



Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

Volume XXVI

December 2005

Number 4

Spring Semester Begins January 3, 2006

MONDAY:

8:30 - 12:00 Life of Christ (12317) Davis
 1:00 - 4:15 Marriage and the Family (22354) Kenyon
 7:00 - 9:30 pm (Alachua, FL) .. First and Second Timothy and Titus (22338) Elledge

TUESDAY:

8:30 - 12:00 Christian Evidences (22344) Stearsman
 1:00 - 4:15 Cults (22352) Burgett
 7:00 - 9:30 pm Life of Paul (22362) Blackman
 7:00 - 9:30 pm (Warner Robins, GA) .. Christian Evidences (22344) Stilwell
 7:00 - 9:30 pm Greek I (22322) Stearsman

WEDNESDAY:

8:30 - 12:00 Computers and Churches (22390) Stearsman
 1:00 - 4:15 Holy Spirit (22350) Kenyon

THURSDAY:

8:30 - 12:00 Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon (12336) Kenyon
 1:00 - 4:15 Missions II (22356) Wheeler
 7:00 - 9:30 pm (Auburndale, FL) General Epistles (22349) Bauer
 7:00 - 9:30 pm (Clearwater, FL) Isaiah and Jeremiah (12313) Burgess
 7:00 - 9:30 pm (Jacksonville, FL) Greek I (22322) Atnip

FRIDAY:

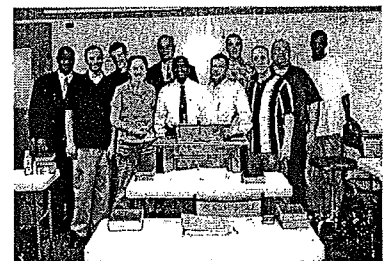
8:30 - 12:00 Preacher and His Work II (12308) Stearsman
 1:00 - 4:15 Isaiah and Jeremiah (12313) Kenyon



George Franklin

George Franklin will be completing his studies at midterm. George came to us from Dothan, Alabama, and has been an excellent student. We are confident that George will be a great asset to the cause of Christ. At this time he is seeking a full-time position as a gospel preacher. You may reach George by contacting the school or by phone at 863-651-3015 or 334-793-0631.

Edward Owusu-Ansah from Ghana West Africa is shown with some of our students. He was to be a part of our lectureship this past year but was not able to secure a visa for his trip until it was too late for the January lectures. He works diligently with those from the school and others who visit his country to promote the cause of the Lord.



**Edward Owusu-Ansah
Front and center**

Preaching Christ of Envy and Strife

By

Jackie M. Stearsman

In more than forty years of preaching, I have never seen the degree of strife and turmoil present in our brotherhood. When I became the Associate Director of the school in 1985 there were many congregations that would give us a hearing regarding training preachers and strengthening congregations. Today the strife is so intense, it is most difficult to find those interested in supporting our work, and it is very difficult to find those willing to make the sacrifice to preach.

In reflecting on the present state of things, I am reminded that there is a truth that must never be forgotten. When Christ is preached we must be grateful.

Envy

Here is a truth that is so evident that we would not need the Bible to make us aware of it.

Who has not witnessed preacher jealousy, elder jealousy, teacher jealousy? Jesus was the recipient of mistreatment because of envy (Matt. 27:18; Mark 15:10).

Envy is destructive to the individual who cultivates it as Job 5:2 states, "For wrath killeth the foolish man, and envy slayeth the silly one." The fruits of envy are not beautiful. Note the classifications in Proverbs 27:4, "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous; but who is able to stand before envy?" Again in Romans 1:29: "Being filled with

all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness,

Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice (Philip. 1:15-18 AV).

maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers."

However, we must keep in mind that God is able to accomplish good, even though we may suffer at the hands of envious brethren. In Acts 7:9 we read, "And the patriarchs, moved with envy, sold Joseph into Egypt: but God was with him."

Strife

If we are to be faithful, we must do all we can to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace (Eph. 4:1-3). Jesus states that a characteristic of those who make up the kingdom of heaven is to be a peace maker (Matt. 5:9).

Albert Barnes comments on this text are worth our reflection: "What was the ground of this 'envy and strife' the apostle does not mention. It would seem, however, that even in Rome there was a party which was jealous of the influence of Paul, and which supposed that this was a good opportunity to

diminish his influence, and to strengthen their own cause. He was not now at large so as to be able to meet and confute them. They had access to the mass of the people. It was easy, under plausible pretenses, to insinuate hints about the ambitious aims, or improper influence of Paul, or to take strong ground against him and in favour of their own views, and they availed themselves of this opportunity."

Our Preaching

We know that our preaching will not be appreciated by some. However, we must keep before us the charge to preach the truth in love (Eph. 4:15).

"Now the end of the commandment is charity out of a pure heart, and of a good conscience, and of faith unfeigned" (1Tim 1:5).

**GREEK CLASS OFFERED
ON TUESDAY EVENINGS,**

The Harvester

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“Do You Understand Restoration?”

31st Annual Lectureship **Jan. 16-19, 2006** Jackie M. Stearsman, Director



Earl Edwards



Ryan Tuten

MONDAY

9:00 Restoring Authority Maurice Davis, I
 9:40 Bible Examples of Restoration Ryan Tuten
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Essential Components of Restoration Justin Gerhardt
 11:30 LUNCH
 Forum: Restoration and Perfection
 1:30 Grow in Service Nathan Kidwell
 2:00 Grow in Knowledge Ulyesses Richardson
 2:30 Grow in Wisdom James E. Rogers
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions and Answers on Forum Topic
 4:30 DINNER
 6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Restoring Membership (Sonship) Marcus Grayson
 7:45 Restoring Sacrificial Giving Jackie M. Stearsman



Jackie Stearsman

WEDNESDAY

9:00 Restoring Brotherly Love Earl Edwards
 9:40 Restoration Insights from John the Baptist Jimmy Clark
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Factions in Restoration Bruce Daugherty
 11:30 LUNCH
 Forum: Restoration Insights
 1:30 From Martin Luther Brian R. Kenyon
 2:00 From John Calvin Gene Burgett
 2:30 From Alexander Campbel and Barton Stone Steve Atnip
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions and Answers on Forum Topic
 4:30 DINNER
 6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Restoring Leadership Bill Greer
 7:45 Restoring Preacher Training Earl Edwards



Mike Elledge



Justin Gerhardt



James E. Rogers

TUESDAY

9:00 Restoring Sacrificial Living Timothy Kidwell
 9:40 Who Is a “Campbellite”? James E. Rogers
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 When Is Restoration Required? J. H. Blackman, Jr.
 11:30 LUNCH
 Forum: Hindering Restoration
 1:30 Institutions Steve Atnip
 2:00 “Core Gospel” J. Brooks Boyd, Jr.
 2:30 Movement Mania Freddie Clayton
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions and Answers on Forum Topic
 4:30 DINNER
 6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Restoring Worship Alfred Woodard
 7:45 Restoring Broken Fellowship Jimmy Clark



Ulyesses Richardson

THURSDAY

9:00 Restoring Personal Growth J. Brooks Boyd, Jr.
 9:40 Restoration World Evangelism Bruce Daugherty
 10:20 BREAK
 10:50 Restoring Church Identity Freddie Clayton
 11:30 LUNCH
 Forum: Restoring Values
 1:30 Role of the Home Timothy Kidwell
 2:00 Role of the State Mike Elledge
 2:30 Role of the Church Bill Greer
 3:00 BREAK
 3:30 Questions and Answers on Forum Topic
 4:30 DINNER
 6:30 Congregational Singing
 7:00 Restoring Singing Tom Holland
 7:45 Restoring Improvement in Singing Tom Holland



Marcus Grayson



Bill Greer



Nathan Kidwell



Timothy Kidwell

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Brian R. Kenyon



Tom Holland

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Gene Burgett Report

As I write this report, it is only a week before the Thanksgiving holiday. Of all of the holidays devised by American culture this must surely rank as the greatest. Imagine an entire holiday devoted to thinking about how we have been blessed by God and our fellow man.

In Luke chapter seventeen we read that Jesus healed ten lepers. Of the ten only one took the time to say thank you, and it was that act that separated him from the other nine. At the Florida School of Preaching we have been blessed by many loyal congregations and individuals who have supported us over the years. We do not take your support for granted. Also, many have come to our aid over the past year as we have made known our need for additional financial help. Some who have supported us for

many years have raised their level of support, while others have recently made us a part of their budget. To all who have come to aid us in our time of need we say, "Thank you."

My travels took me to Georgia multiple times over the past month. It was my privilege to visit with two congregations in the Savannah, Georgia area. Once a month a student or instructor from the school preaches for the Parkway and Savannah Islands churches of Christ. In addition to these congregations, on November 6, I spoke during the Sunday morning worship assembly in Ashburn, Georgia while one of our students, Rick Kenyon, spoke during the Bible class.

I also visited with several congregations in Florida. On October 23, I visited with the church in Lake Butler, Florida.

Lake Butler is in Union County, Florida where many of the largest prisons in the state are located. The Lake Butler congregation has been very devoted to prison evangelism over the years. On November 6, I visited with the church in Live Oak, Florida. Though I have been in the north Florida area for many years, this was my first opportunity to visit with the downtown church in Live Oak. I look forward to being with them again soon.

I urge any congregations or individuals to contact me if they would like to know more about the Florida School of Preaching. Our need for additional support continues and we are always interested in meeting with men who are interested in attending classes.

Gene Burgett
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