# THE HARVESTERS



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# The Jamaica Campaign

Jackie M. Stearsman

In recent issues of The Harvesters we have called attention to plans for students to participate in campaign work in Jamaica. They will depart July 29, 1989, and return August 12, 1989. In this issue we are presenting some of the activities in which we will be engaged while there.

The expenses are being assumed by the Central Church of Christ in Clear-water, Florida. These brethren are strong supporters of the Florida School of Preaching and the work of the church in Jamaica.

Perhaps the best way to understand the services rendered to the brethren in Jamaica and the training of the students is to quote from the directive we have received from those leading the Jamaica Campaign.

"May 29, 1989

Dear Campaign Workers:

What a great joy it is to welcome faithful Christians as new workers joining together with previous workers and God in Jamaica.



Cecil [Haffelfinger], Robert [Garrettl, and I [Gary Burford] have no reservations that after just one day you will be as excited as we are over the church and God's work in Jamaica. How quickly you will learn to love and appreciate the people! In turn, you will gain their love, respect and gratitude. We know God will bless the sincerity of our efforts with the edifying of our Jamaican brethren and a harvest of precious souls.

The thrust of these gospel meetings will be evangelistic. We will continue in the theme of last year—"BACK TO THE BIBLE." The preachers will gear their sermons to support and compliment the evangelistic teaching of the campaign workers.

In the locations where vacation Bible school is included, the time will be 10 a.m. to 12:30. We will break for lunch and as many teachers as can will stay and walk through the communities setting up and conducting one—on—one Bible studies and inviting people to the evening gos—pel meeting. Some teachers will want to make lesson plans and rest after lunch.

After breakfast each day we will have a brief meeting and devotional. Workers not teaching in VBS will start knocking doors about 10 a.m. Dinner will be about 5 p.m. each day, and the evening meeting will be at 7 p.m. in Tydixon and Linstead, 7:30 p.m. at Constant Spring and Delano Avenue (in Kingston).

We are especially grateful again this year to the Central Church of Christ in Clearwater, Florida, for the contribution of the many Johnny Ramsey tracts. These were great door and conversation openers last year and the churches in Jamaica benefited greatly by the use of them. . . .

I will arrive in Jamaica a couple days early to get as many of these things taken writes the following:

I was born in Portau-Prince in April, 1948. I am maried and have four children.

I was a Baptist preacher since 1983, and became a Christian in 1988.

I decided to attend Florida School of Preaching to become a Gospel preacher and I started school on 1-23-89.

I enjoy the school for the quality of the teachers and the number of brethren who are students here.

Florida School of Preaching helps me to understand better the magnificency of my Lord.

--Joseph Charles

THE ANCIENT ORDER (No. 1)

By

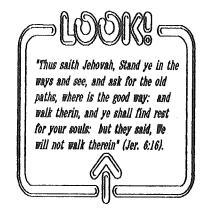
Clifford Newell, Jr.

"Who serve unto the example and shadow of heavenly things, as Moses was admonished of God when he was about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern showed to thee in the mount" (Hebrews 8:5, Emphasis mine CEN).

The idea of a pattern or divine blue print was deeply impressed upon Moses. Even the very mentioning of a pattern is suggestive that there is a right way and a wrong way to go about a thing.

During the dark ages, that pattern was ignored, and man did his own thing, resulting in apostasy, which grew until the twelfth century. At this time it was made known that every man had the right of private judgment from Acts 17:11. Men became independent thinkers (i.e., they reasoned

for themselves). This paved the way for the Restoration movement, seeking to restore the ancient order of things. As a result there were a number of such movements across this great country, which was begun by men who reasoned from the Scriptures, that God has a pattern for the church, how it is to be organized, her doctrine, and conduct of her members. Therefore, the Restoration movement began; and its plea was that nothing short of breaking down all the denominational walls, to abandon all human creeds, and to reproduce faith, worship, and the unity of Christians according to the divine pattern.



The causes of this Restoration movement were as follows:

- (1) Dissatisfaction with human creeds.
- (2) The dogma of total depravity.
- (3) The mystical conception of conversion.
- (4) A general neglect of the Bible.
- (5) Rampant sectarianism.
- (6) A general religious stagnation and a widespread decadence of morals.

The time was therefore, ripe, the world was ready and waiting for this movement that shook the religious world.

# Why I Preach By Wallace Maxwell

I preached my first sermon over 40 years ago. Recently, I sat down and began to think about why I preach. I realized that I was dealing with a lengthy sermon and not with a short bulletin article. However, here are some reasons why I preach.



#### 1. Because Christ Was a Preacher

Jesus Christ was a preacher (Matthew 4:17). I believe a preacher has the opportunity to be more Christlike than any other person. I have often thought of giving up preaching, but I know that I could never do that by choice. On one occasion. Jesus said, "I must preach" (Luke 4:43). I have believed from the first that "I must preach." I do not believe that I could be happy unless I preach.

# 2. To Free Men From Sin

I preach because I want to tell men how to receive freedom from sin and obtain eternal life. God has chosen to save the world through preaching (1 Corinthians 1:21).

3. The Zenith
Of Human Endeavors

I preach because preaching is the zenith of

care of as possible before you arrive. I will meet everyone at the airport in Montego Bay. In some cases there may be overlapping arriving flights so if I'm a little late meeting your flight, find some shade and get a coke--I'll be with you as fast as I get the earliest arrival group picked up. You can tell by the flight roster who will be on the same flight(s) with you. If you can make arrangements to meet at the airport, you can get your boarding passes together as well as seat assignments. . . .

You can check two suit cases and board with one carry-on. Checked suitcases should be maximum of 70 lbs. each. Obviously, it's too hot in Jamaica for 140 lbs. of clothes but please consider taking the two suitcases. and include used Bibles (especially large print) to give away, as well as tracts. Otherwise, use extra space to pack clothing to give away to the many needy brethren and others you will come in contact with. Most needed are children's clothing, especially infant and toddler, mens' and ladies' shoes (wide sizes only), light dresses and tops. NO COATS PLEASE but light sweaters are useful. . . .

I will . . . be sending a list of suggested things to pack. It will not consist of anything that you do not already have. There is not anything that you will need to buy in Jamaica except possibly for gifts or souvenirs. all food, lodging and ground transportation expenses are covered in the package price I've quoted you.

Also coming is an assortment of printed materials for new workers and a few notes about things you can expect to run

into in this evangelistic effort. In a couple of weeks I will also give the Jamaica Tourist Board the roster of workers, and have them send you a complete packet of information about the country.

Until then, please continue to keep this series of gospel meetings in your thoughts and prayers. Think and meditate on this--what you are about to do, individually and collectively, will impact the lives and destiny of some eternal souls. You will witness things that will bring tremendous joy--and others that will make your heart break. Pray for God's wisdom, strength and guidance to lead you in this work of the spread of the redeeming message of Jesus.

On behalf of Cecil, Robert and Jack, it is a great pleasure to be associated with you in the work of God. May it all be to his praise, honor and glory.

In His wonderful love,

Gary Burford"

## Agenda

The students will be assisting in the following Vacaton Bible Schools and Gospel Meetings. That you may know of the specific areas in which we will be working in the Campaign they are listed:

Sunday-Thursday
July 30-August 3
Tydixon
Speaker:
Cecil Haffelfinger

Sunday-Thursday
July 30-August 3
Linstead
Speaker:
Robert Garrett

Sunday-Thursday
August 6-10
Constant Spring
Speaker:
Cecil Haffelfinger

Sunday-Thursday
August 6-10
Delano Avenue, Kingston
Speaker:
Jack Gray

#### TEAM

From Forida School of Preaching

Steven Bedard
Joseph Charles
Michael Dykes
Jimmy Hickox
Robert Lindsey
Robert Lupo
Harold Rodriguez
Samuel Roney
Steven Rosenzweig
Jackie Stearsman
Larry Williams

## Comments

Brother Joseph Charles is from Haiti. He and his family have moved to Lakeland that he might attend the Florida School of Preaching. We appreciate the dedication of Joseph and his family and it is a joy to have him in school. Joseph

#### The Harvesters Published Monthly by the Florida School of Preaching 1807 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33803 (813) 683-4043 Editor: Associate Editor: Uackie M. Stearsman Clifford Newell, Jr. Board of Directors B. C. Carr, President Glann Lee Paul Thornhill, Vice President Vallace Maxwell James Medlin J. H. Blackman, Jr., Secretary E. Robert McAnally, Treasurer Gordon Methyin Maurice Davis Dale Spung Kenneth V. Franklin Gene Stilwell George K. French TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

all human endeavors. The apostle Paul emphasized the importance of preaching in Romans 10:13-15. It says, "How beautiful are the feet" of those who preach. The word "beautiful" is translated from the Greek word "oraion." Of this word Trench says, "All which in this world lives submitted to the laws of growth and decay, has its 'hour' or wra, the period, that is, when it makes fairest show of whatever grace or beauty it may own. This wra, being thus the turning point of its existence, the time when it is at its loveliest and best . . . There speaks out in it the sense that for all things which belong to this passing world, the grace of the fashion of them perishes, but that they have their 'hour,' however brief, the season of their highest perfection." (Synonyms of the New Testament) If Trench has the proper understanding of the word, then preaching far excels all other aspirations of men.

> 4. Because It Brings Joy and Satisfaction

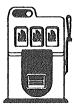
I preach because of the joy and satisfaction that I feel when I see one turn from sin and turn to God.

Preaching gives me the opportunity to help people become children of God, better citizens, better fathers, better mothers, better children, better sisters and brothers.

5. To Express My Gratitude

Finally, I thank God for giving me life. I have dedicated my life to the preaching of the gospel. And, "so, as much as in me is. I am ready to preach the gospel" (Romans 1:15) in season, out of season, with or without financial support, to one or to many. Thanks be to God for the joy and privilege of preaching the unspeakable riches of Christ. [Brother Maxwell is one of the board members of The Florida School of Preaching. He also serves as one of the elders and is one of the preachers of the Wesconnett Church of Christ, Jacksonville, Florida. The above article appeared in the Wesconnett Church of Christ Bulletin, June 11, 1989. I added the numbered headings, Editor]

#### What About Gambling?



1. Can you show why men should not be involved in the lottery?

- 2. Can you show that gambling is destructive?
- 3. Can you show that the Bible condemns gambling?
- 4. Do you know that promoting gambling is promoting mental illness?
- 5. Do you know that gambling produces psychological misfits?
  If any of the above questions are unclear to you, YOU NEED THIS TRACT. The price is .40 each. It may be obtained from:

STEARSMAN'S PUBLICATINS 1807 South Florida Avenue Lakeland, FL 33803 (813) 683-4043

Also available are:

- 1. Study Notes on Daniel, \$3.
- 2. Study Notes on Ezekiel, \$3.
- 3. A Critique of The Multiplying Ministries of the Boston Church of Christ, \$5. (Prices do not inclue postage)

#### Fall Classes Begin September 11

Are you registered? Do you know of those who may be encouraged to attend? Request assistance today.

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