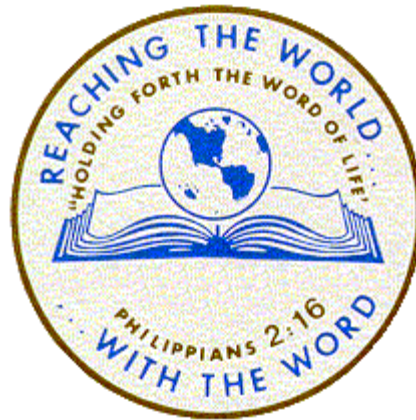


Bill Chapman
Evangelistic Association



Proclaimer Archives
2002

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Through the Years

Volume 25**January 2002****Number 1**

Beloved:

It was the Spring (March 27, 1957 to be exact) of my first year in Seminary that I heard Dr. Oswald J. Smith. Dr. Smith was preaching in the First Annual World Missions Conference at the Carrollton Presbyterian Church in New Orleans. In our class on World Missions at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, we were told we needed to hear this man. Dr. Smith was Pastor of the Peoples Church of Toronto, Canada and one of the greatest Missionary Statesmen of the 20th Century. His church personally supported 350 Missionaries. He was known for his use of Missionary Mottos and the Faith Promise Giving Plan for World Missions. In fact, he used as the title of his Message, the night I heard him preach, his most famous Missionary Motto... "Why should anyone hear the gospel twice before everyone has heard it once?"

I stated all the above to say that, THROUGH THE YEARS (now in our 25th year of Revival-Evangelism) there have been Mottos that have BLESSED my Life and Ministry. Here are just a few:

1. "For the Word of the Lord is right; and all His works are done in truth" (**Psalm 33:4**).
2. "The will of God will never lead you where the Grace of God will not sustain you."
3. The knowing plus the doing of the Will of God equals life.
4. Little is much if God is in it and Much is Little if God is not in it.
5. The Flesh (human nature apart from God) has a one word vocabulary... MORE!
6. "Rules without Relationship lead to Rebellion!"
7. "He who does what He pleases is never pleased with what he does!"
8. "Proper preparation prevents poor performance."
9. "For of Him and through Him, and to Him are all things: to whom be Glory for ever. Amen" (**Romans 11:36**).

Beloved, I am once again COUNTING ON YOUR HELP in Love, Prayers, and Gifts in 2002. I have just returned from my annual Mission Trip to Jamaica and will be preaching a Meeting in Post Falls, Idaho when you receive this PROCLAIMER. Also, plans are to go to Honduras in the Spring at the invitation of Missionary Larry Sexton. I would be Teaching and Preaching in a Pastor's School there.

Please pray for these Ministry Opportunities. Speaking of Prayer, my prayer for 2002 is... Dear Lord, please Wake Up Your PREACHERS and Your CHURCHES with REVIVAL FIRES! Thanks MUCH for your HELP! I love YOU dearly in HIM.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **I Corinthians 13:14**

On to Laodecia

Volume 25

February 2002

Number 2

Beloved:

While the WORLD is ARMING FOR ARMAGEDDON (**Revelation 16:14-16**) the CHURCH is heading for LAODICEA! (Please Read **Revelation 3:14-22**). In CHURCH LIFE the Wicked, Evil events of 9/11 were nothing more than a SLEEP DISTURBANCE... So after a few HURRIEDLY CALLED Prayer Meetings and Attendance Increases She has once again ROLLED OVER and RETURNED to Her DEEP SLEEP. All National Polls are suggesting The Church has indeed RETURNED to Her Pre 9/11 Ways of "BUSINESS AS USUAL".

Pastors continue to RACE from one Conference, Seminar, Clinic, etc. to another in their attempts to learn from the DR. DOFLUNKIES how to ROUSE The CHURCH from Her SLEEP. The BUZZ WORD now among these RELIGIOUS GURUS is TRANSITION. Pastors are now being Taught how to put their Churches into TRANSITION from a TRADITIONAL Church to a CONTEMPORARY Church.

Choirs are OUT...Bands are IN! Hymns are OUT... so called Christian(?) Rock Contemporary Music(?) is IN! Pulpits are OUT... while stools for Preachers(?) to sit on are IN! Ministers of Music are OUT!... Worship Leaders are IN! Preaching is OUT!... Drama is IN! Predictability in Worship is OUT. ..."The only constant in worship is Change" is IN!

ONE Church Planting Consultant among Baptists has suggested that because MTV has no ORGANS for its Music(?) The Churches should use the Musical Instruments of the MTV World in our Churches in order to attract today's Pagans. I would remind the Church Planting Consultant that the MTV crowd has no BIBLES either... Should we therefore do away with THE BIBLE in our WORSHIP SERVICES? I have just one WORD for THE CONSULTANT, THE DR. DOFLUNKIES and RELIGIOUS GURUS and that word is BALONEY! Beloved, unless these present trends are REVERSED the next stop for the Church will be LAODICEA. God help us to understand that ONLY a HEAVEN-SENT REVIVAL can AROUSE a SLEEPING CHURCH.

THANK YOU for YOUR HELP... YOU are a BLESSING! I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **Romans 13:11-14**.

The Culture-Driven Church

Volume 25

March 2002

Number 3

Beloved:

In the January-February 2002 issue of *On Mission* (The Official Magazine of The North American Mission Board of The Southern Baptist Convention), there is a 4-page article (pages 45-48) entitled IMPACTING POSTMODERNS. It tells of 2 churches (?) that have "REORDERED THEIR MESSAGE" TO MEET THE needs of a POSTMODERN GENERATION. Pictured in the article is a young fella who is a "Member of the Worship Team" (?) using a garbage can as a drum. Also in full view is a girl in shorts and tank top leaving exposed her midsection. One of the Most Outlandish (i.e., STUPID) statements in the article is the following:

"PREDICTABILITY is the Unforgivable Sin: The only constant in worship is CHANGE. Impact Fellowship's baptistry-on-wheels is in a different place each time; it can be in the front, back, or middle. Another Impact Fellowship sets up chairs to face a new direction each week."

Beloved, if the Postmodern Crowd (i.e. PAGAN) does not like PREDICTABILITY IN worship THEN they surely WILL NOT CARE FOR THE GOD they are supposed to be Worshipping...**FOR HE CHANGES NOT! (please read Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8).**

This is just another EXAMPLE of how Present PAGAN CULTURE is Impacting (DRIVING) the CHURCH. More and more I see THE CONSERVATIVE LEADERSHIP of the S.B.C. BOWING to this False god called CULTURE. Where oh Where is the Conservative Leader who will STAND UP and CRY ALOUD... ENOUGH Is ENOUGH (**Isaiah 58:1**)? Where is the Southern Baptist's Jeremiah Calling SBC Churches to the OLD PATHS (**Jeremiah 6:16**)? Why the OLD PATHS? Is it just because they were OLD?... NO! Is it because they had a few ANTIQUES scattered along the way?... NO! THE WORD through Jeremiah calls for THE OLD PATHS because they were THE RIGHT PATHS!

Never has THE CHURCH PROSPERED SPIRITUALLY when She catered to CULTURE. Can you imagine THE FIRST CENTURY CHURCH Driven by or catering to the CULTURE that surrounded them? I can hear it now. .. Some CHURCH GROWTH GURU of the 21st Century telling the 1st Century Church that in order to DRAW A CROWD you MUST have a few Christians thrown to the Lions in Your Sunday Morning Service. GOD FORBID! No Beloved, the 1st Century Church PROSPERED SPIRITUALLY because She DID NOT Cater to the CULTURE of Her day. May God help THE CHURCH to ABANDON Her ILLICIT LOVE AFFAIR with TODAY'S PAGAN CULTURE (i.e., POSTMODERNISM)!!!

Thank You Beloved for Your FAITHFUL SUPPORT in Love, Prayers, and Gifts. I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **II Corinthians 6:16.**

What Would Jesus Eat?

Volume 25

April 2002

Number 4

Beloved:

Well, we now have from the continued SPIN OFF of the RELIGIOUS FAD of "WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?" a book, in your local Christian Book Store, entitled, "WHAT WOULD JESUS EAT?" One wonders what's to follow! What Would Jesus Wear? What Would Jesus Drive? What Would Jesus Exercise With?, etc.. NEVER in the History of Christianity has there been such MOLESTATION by MERCHANDISERS in regards to our LORD JESUS. No doubt GOD must be GREATLY PLEASED with the way American Christianity is Merchandising HIS SON!

Jews in the Old Testament would not say the NAME of their GOD as they had such GREAT RESPECT and REVERENCE for HIM and HIS NAME. Oh, how far we have come in THE WRONG DIRECTION in our CASUAL, FLIPPANT, TOTAL DISRESPECT, and LACK OF REVERENCE to the NAME of JESUS! Is The BOOKSTORE Jesus, this COFFEE MUG Jesus the SAME Jesus who "SAVES His People from their SINS" (**Matthew 1:21**)? Is this the Jesus who has "ALL Power in Heaven and in Earth" (**Matthew 28:18**)? Is this the JESUS who was "delivered for our Offences, and was raised again for our Justification" (**Romans 4:25**)? Is this the JESUS that GOD "made SIN FOR US, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in HIM" (**I Corinthians 5:21**)? Is this the same JESUS "that is able to do exceeding abundantly above ALL that we ask or think according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be GLORY in the CHURCH by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen!" (**Ephesians 3:20-21**)? Is this the same JESUS to Whom THE HOST OF HEAVEN were "saying with a Loud Voice, 'WORTHY IS THE LAMB that was slain to receive Power, and Riches, and Wisdom, and Strength, and Honor, and Glory, and Blessing'... "And the Four and Twenty Elders fell down and WORSHIPPED HIM that liveth forever and ever" (**Revelation 5:11-14**)?

No Beloved, the next time you visit your local Christian bookstore, and you see ALL THAT RELIGIOUS TRIVIA, be assured that THE THRICE HOLY GOD of Scripture has NOTHING TO DO with that JUNK of THE MERCHANDISERS. AND YOU SHOULD NOT EITHER!

You are a BLESSING! Your Prayers, and Gifts are Greatly Appreciated. I Love YOU dearly in OUR WONDERFUL LORD JESUS.

Now a word from HIS WORD... **Jude 24-25**.

Other gods

Volume 25

May 2002

Number 5

Beloved:

OTHER gods have long been a PLAGUE to God's People. The very FIRST of THE TEN COMMANDMENTS states... "Thou shalt have no OTHER gods before me" (**Exodus 20:1-5 KJV**). The Lord knew HIS PEOPLE would be confronted with the OTHER gods of Their Neighbors in surrounding Nations. In over Sixty verses in Ten Books of the Old Testament, we find THE SAD STORY of God's People and OTHER gods.

Of course OTHER gods are not limited to the Old Testament. In the New Testament we find the Apostle Paul's... "spirit was stirred in him, when he saw the city (Athens) WHOLLY given to IDOLATRY" (**Acts 17:16**). Paul writes the Church at Thessalonica these words... "And how ye turned to God from IDOLS to serve THE LIVING and TRUE GOD" (**I Thessalonians 1:9**).

And of course OTHER gods are not confined to the Old and New Testaments but OTHER gods continued to WREAK HAVOC in Church History and to this PRESENT DAY. THE GREAT DISTURBING PRESENT DAY TREND in regards to OTHER gods is that many Churches are allowing their people to bring their OTHER gods to Church with them. It would not surprise me in the least to see a sign in front of some church saying... "WELCOME, Come and Bring Your OTHER gods with You!"

You see BELOVED, it is NO PROBLEM getting PAGANS to Church if you will ALLOW them to bring their OTHER gods along... And believe me they are bringing them. FOR EXAMPLE, PAGANS desire to bring their MUSIC (?) with them to Church... Oh, I know they are saying... "We SANITIZE our ROCK MUSIC by adding a shadow of Jesus to the LYRICS."

Why all the concern over these OTHER gods? Simply this, WORSHIP and SERVING are the HEART of one's LOVE for OTHER gods. We MUST REMEMBER... THE DIVINE PROHIBITION against OTHER gods, first given to Moses by THE LORD GOD at Mount Sinai, is as VALID today as it was the day it was given.

THANK YOU Dear Ones for ALL YOUR HELP. This REVIVAL MINISTRY could not survive without YOUR allowing our Wonderful Lord to use YOU in Helping this Ministry. I love YOU dearly in HIM.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **Judges 2:17 KJV**.

Lessons from the Supermarket

Volume 25

June 2002

Number 6

Beloved:

On June 21st Peggy and I celebrated our 45th Wedding Anniversary and I must admit that for most of those 45 years I did VERY LITTLE Grocery Shopping. I left that Chore to my dear Wife. It has only been in recent years that I have begun to "PUSH THE CART" while Peggy shops at the Supermarket.

During my Supermarket Adventures I have learned MANY Lessons. I call them Supermarket Lessons. Allow me to name a few: (1) Watching people picking over the Produce not just to get a certain item but the BEST of that item they (we) can find... They (we) want the BEST 5LBS. OF potatoes, etc. in the Produce Area. (2) To buy, if possible, ONLY that which is ON SALE. (3) Always shop with a PREPARED LIST of needed items and by all means Avoid shopping on an EMPTY STOMACH as you will have a tendency to purchase too many UNNECESSARY ITEMS. (4) You can always tell THE EATING HABITS of others by observing what they have in their Shopping Carts at the Checkout Counter. (5) Speaking of Checkout Counters... NEVER get behind a lady with a handful of coupons. If found in that situation, take along a book to read as you will be in line for while... Trust me, I have been there!

There is, however, ONE lesson from the Supermarket that has IMPRESSED ME MORE than all the other lessons combined. It has to do with PERISHABLE GOODS. In the Produce Department of any Major Supermarket one can witness THE LESSON OF PERISHABLE GOODS. One day the Fruit and Vegetables are cared for with Careful Attention given to their FRESHNESS. The next day you may observe a Supermarket Employee pushing a Large Garbage Can on Wheels gathering that same Fruit and Vegetables and discarding them in the Garbage Can on Wheels. WHY from Careful Attention to the Garbage Can? These items are PERISHABLE GOODS and are PERISHING (ruined, decaying, spoiled, to be destroyed) no longer fit for Human Consumption.

TIME is of ESSENCE in regards to PERISHABLE GOODS. Beloved, if TIME is of the ESSENCE in regards to Perishable Goods at the Supermarket, how MUCH MORE is TIME of the ESSENCE in regards to THE PERISHING mentioned in the SCRIPTURE (**John 4:35, 9:4, II Corinthians 6:2**). Those who PERISH are deprived of ETERNAL LIFE and are ETERNALLY LOST (**John 3:15-16, I Corinthians 1:18**). At this point Fanny Crosby's great Hymn RESCUE THE PERISHING comes to mind. In the Hymn she encourages us to " TELL THEM (The Perishing) OF JESUS THE MIGHTY TO SAVE"! (**Acts 4:12**).

Thank YOU Beloved... What a BLESSING YOU are to this Preacher and Revival Ministry. Tell someone TODAY of HIM who loved us and gave HIMSELF for us. I love YOU dearly in our Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **II Peter 3:9 KJV**.

First Words

Volume 25

July 2002

Number 7

Beloved:

One often reads someone's LAST WORDS but seldom do we read of someone's FIRST WORDS. Here are the FIRST WORDS of Charles Haddon Spurgeon, the GREAT PRINCE OF PREACHERS, as he stepped to THE PULPIT of The Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, England. He pastored this GREAT CHURCH from 1861 until his death in 1892.

"I would propose that the subject of the ministry of this house, as long as this platform shall stand, and as long as this house shall be frequented by worshippers, shall be the person of Jesus Christ. I am never ashamed to avow myself a Calvinist; I do not hesitate to take the name of Baptist; but if I am asked what is my creed, I reply...

It is Jesus Christ.

The legacy to which I would pin and bind myself forever, God helping me, is Jesus Christ, who is the arm and substance of the gospel, who is in Himself all theology, the incarnation of every precious truth."

Thank YOU Dear Ones for being so FAITHFUL in YOUR SUPPORT. I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **I Corinthians 2:2.**

Waves

Volume 25**August 2002****Number 8**

Beloved:

In the Special Edition of WORLD Magazine (July/August 2002, Vol. 17 No. 26, pp. 26-34) there is an article by Gene Edward Veith entitled, "YOU ARE WHAT YOU READ". The article is an analysis of the Christian Book Association's 100 Bestsellers for the year 2001. Mt Veith states in his article that "only one book is about the Church." The book Mr. Veith has reference to is Rick Warren's "THE PURPOSE DRIVEN CHURCH", ranked #87. This book was published in 1995 by Zondervan. Veith has only these words concerning Warren's book: "The one book about the Church that did make the Bestseller List is one of a plethora (overabundance) of 'HOW TO' books on CHURCH GROWTH, and the ESSENCE of their message is that the Church needs to CHANGE her ways to APPEAL TO or APPEASE the DOMINANT (current) CULTURE."

At the INSISTENCE of Present Day Church Growth GURUS, a GREAT HOST (large number) of Baptist Pastors have in recent years been having their Church Leadership read Warren's book with the idea in mind of using the METHODS of WARREN in their LOCAL CHURCHES across America.

Much emphasis in Warren's book involves WAVES (pp. 13-15). He suggests, "The more skilled we become in RIDING WAVES of GROWTH, the more God sends!" (p. 15). Warren then assures his readers, "I can teach you HOW TO recognize what God is doing, HOW TO cooperate with what God is doing, and HOW TO become more skilled in RIDING A WAVE of God's blessing" (p. 15). OH, REALLY!?

Warren's book, like so many other "HOW TO" books, advises Preachers on HOW TO RIDE WAVES (i.e., go along to get along with current culture).

What we DESPERATELY NEED are PREACHERS who will MAKE WAVES!!!

Make no mistake about it! The DON'T ROCK THE BOAT CROWD cares little for WAVE-MAKING PREACHERS! REMEMBER, Waves are caused by a DISTURBANCE and will cause a DISTURBANCE (i.e., Rock The Boat).

What to do with these HOW TO books?

My suggestion is to gather them up and throw them in the BLACK HOLE scientists tell us about in outer space... THEN, Return to God's Word using the New Testament Pattern for Church Growth (the Book of Acts)!

Thank YOU dear ones for YOUR help. We begin our 10th year of Television Ministry (Unto the Churches) this month. I love YOU dearly in our Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **Acts 17:6-8**.

God's Twin Towers

Volume 25

September 2002

Number 9

Beloved:

On September 11, 2002 we observed THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY of THE BARBARIC TERRORIST ATTACK on THE TWIN TOWERS of THE WORLD TRADE CENTER in New York City. Those TOWERS represented the Achievements of MAN, in the arena of commerce and trade, as they towered over the Financial World of Wall Street. The Terrorists destroyed in TWO HOURS what it took SEVEN YEARS to build. When the dust had settled both TOWERS were HISTORY and Thousands of Lives were in ETERNITY. The Terrorists had DESTROYED these Man-made Towers and once again we learned the Lesson that WHAT MAN CAN BUILD...MAN CAN DESTROY!

However, GOD has TWIN TOWERS which can NEVER be DESTROYED (**Mark 13:31**) even though EVIL MEN have, through the Ages, made VAIN ATTEMPTS to do so! Liberal Theologians have launched their Intellectual Missiles with their Ungodly Warheads to NO AVAIL. Even Satan himself has COMPLETELY FAILED in his attempts to bring down GOD'S TWIN TOWERS. For Thousands of Years these TWO TOWERS of GOD have STOOD as TESTIMONIES OF GOD'S TRUTH...And this is the VERY REASON Satan and Evil Men have attempted to DESTROY them. The TWIN TOWERS OF GOD are none other than THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS. Listed below are FOUR REASONS why Satan and his Cronies seek to bring down these Towers of God.

GOD'S TWIN TOWERS ARE:

1. A SIN REVEALER... **Romans 7:7**
2. A LIGHT PROVIDER... **Psalms 119:130**
3. A FAITH PRODUCER... **Romans 10:17**
4. A TRUTH DISPENSER... **John 17:17**

Little wonder why Satan and Unbelieving Men HATE GOD'S INDESTRUCTIBLE TWIN TOWERS!

THANK YOU for STANDING with us in these days of MUCH NEEDED REVIVAL. I love YOU dearly in our Wonderful Lord Jesus.

Now a Word from HIS WORD... **I Peter 1:23-25**.

Whatever Happened to the New World Order?

Volume 25

October 2002

Number 10

Beloved:

Just a few years ago BIG MEN in HIGH PLACES were declaring A NEW WORLD ORDER... and yet, there is STILL much TENSION and TURMOIL in WORLD AFFAIRS. We used to talk about HOT SPOTS in the World... Today we are witnessing THE WHOLE WORLD as a HOT SPOT. Such phrases as INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM, AXIS OF EVIL, WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION and AL-QAEDA, speak of WORLDWIDE DISORDER... NO, The WORLD is the SAME World that it was BEFORE the DECLARATION of THE NEW WORLD ORDER. The REASON the WORLD is the SAME is because its PEOPLE are the SAME... SINFUL!

While all of the above and MORE are taking place in the WORLD, we find that here in America we continue to witness THE ABSOLUTE INEFFECTIVENESS OF the CHURCHES in our Nation. She (The Church) has VERY LITTLE, IF ANY, INFLUENCE on the MORAL-SPIRITUAL lives of the GREAT MAJORITY of Americans. In REALITY, they hardly know we (The Church) exist. As one has said:

"TO COVER our Weakness and ineffectiveness we have taken a number of ALTERNATIVE ROUTES. Many HIDE behind the Facade of EXCITEMENT and ACTIVITY; seeking to keep Congregations HIGH on Promises and Pretense. In addition, we have been arranging even MORE ELABORATE crusades and conferences; They are VERY IMPRESSIVE, as they take our minds off THE REALITY of our Lack of SPIRITUAL POWER and the ABSENCE OF THE PRESENCE OF GOD ...And the TRAGEDY is that, by and large we (The Church) DON'T SEEM TO CARE."

And as I have stated so many times in the Past... THE ONLY ANSWER to this OVERDOSE OF WORLDLINESS in The CHURCH is a HEAVEN-SENT SPIRITUAL AWAKENING by our SOVEREIGN GOD!

Thank YOU BELOVED for Your FAITHFUL SUPPORT in Love, Prayers, and Gifts. This Preacher wants YOU to know that I LOVE YOU dearly and that I could not be involved with this REVIVAL MINISTRY without YOUR HELP.

Now a word from HIS WORD... **Hosea 10:12.**

Color-Coded Thanksgiving

Volume 25

November 2002

Number 11

Beloved:

We have all seen them... in many Public Buildings (Hospitals, etc.) hallways with Color-Coded stripes. These stripes are in the floors of these hallways for the purpose of helping one find his or her way about the building.

Enter THE BUILDING OF HISTORY with me. As we approach the Information Desk we ask the person there to direct us to THE BEGINNING OF THANKSGIVING. So here are the DIRECTIONS we receive. Follow the BLUE line on the floor. It will take you past the Act of Congress in 1941 to declare Thanksgiving as a LEGAL Holiday. It was to be THE FOURTH THURSDAY in November. Then go past Franklin Roosevelt's attempt to move Thanksgiving to the NEXT TO LAST THURSDAY in November in order to create a LONGER CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SEASON. The Public outcry against the President's decision caused Roosevelt to return Thanksgiving to its original date of the fourth Thursday in November.

As we continue on our way we must go past President Lincoln's 1863 Proclamation that the last Thursday in November be a NATIONAL DAY OF THANKSGIVING. On we go as we pass President George Washington's Proclamation of a Nation Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, and in 1777 marked the FIRST time ALL Thirteen Colonies joined in a Thanksgiving celebration. Then on past to the arrival of the PILGRIMS (Puritans) on THE MAYFLOWER, December 11, 1620 and their decision to celebrate a Bountiful Harvest in the Fall of 1621. Their Thanksgiving Feast lasted THREE days.

But we have YET to find THE BEGINNING OF THANKSGIVING, so we continue with our COLOR-CODED DIRECTIONS till at last we arrive at a Door that says THE BEGINNING OF THANKSGIVING. As we open the door we find ONLY a BOOK. This Book is known to the World as THE HOLY BIBLE. You see Beloved, long before we had a Thanksgiving Day in this Nation we had a THANKSGIVING BOOK...God's INFALLIBLE Word. In fact, we can safely say, 'without HIS WORD we would not have a day set aside for Thanksgiving in America.' (Please read **Psalm 100:4**)

We must THANK HIM each day for HIS PROVIDENTIAL CARE in giving us HIS WORD that we might have a WRITTEN REVELATION of HIS WILL and WAYS...GLORY!!!

My heart is FILLED with Thanksgiving and Gratitude to our Lord for the Wonderful People HE has given to this REVIVAL MINISTRY. Please KNOW that YOU are Dearly Loved and Deeply Appreciated.

Now a word from HIS THANKSGIVING WORD... **I Thessalonians 5:18.**

O Magnify the Lord with Me, and Let Us Exalt His Name Together (Psalm 34:3)

Volume 25

December 2002

Number 12

Beloved:

As we conclude another year of God's GRACE and MERCY we must say with the Psalmist David, "I will bless the Lord at ALL TIMES: His praise shall continually be in my mouth" (Psalm 34:1). In our 25th year of this REVIVAL-EVANGELISM MINISTRY, we have experienced once again the GREAT FAITHFULNESS of our GREAT GOD. His FINGERPRINTS have been found on both our JOYS and SORROWS.

The occasions to REJOICE have been MANY... I name a FEW:

HEALTH: Our Lord continues to bless me with GOOD HEALTH. It has now been 3 years since my last Heart Surgery.

MINISTRY: These past 25 years of REVIVAL-EVANGELISM Preaching Ministry have taken me into 25 States, Washington, D.C. and several Foreign Countries. Our Radio Ministry, THE VOICE OF VICTORY, is now in its 24th year and is heard around the World VIA the Internet. Our Television Ministry, UNTO THE CHURCHES, is now in its 9th year and our newsletter, THE PROCLAIMER, is in its 25th year. BELOVED, your Love, Prayers, and Gifts have helped make these 25 years of Ministry possible. THANK YOU dear ones for YOUR HELP!

SURPRISE: THE MOTHER OF ALL SURPRISES for me was when my Wonderful Wife secretly planned my 50th Year of Preaching Celebration. It was held at my HOME CHURCH, The First Baptist Church, Chattahoochee, Florida on Sunday April 28. Over 130 people from seven States came. Most of these were Church Members from my 3 Pastorates: Northwood Hills Baptist Church; Northport, Alabama (1959-1963), North Palm Baptist Church, Hialeah, Florida (1963-1968), and Northwest Baptist Church, Miami, Florida (1969-1978). I had not seen some of these folks in 39 years. What a GREAT TIME we had!!

The occasions of SORROW have also crossed our path...

THE most notable: In July I returned to my Home Church, the First Baptist Church of Chattahoochee, Florida to preach the MEMORIAL SERVICE of my lifelong FRIEND and BROTHER, Reuben H. Neely. To those of you who knew him, I need to say nothing. To those of you who never had the privilege of knowing Reuben, I must say this to you. He was one of God's BEST. From our Boyhood days till the day of HIS HOMEGOING, Reuben served our Lord FAITHFULLY. He was a Faithful Husband, a Wonderful Father, a Deacon in his Church and a Board Member of the B.C.E.A. I miss him GREATLY!

PLEASE PRAY FOR MY PREACHING-TRAVELING MINISTRY:

1. January 12 - Cornerstone Baptist Church. Auburn, KY.
2. January 20-24 - Caribbean Christian Center for the Deaf, Mandeville, Jamaica
3. February 2-7 - First Baptist Church, Post Falls, Idaho.

FROM OUR HOME TO YOURS!

Peggy and I pray GOD'S BEST for YOU and YOURS as we celebrate The Virgin Birth of our Blessed Lord Jesus (**Matthew 1:23**). He was born in a MANGER (**Luke 2:12**) that we might live in a MANSION (**John 14:2**)! May YOU have a GLORIOUS CHRISTMAS and a PROSPEROUS (**III John 2**) NEW YEAR! I love YOU in our Virgin Born Saviour.

Now a word from HIS WORD...**JEREMIAH 33:3**.