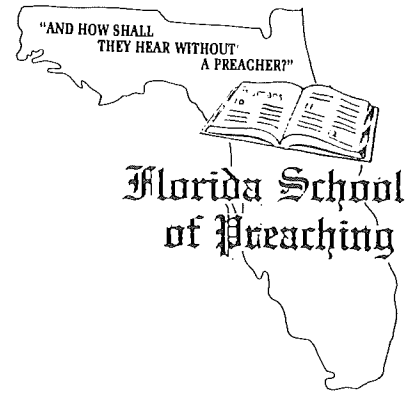


THE HARVESTERS



VOLUME XIII

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NUMBER 2

Booster Banquet Honors J.H. Blackman, Jr

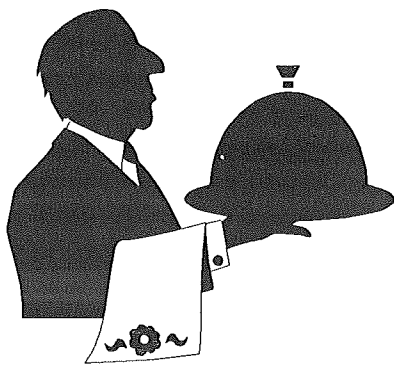
Brother J.H. Blackman has been with the *Florida School of Preaching* since it began. He is a member of the Executive Board serving as its secretary. He has taught classes in a wide range of subjects while working full time in other fields.

J.H. has served in a very unselfish way. I know of nothing that he has ever been asked to do that promoted the well being of the school of preaching that he refused to do—whether it be teaching a class or a menial task that others might reject. If a task needed done all that was needed was to let him know and he would put himself to it in his own unique way.

Those attending the Lectureships know of his tireless efforts at making and duplicating the tapes of the speeches. This did not happen without considerable preparation involving the setting up the recording equipment and hoping that all functioned properly.

Over the years J.H. and his late wife Louise were in charge of preparing and serving the guests at our annual banquets. It is altogether fitting that he be singled out and honored for his many years of service to the *Florida School of Preaching*.

Brother Blackman, we appreciate you and what you have done over the years to promote the school and train men and women to faithfully serve the Lord.



**BANQUET
SEPTEMBER 21,
1992**

**TIME
7:00 p.m.**

**Homestyle Family Buffet
In Lakeland
4259 US Hwy 98 N**

“Help Those Women . . .”

By Jackie M. Stearsman

Today, as always, there is controversy associated with the cause of the Lord. There are politically minded women that are demanding what they feel are their forbidden rights. This issue has reached the highest court of our land and it touches impoverished souls as well. Those wishing to find favor with women for political reasons will appeal to the women, and if women are not wise they may be used and/or abused in the process. It is possible for women to be used by those in religious circles for selfish ends. Therefore, we would be surprised if the role and position of women in the church did not become an issue.

Truth may not be fairly represented by the most vocal. “But the Jews stirred up the devout and honourable women, and the chief men of the city, and raised persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them out of their coasts” (Acts 13:50). There are those at work among us that would stir up certain women in order to gain a selfish end and their goal is to change the organization of the church. In their misguided zeal they think that to conform to the world would make it more acceptable to the truth. Such will never succeed. Those

familiar with the Bible know otherwise.

Some zealous champions would have us believe that we are abusive and disrespectful to women when we advocate what God stipulates. The Bible presents a case for great service of woman in the cause of the Lord.

Paul had women who labored with him in the gospel, and he was interested in their assistance from the church at Philippi. “And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life” (Phil. 4:3). When Saul was persecuting the church he persecuted women for they comprised a large number of its membership (Acts 8:8; 9:2; 22:4).

When the Lord came to this world to lift all and to enable all to see themselves in the eyes of a benevolent God he was assisted and comforted by women. At the cross and at the resurrection the gospels remind us of their presence (Matt. 28:2; Luke 23:49, 55).

The church began with a number of women in it (Acts 1:14). When Paul received the Macedonian call it was the household of Lydia who became the first converts in the Philippian church (Acts 16:13).

The Bible regulates the function of both men and women in the church. To teach, as does the Bible, that women should not exercise authority over men or to teach over men is not to suppress women. It does not degrade women. It could not, for He who made us made the stipulations (I Tim. 2:8-15). That women were doing a great work in the cause of the Lord can not be denied. Paul admonished that they be helped.

Let us help these women!

Help The Secretaries

To-day many groups of God's people are blessed



because there are women who have special talents and training that serve the cause of truth by enabling correspondence to be correct and attractive. What would happen if the church where you attend replaced with men the ladies that serve in the office. I know, for I see what is published by men; you can detect it. The work is greatly blessed by a good secretary. Her price can not be valued by money, and it often goes unappreciated. Let us help those women.

Help the Women Who Teach Bible Classes

Call a meeting in the congregation for those willing to teach and



count the number of women that do this week after week with little if any recognition. Many times I have seen women with their children at the building preparing materials and class rooms in order to be more effective teachers.

The Harvesters

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(813) 683-4043
Editor: Jackie M. Stearsman
Board of Directors
Gordon Methvin, President George K. French
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TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

If ever anyone needed encouragement and appreciation for their contribution to the cause of Christ it is those faithful and dedicated teachers in our Bible schools. Help those women.

Help Sacrificing Women

Each month when the financial statement for the school is prepared you can not help but be moved with gratitude for those that may be on fixed income who could use every dime of their income to make their life more comfortable and financially secure, but choose to make contributions toward the training of preachers. Jesus knows and acknowledges such sacrificial generosity (Matt. 10:40-42).

We are constantly reminded of how some shy-ster preacher abused the kindness of such charitable souls. We appall all thievery and this includes stealing in the name of religion.

Our load is lighter because of the sacrifices of others. Many times these sacrifices are made by women. Let us help these women.

Help Those Women Who Open Their Homes

In Second John the elect lady and her children are addressed as well as her sister (II John 1, 13).

These women made significant contributions



to the cause of Christ. Homes are the class room for

many teaching occasions and are most often maintained by women.

Thank God for such women and their homes. Consider the list of women and the affectionate way in which Paul mentions them in Romans 16:1-15: There is Phoebe (1-2), Prisca (3), Mary (6), Tryphaena, Tryphosa and Persis (12), the mother of Rufus (13), Julia, and the sister of Nereus (15).

Paul names Aphia the wife of Philemon and their son Archip- pus; he is thankful for them and their concern for all the saints they refreshed—Was this not a family affair (Philemon 1-8)?

Help Encouraging Women

Encouragement helps everyone. Barnabas played a major role in the development of souls working with the church in encouraging and edifying others. Superficial platitudes from insincere people mean nothing. The sincere and genuine well wishes of souls that love the Lord help to sustain us.



Who would not be encouraged by this letter:

**"7-29-1992
Florida School of Preaching**

I have supported the school since its beginning; you do a wonderful work; keep up the good work.

**Christian Love,
Eunice M. Perry"**

To aver, as do some, that women have been restricted in their service to the Lord is to manifest both ignorance and prejudice relative to the true nature of things. Women have

always played a great roll in furthering the gospel. When all is said and done, it is likely that women will be more numerous than men in heaven.

God would not overburden women with having all the responsibility of taking His message to the world. He expects men to play a roll, demanding that they assume some responsibility, and not leave it all to the women. Help those women.

We have but touched the hem of the garment regarding the many services accomplished by godly women. The Bible teaches that the greatest in the kingdom are those who serve (Matt. 23:11). Some of the greatest servants in the kingdom are women—Help Those Women!

Sympathy Extended

Maurice Davis lost a brother, Patrick Simms, age 51, during recent weeks. We send our sympathy to the Davis family in this loss.



Those wishing to reach Maurice may do so by writing:

Maurice Davis
P.O. Box 1632
Lakeland, FL 33802.

We also learned in the past few weeks of the death a brother of one of our graduates, Graham McDonald of Scotland. Graham's brother Allan died July 22, 1992. If you



wish to contact Graham you may do so at:

Graham McDonald
3C, Forrester Park Green
Edinburgh, Scotland
EH12 9AR.

Jamaica Trip

For the past several years students and graduates of the *Florida School of*

Jamaica Workers

David Dominessey
Brian Kenyon
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindsey
Neil Lopez
Charles Orr
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rodrigues
Bob Simmons

Preaching have worked with the Central Church of Christ, Clearwater, Florida to strengthen the cause of Christ in Jamaica.

Making the trip this year were the wives of brothers Lindsey and Rodrigues. For the past two years Robert Lindsey has been in charge of the group from school. Robert is loved by those that know him, and

he and his wife faithfully serve the Lord wherever they labor.

While in Jamaica the group works in Vacation Bible School and gospel meetings. During the day they make contact with the citizenry by door to door contact teaching and encouraging attendance at the local meetings.

Those going to Jamaica this year were: David Dominessey, Brian Kenyon, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lindsey, Neil Lopez, Charles Orr, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rodrigues, and Bob Simmons.



Jamaica

These departed August 8 and returned August 22. For some of these this will be a return trip, for others it will be their first experience. To all it will be two weeks of work and an experience that will mean their lives will never be the same again. That some have returned each year proves this to be true.

Souls are saved and edified as a result of these efforts. New congregations have begun and others have been taught and given the opportunity to better their

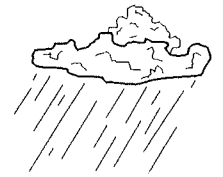
lives in obedience to the Christ.

In addition to preaching and working in Kingston some teaching was done in Tydixon and Linstead.

Each year the group is received and cared for by brother and sister Cliff Martin, of Jamaica. Brother Martin preaches for the congregation where most of the work is being done by the group from school. You will want to hear brother Martin speak on the lectureship in January. The Martins have attended our lectureship for the past few years and we are delighted that he has consented to be one of our speakers in January 1993.

Our thoughts and prayers are always with the group as they make the trip and we always wait anxiously for the report from the harvest fields in Jamaica.

As this is being prepared we have learned that the group made it safely back to the states. They arrived in Florida just one day ahead of Andrew (the hurricane).



FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING

1807 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33803-2653

DIRECTOR: Jackie M. Stearsman
Phone (813) 683-4043

Address Correction Requested