCA45.PCX	10120	Ark of the Covenant. High-quality artwork showing what the Ark of the Covenant looked like.



new computer software files

The following files are from our CD-ROM collection. Since these don't have the normal AIS file name, give the program title printed in bold below when ordering these programs. Note: These files are not available for download.

CD-ROM	206457	First Mate Navigator. Challenging game in which you must pilot ships through waters.
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CD-ROM	386308	Alien Force. Nice graphics highlight this alien shoot-'em-up game.
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CD-ROM	173558	Attaxx. Intriguing move-and-capture game of strategy.
CD-ROM	100550	Backgammon. Computerized version of the classic board game.
CD-ROM	221662	Bago. Educational word game, similar to the board game, Boggle.
CD-ROM	419444	Battles on Distant Planets. Great war simulation set on alien worlds.
CD-ROM	206457	Checkers. Fun, easy to play version of the classic game of Checkers!
CD-ROM	360886	Astronomy Lab. Windows-based program to help students learn about astronomy.
CD-ROM	386308	Periodic Table of Elements. Good school for Christian school science classes on chemistry.
CD-ROM	372266	Big Desk. Great utility that creates up to nine virtual "monitors," or scrollable screens.
CD-ROM	117558	Gravity. Gravity simulator that is helpful for Christian school science students
CD-ROM	145437	WinGraph. Math students will find this equation graphing program extremely helpful.
CD-ROM	206457	Arrange. Helpful utility that restores the size and location of windows to your system.
CD-ROM	360886	Click Filer. File Manager replacement that includes file compression utilities.
CD-ROM	186308	Graph Paper Printer. Program that makes creating graph paper a breeze!
CD-ROM	72266	Pay Off. Enter loan figures and calculate the rest of your financial figures!
CD-ROM	317558	Wealth Management. Flexible and powerful program helpful for financial advice.
CD-ROM	100550	Wildlife Screen Savers. Very nice African pictures to use as screen savers.
CD-ROM	221662	Paper Airplanes. Mindless fun that lets you play around with various airplane models.
CD-ROM	419444	Cash for Kids. Good program for Christian schools training kids to handle money.
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The Priority Of Spiritual Development

OPINION: The church must preach the priority of spiritual concerns over worldly ones.

For all sea worthy vessels, there must be more than the above-board luxuries of plush cabins and the glisten of shined brass. The boat must have as much below the vessel's water line as it does above. A sailing vessel must have a "ballast." A ballast is the weight needed to give stability to the sailing vessel and without the ballast there is sure disaster. Disciplines of a spiritual life function as a ballast below the water line and provide the stability we need to successfully sail through every sea of life. In Genesis 13:1-11, we can see the contrast of disciplines and the effect of those disciplines in the lives of Abram and Lot.

Lot was a righteous man whose righteous soul was vexed from the daily absorption of unlawful deeds by the men of Sodom (II Peter 2:7-8). When we think of Lot, images of a life pockmarked with devastation and failure drape our thoughts. The problem with Lot was that, although he was righteous, he had misplaced his priorities when it came to spiritual development. This is how it is with all too many Christians. They have the spiritual necessities for living a victorious Christian life. However, in many cases, the cares and the pleasures of this world interfere and take first place in their lives. This is why it is incumbent upon the ministry to make worldliness and spiritual development frequent themes in their ministries.

Priorities of Spiritual Development

On the other hand, Abram was a man who had his priorities in proper order. Though he was rich with cattle, silver, and gold, those things did not hold first place in his life. Abram had an altar and was faithful to attend the Altar at Bethel, the place where his tent had been at the beginning. He never allowed his life to get too far from the place where he made his initial contact with God. Lot had acquired "flocks, and herds, and tents," but there is no mention of an altar in his life. It was not the simple possession of material wealth that corrupted his spiritual life, but rather, it was placing these things as the highest priority. Lot had material wealth to the exclusion of a personal altar.

Privilege of a Separated Life

"Let there be no strife. . ." (Genesis 13:8). After the experience of the altar, there will be the compulsion to resolve the spiritual strife or conflict of life through separation. Paul writes in Romans 7 about the inevitable conflict between the spiritual man and the carnal man. Paul's portrayal of conflict is easy to identify with, feeling the struggle of someone attempt-

ing to cohabit with the flesh and spirit, which are poles apart. Separation is a blessing that resolves the conflict and allows peace to enter into a life led by the Spirit.

Lot's guidance system, however, was *sensual* rather than *spiritual*. His wrong devotions led

Promise of A Spiritual Life

"And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever" (Genesis 13:14-15). The real blessing comes after we consecrate through separation. While Lot lifted up his own eyes it was the Lord who instructed Abram to lift up his eyes. The Lord put him in the right position to see every direction clearly. What vision! The ability to see without obstruction can only come by the help of the Lord. The land which Abram thought he knew, he now saw from a very different perspective.

Power of A Spiritual Life

We witness the full effect of the contrasting lives of Abram and Lot in chapter 14 of Genesis. The path followed by Lot led into the eventual captivity and spoiling of all he had. The astounding loss incurred was due to more than the circumstance at hand. Rather, it was a product of a long succession of misplaced priorities. However, Abram experienced a tremendous victory in the battle of the kings. Abram delivered Lot and all riches from the hand of the enemy kings. Ultimate victory or defeat is determined long before the battle begins. It is cultivated through spiritual disciplines implemented in a life. And in most saints' lives, it is cultivated through the help of their spiritual leaders. Begin now helping that cultivation process. **ATS**

As youth director at Calvary Tabernacle in Indianapolis, pastored by Paul Mooney, Brent Brosam is in frequent demand for youth events nationwide. In addition, Brother Brosam is an instructor at Indiana Bible College.



"Ultimate victory or defeat is cultivated through spiritual disciplines implemented in a life."

him into wrong desires. Lot "lifted up his eyes. . ." (Genesis 13:10), following his own sensual appetite. We must never make the mistake of equating spirituality with outward appearances or emotions. James 4:3 says, "Ye ask and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." James reveals the possibility of trying to attain what we believe to be spiritual things when actually they are carnal.

Those who are led by wrong desires have no discernment. It is only by the Spirit that we are able to discern between good and evil.

It was only when Lot lacked discernment that he made wrong decisions. Bad decisions in a person's life don't just happen. Decisions are a reflection of the spiritual disciplines either implemented or ignored in the life of that individual.

Recommended Reading

Raising Money for Your Church, by George Barna, Barna Research Group, \$28.00, hardcover.

One of the most common complaints among church leaders is the lack of money to do an excellent job in ministry. And the suspicion is that the people of the church have the means - but lack the willingness - to support the church financially. Based on new Barna research studies among pastors and the laity, this book is an enlightening way to discover the latest insights on fund raising, stewardship, tithing and expectations. Mr. Barna provides a very good resource on how to become a church which raises the money needed for effective ministry without manipulating people.

• • •
James: Faith at Work, by Daniel L. Segraves, Word Aflame Press, 202 pages, \$7.99, paperback.

Can a Bible commentary actually be entertaining? Dr. Daniel Segraves sets out to prove that it can be in his newest book, a commentary on the Epistle of James. And he largely succeeds, by writing in a style easily understood by even the casual reader, yet without sacrificing scholastic integrity.

More importantly, Segraves incorporates much of the "Wow!" factor into his book. No matter how many times you've studied the book of James, you'll find yourself saying, "Wow, I didn't know that." Extensively documented with footnotes and bibliography, serious Bible students will benefit from this book.

(Note: All Word Aflame books may be ordered directly from the Pentecostal Publishing House, 8855 Dunn Rd., Hazelwood, MO 63042.)

■ **CHURCH MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES**

Many church growth experts have noted that managerial principles that work in the secular business world also work well with churches. Roger Fritz, author of *Think Like a Manager*, for instance, offers these sure-fire ways to managerial success that also apply to a church setting: 1) *Have a team concept*. Demonstrate concern for your organization's progress and for the people who work with and for you. 2) *Work on your weak points*. Be completely honest when you evaluate both your strengths and weaknesses. 3) *Learn how to delegate skillfully*. Be willing to let go of old jobs and give others new challenges. 4) *Be realistic about inadequate subordinates*. Don't let their incompetence drag you down. Once you lose confidence in them, and your efforts to spur improvement have failed, garner the courage to make a change. 5) *Concentrate on preparation*. It breeds confidence, and, combined with enthusiasm, helps you put ideas forth successfully. 6) *Develop confidence*. Build on your successful accomplishments day by day. 7) *Don't think in black and white*. Evaluate others' views fairly. Learn to be flexible. 8) *Look to the Future*. Don't be satisfied with past successes. Always set higher standards for accomplishments. 9) *Know Where Your Time Goes*. Concentrate on your most important responsibilities and schedule your efforts accordingly.

■ **PAINLESS PC PURCHASE**

If browsing through personal computer catalogs and listening to computer sales people talk down to your level has left you with crossed eyes and a whopping headache, take heart. There are a few simple things that PC experts say to keep in mind that will help you feel more in the know: 1) *Compatibility*. You may want to decide whether or not the computer you're considering is compatible with the one you use at work or school. Just as you can't mix apples and oranges, you can't mix Apples and IBMs - the two main types of computers. IBM "clones" (personal computers that have the ability to run IBM software even though they are not manufactured by IBM) tend to be lower in price and offer more software. Chances are if you want to bring your work home, you should look for an IBM or one of its many clones. Apple's main offering is their Macintosh. Apple's advantage over IBM: It is generally considered much easier to learn and use. However, there are limited programs available for the Mac, comparatively speaking. Apple Macintoshes also tend to cost considerably more than IBM clones. However, the possibility of Mac clones in the future promises to change this. 2) *Speed*. When considering an IBM or clone, look for a 486 as opposed to a 386 (or 286), which operate more slowly. The "486" or "386" designation refers to the processor inside, and affects nearly every aspect of the computer's operation. A Pentium is better, but more expensive. Keep in mind that if you want to upgrade your 486 at a later date, you will need to make sure there is a certified Pentium upgrade socket available for expansion. 3) *Memory*. When it comes to memory ("RAM," which stands for "Random Access Memory"), you can get along with a PC that has 4 megabytes, but you may be limiting yourself. More and more programs today need at least 8 megs. 4) *Hard Drive*. Ever run out of filing cabinet space? That's kind of what a hard disk is - your available storage space for documents and software. You'll want to get the largest you can afford. An average sized hard drive is around 200 megabytes. 5) *Monitor*. If you want to take advantage of your eyes' rods and cones, a Super VGA (SVGA) will project your software's color-coding. There are other color monitors, but SVGA is preferable. To reduce flicker and prevent eyestrain, look for a high vertical refresh rate (72HZ or above). 6) *Service*. Technical support is offered by most hardware and software companies to registered buyers. Book stores and libraries abound with reference manuals. Plus there are local support groups in many cities. Remember: Test driving is a must for computers as well as automobiles. Don't be embarrassed to try out each model you are considering for a few minutes.

■ **SCHOOL ACCOUNTS MANAGEMENT**

If your church operates a Christian school, for help with the financial aspect of your ministry, get the FACTS this fall. FACTS is a tuition management system used by hundreds of private K-12 schools nationwide. Many Christian school administrators have found that FACTS allows their schools to more effectively manage tuition collection, cash flow, financial responsibility, and other paperwork. For a free video and literature, call FACTS at (800) 624-7092. Or write them at P.O. Box 67037, Lincoln, NE 68506.

News By PAMELA TAYLOR and RICHARD MASONER Reviews By RICHARD C. BROWN

WORD TO THE WISE:

"The first responsibility of a leader is to define reality. The last is to say thank you. In between, the leader is a servant."



"Must be for the building fund."

A YOUNG MINISTER was beginning a Bible study on the Ten Commandments. "Now," he said, "Who can give us a brief description of the Mosaic Law?"
 "I think," said a young woman, "the Mosaic Law is a law that governs the arrangement and setting of colored stones in certain floors!"

TWO WOMEN had had an awful fall-out. However, like two good Christians, they decided to take the matter to their minister. They rushed into his office, each one trying to relate her side of the story first. Accusations and counter-accusations filled the air. The minister, however, answered them with the wisdom of Solomon: "All right, ladies," he said, "I'll hear one at a time. The oldest may speak first."
 That settled the argument!

THE YOUNG SON of some atheists went to his parents one day, and said, "Do you think God *knows* we don't believe in Him?"



"Most dads buy their sons a football . . ."

AN AUCTIONEER called out: "What am I offered for this beautiful bust of Winston Churchill?"
 A man in the crowd yelled: "That's hot *Churchill*, it's *Roosevelt!*"
 The auctioneer shrugged his shoulders. "Well, folks," he said, "that's one on me. Just shows how little I know my Bible!"

AN EVANGELISTIC SERVICE closed with an emotional rendition of an old Gospel song. As the choir sang, the minister noticed a silver-haired old man weeping quietly in the front pew. The minister went down to him after the service, and gently touched him on the shoulder. "You must have been deeply touched by the message, Sir," he said.
 "No, it's not that!" sobbed the old man. "I'm a *musician!*"

"WHY WERE YOU SO LONG coming home from Sunday School?" a father asked his son.
 "I didn't know where the Philistines were," replied his son, "and teacher had to show me."
 "Well in future," said his father, "just remember where you put your things!"



NEWS: TV NETWORKS TO LIMIT VIOLENCE.

A PASTOR WAS READY to proceed with a baptismal service. "Wait!" exclaimed the baptismal candidate, jumping out of the water. "Is it true, Pastor, that baptism washes away all my sins, and I start with a clean slate?"
 "Absolutely!" responded the pastor.
 "Well then, I forgot something," the man said. "I want to get my check book and let you baptize it *with* me!"

TWO CHRISTIANS APPEARED before the court on charges of assault and disturbing the peace. When the judge had listened to the men and all the evidence, he called them to the bench and said, "Being Christians, the two of you, couldn't you have settled this matter out of court?"
 One of the men, who still had a black eye, said to the judge, "Sure we could have settled this out of court, your Honor! And that's exactly what we were *trying* to do when the *police* arrived!"

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Scribes & Eagles Leadership Training

(Continued from page eight)

another is evangelizing full-time and two are assisting Brother Douglas.

The Scribes course-work is thorough, Douglas said. "I try to teach those who attend just what it means to be a preacher--the spiritual, emotional, and social aspects of it. It is important to equip them to understand their position and accomplish their mission. In addition, each student is also required to fulfill all the requirements set forth by Headquarters for licensing."

"God will send you people with a call if you'll train them," Douglas emphasized. "We must not close our fists on them and try to keep them in the local churches. We must train them thoroughly and then allow them to answer the call of God. Often pastors do not train their people because they don't feel they can. My purpose in offering the Eagles and Scribes courses is to bolster the confidence of pastors--they *can* train their people!"

The Eagles course contains a 53-page notebook (outlines designed to teach general leadership principles) and can be purchased for \$19.95. In addition to the notebook, twenty-four 90-minute audio tapes are available for \$50. The Scribes course, on the other hand, features a 61-page notebook (with outlines designed to teach ministerial principles to those who have acknowledged a call into the ministry), and can be bought for \$21.95. Thirty-three 90-minute audio tapes can also be purchased for \$70. Brother Douglas hopes to have completed videotapes of both courses by September. To order, write: Emmanuel Tabernacle, 157 Morrison Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23452. Or call (804) 340-2392.

By PAMELA TAYLOR

'Higher Fire': Apostolics on Internet

(Continued from page eight)

to three dozen members who subscribe. Also, it is a way for missionaries to keep in touch with the U. S. and Canada."

Masoner said he has found Higher Fire to be a good opportunity to witness. "Since Prairienet is a publically-funded freenet, discussion about doctrine can be difficult; there's a lot of noise to drown out what you might try to say; but discussion of doctrine does have a place. Through e-mail, I was in contact with a young woman named Cathie in Canada - a believer who had questions about God and her faith. In an open discussion, a person who is not an Apostolic Pentecostal attempted to show that Pentecostal worship

is not of God. I retorted with Scripture. Shortly afterwards, she had a Holy Ghost experience. Another Higher-Fire subscriber then began a discussion on Oneness. Cathie began asking questions. Her three siblings began attending a United Pentecostal church -all being baptized in the name of Jesus!" Even though Brother Masoner lost contact with Cathie and does not know if she has obeyed Acts 2:38, he knows she heard the truth.

Anyone with an Internet account can subscribe to Higher Fire. To do so, send E-mail with the words "Subscribe Higher Fire" to Brother Masoner at rmasoner@prairienet.org.

By PAMELA TAYLOR

DAVID ROBINSON: In the People Business

(Continued from page three)

is through training and using leaders. Brother Robinson meets with department leaders often, and during meetings, all aspects of each ministry are looked at, including cost. He also related, "A good percentage of our people are involved in outreach and evangelism in one way or another. We constantly stress the need for soul-winning - that we are all to be witnesses. We make people aware of places to get involved. When the needs are presented, people who have an interest make it known that they want to be a part. We constantly promote involvement."

Pastoral Advice

Brother Robinson offers this advice for struggling pastors: "Pentecostals want to have revival yesterday, but in the overall picture, being faithful and not becoming discouraged are attitudes that will allow the battle to be won. Keep reaching out to people. Keep preaching the truth. And keep your services lively. One of the worst things a pastor can do is preach negatively when things aren't going too well. Have a good attitude when you go into the pulpit. And always remember to put people first."

Feedback

To the editor:

Re: "National Revival Disputed by Polls" (Vol. 5, No. 5, World News):

The article questions whether there are indeed signs of revival in America. I think the attitudes necessary for revival *are* beginning to develop in those people who are to some degree sensitive to God. There are many good people who have some love for the Lord, even though they would not accept the Gospel at this time. Jesus is preparing these people for salvation. I believe that as things get progressively worse, these people will seek God more and more earnestly, and as they seek Him, they will eventually reach the point where they will accept the Gospel under His terms.

-- John Nash
South Bend, IN

To the editor:

While some may look at various organizations and groups and say they're not experiencing true revival, I feel that any renewal that leads to a deeper relationship with God can be classified as an early stage of revival. When resuscitating an unconscious patient, you don't expect him to hop up and begin running!

--Andy Moore
Virginia Beach, VA

To the editor:

Re: "New Birth Experience" (Vol. 5, No. 6, Apostolic News):

What a pleasure it was to find out you were creating an article in the *Perspectives* magazine on my home Bible study, "The New Birth Experience." I appreciate your interest in this harvesting tool. I read your publication regularly and enjoy it! I am also a long time member of AIS. Thanks so much for helping me get the word out!

--Michael G. Blankenship
Norfolk, VA

Address letters for publication to:

Editor, AIS, P.O. Box 47917, Indianapolis, IN 46247. Include name, address and phone number. Letters may be edited for space. If you prefer, initials may be used instead of your name. You can also reach us via FAX at (317)781-7711. Or you may leave your "letter" on our answering machine at (317)781-7712. One other option is to send your letter via E-Mail on the AIS computer network. Send the message to the User I.D. "Perspectives." Our E-Mail address on the Internet is AIS01@AOL.COM.

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