

Living to Win

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Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

For the Love of Death

There has been a lot of hand wringing about the Hamas win in Israel. Some have been arguing that this demonstrates the weakness of the idea that elections are a good thing for Arab peoples. I'm not so sure. All during the time that Yasser Arafat, the old terrorist, was engaged in the peace process, he represented the government of the Palestinian people. He could always claim attacks by Hamas did not represent an act of his government. Now, that claim can no longer be made. Hamas now must form a government. They can't hide in the shadows, an act of terror by a state becomes an act of war.

The last thing Hamas wants, or at least should want, is all out war with Israel. But if they, as a state, declare or wage war with Israel, they will give Israel the cover to do to them what they promised to do to Israel. To wit, drive them into the sea. Now there is a political cartoon for you. Palestinian refugees are up to their waists in the Mediterranean surf, with Egyptian ferries taking them off the beach.

If logic prevailed, which it never does in the Middle East,

Hamas would look around, see their vulnerability, and decide that maybe they should forswear terrorism after all, and start building a Palestinian state. What are the chances of this? Well, look at the logic of the "Muslim street." These people from whom we might expect or hope for a logical response, are the people who have rioted all over the world because of political cartoons in Denmark. They are like a gang that can't shoot straight, burning the wrong flags before the wrong embassy, even attacking the wrong embassies.

Oh, there are intelligent, thoughtful Muslims, to be sure. I occasionally have dinner with a couple who are imminently intelligent and rational. But they are not represented very broadly in the Muslim world. You should

know, by the way, that not all Muslims are Arabs. The Iranians are primarily Persians, and the further east you go the less Arab blood you find, though the Arab language and culture dominate.

And it is that culture that makes one marvel. The Arabs claim descent from Abraham of the Bible through Abraham's son

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OFFICE MANAGER NEEDED

CEM needs someone with a very special skill set. This person needs leadership ability, management experience, solid computer skills, knowledge of the Bible, and sensitivity to the belief system and dedication to the goals and purposes held by CEM. If you are interested in a unique career opportunity in ministry, send resume, salary requirements, and references to Ronald L. Dart, P.O. Box 1956, Whitehouse, TX 75791.

Find a Good Match for Your Dollars

How often have you wished you could double or triple your offerings to CEM, but haven't been able to fit it into your budget? There's good news for you that may be as close as your employer. Many companies have a corporate matching program. If you're interested in multiplying your power to give, contact your human resources or personnel department and ask if they have a matching gifts program.

Why Chattanooga?

By Wade Hamil

Why would anyone go to the Feast in Chattanooga? That was a question I asked myself. Well, Shirley and I recently spent four days and three nights there. So, let me tell you what we experienced.

We were guests at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel and it was a very nice place. The service and hospitality were superb! We visited other accommodations to see how one compared to the other, and they were all well represented. I think everyone will be pleased with their accommodations regardless of where they stay. The electric bus is *FREE*, runs every five minutes, goes to the convention center, and all downtown hotels or motels are within walking distance of the bus.

We were concerned there might not be enough activities for people while at the Feast. *WRONG!* We were amazed at all the things to do and see in the area. Here are a few examples. There are several museums, ranging from antique tow trucks to the Battle of Chattanooga. You'll enjoy visiting the Tennessee Aquariums, I Max 3-D theater, Children's Discovery Center – which is also entertaining for adults, and the train ride at the Chattanooga Choo-Choo, as well as other attractions around Chattanooga: Rock City, the Incline, Ruby Falls, and a horse drawn carriage ride, just to name a few.

If you are a detective at heart, we can solve that itch. The Vaudeville Café Murder-Mystery Dinner and Show is one that we visited during our stay. We enjoyed it so much that we have already made reservations for Thursday night during the Feast. We recommend you join us, bring your kids, and benefit from the discounted fare. The discount covers 30 or more people. We also set up a two and a half hour dinner cruise for Tuesday night. You can enjoy the entertainment or dance to the music. Twenty people will need to be on this cruise to get the discount. We have secured discounts for several other events that will help you with your Feast fun and expenses.

Dining in Chattanooga is affordable for every pocketbook. There are plenty of fast food places as well as elegant dining – priced accordingly.

Let's don't forget *SHOPPING*. Jump on the *FREE* electric shuttle bus to Warehouse Row just a few miles away. It is the largest shopping mall in Tennessee.

You'll find the *FREE* electric bus to be as handy as a pocket on a shirt. It goes to the Convention Center and it eliminates driving to services and parking. Chattanooga, here we come!

Summer Camp 2006

By Larry Watkins

YEA summer camp will be held June 25 to July 2 at Camp Wewoka Woods, near Wewoka, OK. It is open to all teens regardless of their church affiliation or their parents'. Tuition remains a real bargain at only \$250. We recognize that not everyone can afford to attend camp, so a special camp scholarship fund has been established. Anyone wishing to help sponsor a deserving young person to attend camp can contribute to this tax-deductible camp fund, used exclusively for this purpose.

This year's activities include water skiing, tubing, swimming, horseback riding, mountain biking, group initiatives, ultimate Frisbee, arts and crafts, volleyball, and basketball. There will also be dances, the annual camp fun show, the third annual "wacky" Olympics, cabin Bible studies, group studies, and the "huddle" to close the day. In addition to the current schedule, plans are underway to add a new activity this year.

If you know anyone you think would enjoy camp, be sure to tell them to call, write, or e-mail for an application. Get your application in early to insure your attendance at camp! Join us for another great summer camp for 2006.

*For the Love of Death
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Ishmael. Ishmael is a classic example of the law of unintended consequences. Abraham and Sarah were childless, so Sarah suggested they try surrogate motherhood using her maid, Hagar. The result of this human solution to the problem was a child named Ishmael, the father of the Arab peoples. If Abraham and Sarah could only see the results of their attempt, they would probably regret it even more deeply than they did.

One striking thing about the biblical account of all this is the prophecy the angel gave to Hagar concerning the future of Ishmael.

“I will multiply thy seed exceedingly, that it shall not be numbered for multitude. And the

angel of the LORD said unto her, Behold, thou art with child, and shalt bear a son, and shalt call his name Ishmael; because the LORD hath heard thy affliction. And he will be a wild ass of a man; his hand will be against every man, and every man’s hand against him; and he will live in hostility toward all his brothers” (Genesis 16:10-12).

What can you say when you see the insane reaction of Islamists around the world to political cartoons?

One really wonders what the terrorists hope to gain. Because in fact, they have killed relatively few people, so far. And if they didn’t get a headline every time they do something, one wonders how long it would go on. And one wonders why the

press won’t let the government go quietly about its business in dealing with terrorists.

It is, by the way, the press that triggered the round of cartoon riots. They just couldn’t leave well enough alone. But in this case, the law of unintended consequences may have come into play again, because the Muslims may be conspiring to wake up Europeans and turn them against themselves. Don’t bet against it. What the terrorists are trying to do requires a lot of discipline and long term planning. Discipline is not on display among European Muslims these days. What is on display is the fruit of the prophecy to Hagar.

I don’t have the space here to develop this idea, so be sure to request a *FREE* cassette tape of a new program title, *For the Love of Death*, and learn what the Islamist culture has in common with the WW II Empire of Japan. It will surprise you. Just check the box on the enclosed card and send it back to us.

Yours in pursuit of the truth,

Ronald L. Dart

YEA - A Family Opportunity

By Sandi McCaskill

This year’s Feast of Tabernacles, in beautiful Chattanooga, TN, offers opportunities for family fun and bonding. World famous attractions, sightseeing, exhilarating outdoor adventures, and a rich history make Chattanooga one of the top family destinations. The YEA family is anticipating another great Feast in its new location.

But the Feast is more than just a vacation. It is a time to come apart from everyday activities and draw closer to our God and Savior. YEA plays a vital role in helping to model what it looks like to be a follower and lover of the Lord. Our volunteer staff give of themselves to help teach students and anchor them to the faith.

We are looking for people to catch our vision of *Building the Future Today* by working with children and teens in God-honoring, interactive YEA classes at the Feast. Husbands and wives working together make effective teams. Young Adults over the age of 20 can get involved in a rewarding part of the Feast activities. We need your help!

YEA strives to make the Feast the high point of the year for your youth. To become part of the YEA teaching team, fill out the enclosed Volunteer Form and mail it to: Sandi McCaskill, P.O. Box 560, Whitehouse, TX 75791.

Radio Update

Nashville, TN
WENO 760 AM
M-F 11:30 a.m.
& Sat. 6:30 a.m.

Boise, ID
KBXL 94.1 FM
Sunday 9:30 a.m.

Read Our Mail

"I finally received a copy of your book yesterday. I am through to end of chapter 6, and really enjoying it. So far, gripping reading, beautifully written and excellent flow of thought development along with your trademark insight. It is a must read for all Christians. Now, how do we get it on the bestseller list?" GR- Australia

"I love to listen to your teaching on the radio. God many times will give me a sermon based on your Bible-based teaching. You are helping out one pastor down here in Alabama. Bless you brother."

"I only had to hear one show and I was hooked. I tuned into my local KPXQ station to hear an amazing show on the human eye and creation. That's when I knew I had to make time daily. I am so glad to have found the website. There was no link I could find to it from the KPXQ website. Thank you so much for being a teacher and a guide. I've been a very active churchgoing person my entire life but I've yet to meet another Ronald." You can hear the *Born to Win* program daily at www.borntowin.net.

"Your letter was fascinating. It stretched my brain to consider eternal time. Before the Beginning!"

Growing Successfully

By Rita Johnson

In September 2005 we decided to start attending the Church of God Messengers in Lexington, TN. It was closer and had more children. We have just completed building three new Sabbath classrooms. We have four Beginners, seven Juniors, and 13 teens. We were so pleased to find out they were already using YEA materials. I have started teaching the Junior class, which is a challenge, but it is going great. The Jackson church, where we attended, joins us for two Sabbaths a month. We are so blessed to have such a large group (around 70).

We appreciate CEM for all the hard work, we thank you.

In Memory

CEM gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution made in memory of Gene Ledbury of Minot, N.D., who died in February 2006. Our prayers and deepest sympathies go to his wife, June, at this time of great loss.

Calendar of Events

Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29, 2006, Family Retreat at Paris Landing State Park, TN. For your affordable room reservations call 1-800-250-8614 and give 3043 for the reservation number. There will be great sermons, seminars, YEA classes for five age groups, and fun family activities. To help, e-mail smartin400@sbcglobal.net.

YEA Teen Summer Camp, June 25-July 2, 2006 at Wewoka, OK. For an application and early notice, please send your name, complete mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number and date of birth to Larry Watkins at CEM, or e-mail him at ls@cemnetwork.com.

Feast of Tabernacles, October 6 (evening service) - 14, 2006 at the Chattanooga Convention Center, Chattanooga, TN. For area information, check out www.chattanoogaafun.com, and for housing and other Feast information go to www.borntowin.net, 2006 Feast, Events, then "Feast of Tabernacles."

Christian Educational Ministries

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