

Living to Win

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Personal from. . . *Ronald L. Dart*

Whose New Covenant?

It would be wrong to say that the Old Testament prophets bring nothing but bad news. The problem is that the good news they bring is mostly long term. In the short term, they prophesy little beyond suffering and pain. Why is that?

Probably the most obvious reason is that there is no need for God to send us a prophet to tell us that we are doing just fine. Jesus summarized it in one of His parables when He said, "likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do" (Luke 17:10). There is absolutely no reason why God should give us a pat on the back for keeping His law as we ought. We have only done our duty.

So when God sends a prophet, it is not to tell us what good boys we all are. It is usually to tell us to straighten up and fly right. But there is another misconception about this. There is a viewpoint that says the Law of God is merely an arbitrary set of rules. God could just as easily

have allowed us to commit adultery as to have forbidden it. Beyond that, He gave us a set of religious observances, and because we haven't maintained those religious observances, we have made God angry. The angry God is going to punish us because we have offended Him. Lest you think I am making this up, consider this. If you believe that Christ abolished the law, then you have to believe that the law was arbitrary and unnecessary in the first place. And therefore, God's punishment is just as arbitrary.

Let me suggest an alternative for you to consider. Imagine for a moment that there is a fundamental standard of right and wrong conduct that grows out of the nature of man and man's social interactions. Imagine that standard is expressed in the last six of the Ten Commandments and all the other laws that can be derived from these. Then, imagine that the first four commandments are given to be the guarantors of the last six.

In other words, the form of revealed worship of God keeps

us mindful of our duties to God. And our duty to God guarantees our duty to our fellow man. This means that when we neglect our duty to God, our social fabric will eventually begin to unravel. And that is the time when God usually sends a prophet to tell us what we are doing wrong.

Jeremiah makes an interesting study along these lines. He isn't all bad news, but the good news he has is way off into the future. And the failures of Israel's religious observances had led to the collapse of civil society.

I have read the book of Jeremiah several times, but I have never seriously taught the book verse by verse as I am now doing in a new radio series. And this time through, I am seeing a lot of

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things I really hadn't thought of before—at least not in the same way.

This week in the series I came upon a set of prophecies I had all but forgotten. I remembered that Jeremiah and Ezekiel were contemporary prophets, but in different locations. And I came to realize that they were expressing a longing for the eventual reuniting of the old houses of Israel and Judah which had been separated for 300 years or more. This desire is odd in a way, because the House of Israel had gone into captivity over a 100 years before and were scattered far and wide.

If you didn't realize this as you read Jeremiah, you would probably miss the fact that God tells him that the longed for reunion of the House of Israel and the House of Judah are still in His plans. There can be little doubt what Jeremiah and Ezekiel thought God meant when He spoke of the reunion. They expected Him to gather the old House of Israel which included Ephraim, Manasseh, Zebulon, Naphtali and all the rest, out of captivity and put them back in the land of Israel. And it also becomes apparent that this is an event far out into the future.

And then comes a most astonishing prophecy in Jeremiah 31 where God says He is going to make a new covenant, not with Gentile Christians, but with the House of Israel and the House of Judah, two distinct political entities. And these are entities that exist at the time of the end.

There are some truly surprising revelations in this section of Jeremiah, and it was a pleasure to develop them on tape for a future radio program. Unfortunately, these programs will not play until far into the future. But the good news is, you can have these two programs, *free of charge*, right now. Just check

the box on the return card and send it back to us.

I am really enjoying the creation of this radio series. I hope you will enjoy it with me.

In Christ's Service,

Ronald L. Dart



Attention All Children and Teenagers: We Need your Help!

Plans are already in the works for the very best ever Youth Day at the 2003 Feast of Tabernacles. If you would like to participate in this year's Youth Day program, please contact Billy Richardson. My contact information is: willyd82@bellsouth.net, 5026 Fairbrook Ave., Memphis, TN 38118-2527, or 901-366-5781.

We are specifically looking for several speakers/presenters. If you feel that you can give a short (pre-written) presentation with expression and enthusiasm contact me immediately. We have a place for you and would like to send you a script as soon as possible. This will allow you to memorize your presentation prior to the Feast while minimizing rehearsal time once you arrive in Destin/Ft. Walton Beach. We'll do our part to prevent rehearsal time from eating into your fun and family time and worship services. Coaching will also be provided to ensure that you'll be proud of the job you do on Youth Day. We do ask that you make a commitment to being at the Feast in Fort Walton Beach, attending rehearsals, and participating in the Youth Day program. Talk it over with your parents and ask if they will stand behind your commitment. If they will, let me know as soon as possible that you would like to be a part of Youth Day 2003.

We are also looking for musically talented children and teens who would like to use their talents to praise God during the Youth Day presentation. If you have a special gift for singing, or if you can play a musical instrument with skill, and would enjoy participating, please contact me. Your talents are needed! We expect to have a wonderful group of kids this year and we want our program to be even more fun and exciting than ever before.

- Billy Richardson

New Feast Conference Center

Far Surpassing Our Expectations

Since 1995, Christian Educational Ministries has sponsored a site for the Feast of Tabernacles. From the first CEM sponsored Feast in Kissimmee, FL, the festival has gotten bigger and better every year. People choose our Feast site for a variety of reasons; edifying, uplifting sermons, the YEA Feast classes for our children and teenagers, the wonderful music, educational seminars, numerous activities, the chance to see old friends, being able to worship God at a location near the beautiful white beaches of the Gulf Coast, and various other reasons. We hear quite regularly, that the CEM Feast is the “Cadillac of all Feast Sites.” This year’s Feast will have something new to add to the reasons to attend the CEM Feast site. . . a brand new convention facility. CEM’s Feast site has been moved to the new Emerald Coast Conference Center on Okaloosa Island in Ft. Walton Beach. For those of you who stay on or near the Gulf, you will no longer have to cross the Mid-Bay Bridge and pay the toll to attend services.

During the week of the Passover, a group of us had the opportunity to do a walk through of the facility. What we saw was most impressive! It far surpassed our expectations in every way. We arrived before Passover, and spent the first half of the Days of Unleavened Bread on Okaloosa Island. This turned out to be a wonderful week, and it was decided to make

it an annual event. We plan to be on the Gulf Coast again next year for the Passover and about half of the Days of Unleavened Bread.

The Emerald Coast Conference Center is located just east of the intersection of Highway 98 and Santa Rosa Boulevard. There are two “drive up” areas for dropping passengers off close to the door. A ramp for the handicapped is at both of these drop off points. There are about 500 parking spaces around the building, which should provide ample parking for everyone. The main auditorium seats between 1700 and 2000. Since we had a high attendance last year of approximately 1000, this building should allow for several years of growth.

The Conference Center has “state of the art” audio and video systems. Every room in the building can receive the audio output from the main auditorium. Almost every room has the capabilities of PowerPoint presentations, which can enhance many programs. The sound system will enhance sermons, music, the Variety Show, Youth Day, and other activities held at the Conference Center. Our song leader will have a wireless microphone this year which will allow him a little room to roam.

A little less than half of the auditorium can be sectioned off into three different rooms. Timely seminars on a variety of subjects will be held in two of these convenient, spacious rooms. Seminars have been one of CEM’s main attractions.

Increasingly, parents, children and teenagers are finding the CEM Feast site the place to be because of the best YEA Feast Classes anywhere. One hundred-sixty-eight kids were enrolled in last year’s classes. Two of our classes were bursting at the seams. Space at the new conference center will allow us to divided those classes into two this year.

In addition to the new facility, Okaloosa Island itself was a pleasant surprise for us. We were amazed at the number and quality of very affordable housing units. After touring the Island, my wife and I changed our reservation from a condominium in Destin to one on Okaloosa Island, and saved several hundred dollars. The unit is just as nice and the view is equally good as the one we rented last year and we’re only a three-minute drive from the Conference Center. You have the choice of staying in Destin or at Ft. Walton Beach on Okaloosa Island. Remember to check the CEM website in the “Tabernacles” section to find out how to get discounted housing in Ft. Walton Beach and Destin.

This year’s Feast of Tabernacles sponsored by the Christian Educational Ministries has the opportunity to be one of the best ever, in a new facility. We hope you will join us in our worship of the Almighty God and His son Jesus Christ.

Skip Martin

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Birmingham, Alabama**
11:15 a.m. daily - WDJC 850 AM
- Huntsville, Alabama**
9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. daily
WBXR 1140 AM
- Mobile, Alabama**
9:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. daily
WMOB 1360 AM
- Montgomery, Alabama**
8:30 a.m. daily - WAPZ 1250 AM
- Little Rock, Arkansas**
5:30 p.m. & 5:15 a.m. daily
KAAY 1090 AM
- San Francisco, California**
2:03 p.m. & 11:30 p.m. daily
KDIA 1640 AM
- 1:00 p.m. daily - KCBC 770 AM
- Denver, Colorado**
5:00 a.m. & 1:30 p.m. daily
KLT 670 AM
- Deland, Florida**
6:00 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. daily
KLT 670 AM
- Pensacola, Florida**
7:00 a.m. daily - WASG 550 AM
7:00 a.m. daily - WZNO 1230 AM
- Atlanta, Georgia**
10:30 a.m. daily - WGKA 1190 AM
- Augusta, Georgia**
9:00 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. daily
WFAM 1050 AM
- Kansas City, Kansas**
6:30 a.m. & 4:00 p.m. daily
KCNW 1380 AM
- London, Kentucky**
12:00 noon daily - WGWM 980 AM
- Richmond, Kentucky**
12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM
- Gretna, Louisiana**
4:30 a.m. daily - WLNO 1060 AM
- Denton, Maryland**
8:30 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. daily
WKDI 840 AM
- Jackson, Mississippi**
7:00 a.m. daily - WTWZ 1120 AM
- Omaha, Nebraska**
3:30 p.m. daily - KLNG 1560 AM
- Buffalo, New York**
4:30 a.m. daily - WDCX 99.5 FM
- Asheville, North Carolina**
4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM
- Portland, Oregon**
12:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m. daily
KKPZ 1330 AM
- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**
4:30 p.m. & 12:30 p.m. daily
WWNL 1080 AM

Calendar Of Events

June 22nd - 29th - CEM SUMMER CAMP

CEM is again having their Summer Camp at Camp Wewoka Woods, in Wewoka, Oklahoma. The dates this year are June 22 through 29, 2003. For more information or for an application to attend camp, please contact Larry Watkins at the CEM office, 1-888-BIBLE-44 or email at lsw@cemnetwork.com.

Daily Radio

The *Born to Win* broadcast can be heard daily on these stations:

- Anderson, South Carolina**
9:00 a.m. daily - WRIX 1020 AM
- Charleston, South Carolina**
7:30 a.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily
WZJY 1480 AM
- Greenville, South Carolina**
11:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. daily
WELP 1360 AM
- Chattanooga, Tennessee**
5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM
- Knoxville, Tennessee**
7:00 a.m. & 5:00 p.m. daily
WITA 1490 AM
- Dallas, Texas**
10:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM
- The following stations
broadcast daily at 2:30 p.m.**
- Moses Lake, Washington**
KTAC 93.9 FM
- Pasco, Washington**
KGDN 101.3 FM
- Spokane, Washington**
KSPO 106.5 FM
- Wenatchee, Washington**
KTBI 810 AM
- Yakima, Washington**
KYAK 930 AM



**Tune in for the latest
weekly broadcast.**

May 17 - May 23
Christian Origins 92

May 24 - May 30
Christian Origins 93

May 31 - June 6
Christian Origins 94

June 7 - June 13
Christian Origins 95

June 14 - June 20
Christian Origins 96

Christian Educational Ministries



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That the man of God may be proficient and equipped for every good work.