

Living to Win

SPECIAL FEAST EDITION

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Christian Educational Ministries

Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

The Survival of Jerusalem

From a purely secular point of view, the Middle East must be an enigma. There seems to be no logic there. War after war has been fought over Jerusalem in history. I am sure if someone recounted them for us we would all be astonished. I have been to Jerusalem, and I saw no beauty there. That was disappointing after all I had heard and read about the place. I can understand the longing of the Jewish people for Jerusalem. It is a longing for home, a longing of a people long displaced, who have only one center on the planet. I understand the longing of Christian people to go there, because that is where our Lord suffered and died for us.

But what on earth did the Egyptians, the Babylonians, the Assyrians, the Greeks, the Romans, the Turks see in Jerusalem that made it worth fighting over? Then there are the Moslems. With all the land they possess in the world, with all the oil, with all the wealth, why do they want that land? Why do they want to destroy the Israelis? I know, Jerusalem is supposed to be a holy place for Moslems as well, but I strongly suspect that is a carefully crafted lie. The legend that Mohammed ascended to heaven from the rock on Temple Mount

served two purposes. One, it coopted the Temple Mount from the Jews. Two, it established an equivalency with Christianity that had Christ ascending from the Mount of Olives. I think the historical motivations of Moslems concerning Jerusalem were jealousy of two older religions – religions that may have posed a threat to Islam’s hegemony in the Arabic world.

There is a prophecy in the book of Zechariah that serves to illustrate the future of Jerusalem. I can’t say that this is a prophecy of Jerusalem today. I do know that many scholars see it solely in historical terms. What I can say is that the prophecy applies *in principle*. And that it is set in what sounds a lot like other passages that speak of the last days. Here is what the prophecy says: “I am going to make Jerusalem a cup that sends all the surrounding peoples reeling. Judah will be besieged as

well as Jerusalem. On that day, when all the nations of the earth are gathered against her, I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock for all the nations. All who try to move it will injure themselves” (Zechariah 12:2-3 NIV).

It is striking how many times in history that has been true. What has never been true is that there has been a day when all nations of the earth were gathered against Jerusalem. The KJV has it: “Though all nations of the earth were gathered,” and that is probably correct.

I was in England at the time of the Six Day War, in 1967. And I have little doubt that the Syrians, Jordanians, and Egyptians thought they would crush Israel like a bug. They were, in fact, sent reeling back into their own lands. It was one of the most remarkable military events in history. The whole thing was totally unnecessary. It gave Israel still more land, and it created the situation we have today.

One wonders if this vision of Zechariah lay at the root of John’s vision of the last days. Toward the

continued on page 5. . .

What Your Tithes and Offerings Are Doing

“I come from another religious background and my family hates Christianity. We became Christians through your programs. Though times will be tough, we believe God will strengthen us” (A *Born to Win* listener from Benin Republic).

There's Nothing Like it . . . It's A Feast. It's Fun. It's Relevant. It's Better Than Ever YEA Feast Classes!

Children and teens love to be where the action is. Enthusiasm, excitement, and other young people their own age attract kids like a picnic attracts ants! YEA classes are where the action is for kids between the ages of three and 20. Register the opening night or the first day of the Feast and receive your *FREE* YEA book. Read your lesson before class and be ready for fun, surprises, awards, and relevant things to learn. Join action-packed YEA classes or seminars on Sunday, October 8, through Friday, October 13, at 9:30 a.m.

Beginners (3-6) Tales from The Kingdom

- Lesson 1 - Feast for a King
- Lesson 2 - God Tells the King "No"
- Lesson 3 - God's New House
- Lesson 4 - A Friend Indeed
- Lesson 5 - Josiah the Child King
- Lesson 6 - Crown Her Queen Esther

Juniors (9-11) Exploring God's Word

- Lesson 1 - Anyone Camping?
- Lesson 2 - An Awesome Prayer
- Lesson 3 - Be Bold!
- Lesson 4 - Bible Heroes
- Lesson 5 - Equipped with Love
- Lesson 6 - Faithful Friends

Primaries (6-8) Going Places

- Lesson 1 - You are Tabernacling!
- Lesson 2 - What Would Jesus Do?
- Lesson 3 - A Good Example
- Lesson 4 - Giving is Good
- Lesson 5 - Jesus was a Child, Too!
- Lesson 6 - Quit and Quote!

Intermediates (12-15) Zero-In

- Lesson 1 - On Loving the Feast
- Lesson 2 - On a Clean Heart
- Lesson 3 - On Personal Power
- Lesson 4 - On the Consequences
- Lesson 5 - On Worship Music
- Lesson 6 - On the Greatest Day!



Senior Teens Seminars (16-19)

Plan-It on Planet Earth

- Seminar 1 - Plan a Great Feast!
- Seminar 2 - Plan to be Free!
- Seminar 3 - Plan to Believe!
- Seminar 4 - Plan to Receive!
- Seminar 5 - Plan to Win!
- Seminar 6 - Plan Your Reward!



Special Feast Lessons

Notice to parents and Beginner, Primary, and Junior students: The morning of the first and last Holy Day, stop by the YEA desk before the worship service and pick up a special lesson to do.

Sermon Schedule

The opening night's service will be held in the Centennial Theater at the Chattanooga Choo Choo Hotel complex. All other services will be held in the Convention Center.

DATE	TIME	SPEAKER
Friday, October 6	7:30 p.m.	Ronald L. Dart
Saturday, October 7	11:00 a.m.*	Ronald L. Dart
Sunday, October 8	11:00 a.m.	Guy Swenson
Monday, October 9	11:00 a.m.	Bill Jacobs
Tuesday, October 10	11:00 a.m.	Larry Watkins
Wednesday, October 11	11:00 a.m.	Ronald L. Dart
Thursday, October 12	11:00 a.m.	Jim O'Brien
Friday, October 13	11:00 a.m.	Youth Day
Saturday, October 14	11:00 a.m.	Ronald L. Dart

* A Holy Day offering will be taken on the morning of the first day of the Feast.

Activities for Everyone

Many opportunities are available for you to fellowship and bond with people of like faith. Please check the Activities table for handouts, and the bulletin board and monitors for changes.

DATE	TIME	EVENT	HOST
Saturday, October 7	After Service	YEA Orientation	Sandi McCaskill
	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Meet and Greet	Laurinda Armer
	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Teen Mixer	Chris/Lisa Gregor
Sunday, October 8	1:00-6:00 p.m.	White Water Rafting	L. Benton/B. Redick
	7:00-10:00 p.m.	Family Dance	Wade and Shirley Hamil
Monday, October 9	2:00-4:00 p.m.	Teen Bowling	Martha Roberts
	2:00-6:00 p.m.	Work Project	Guy Swenson
	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Pie and Ice Cream	Wayne and Nita Hinton
Tuesday, October 10	After service	FA Meeting	Skip Martin
	6:00-8:30 p.m.	Children's Chocolate Fantasy	Laurinda Armer
	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Game Night	Laurinda Armer
Wednesday, October 11	6:30-9:30 p.m.	River Boat Dinner Cruise	Wade/Shirley Hamil
	1:30 p.m.	Senior's Luncheon	Sharon Richardson
	7:00-9:00 p.m.	Variety Show	Jeff/Joan Osborn
Thursday, October 12	1:30 p.m.	Golf	John Beasley
	7:00 p.m.	Mystery Dinner Theater	Wade/Shirley Hamil
	7:30 p.m.	Free Movie, <i>Paper Clips</i>	Linda Benton
Friday, October 13	1:00-5 p.m.	Family Picnic	Robbie Burkhard
	6:00-9 p.m.	Greet the Sabbath	Laurinda Armer

Seminar Schedule

The popular CEM FOT seminar program begins Sabbath afternoon, October 7, at 3 p.m. with two seminars to choose from in lieu of afternoon service. Sunday through Friday, there will be daily seminars to choose from at 9:30 a.m. These one-hour sessions are held at the same time as the YEA classes for children and teens.

DAY/TIME SEMINAR TITLE AND DESCRIPTION

- Saturday** 3-4 p.m. **Join Hands in Fellowship** by Nancy Vandemark. Informal interactive workshop to encourage “getting to know you” at this Feast while learning and sharing tips for making the most of fellowship opportunities year round.
Alcohol: Life’s Hidden Obstacle Course by Constantine and Keri Selig. Help for those who may be struggling with alcohol issues, or have friends or family who are.
- Sunday** 9:30 a.m. **Bam! Pow! Want to be a Super Hero?** by Pam Dewey. Jesus said that His body would do “greater things” than He did. Discover how you can soar like Superman – if you learn to run with the chickens!
Raising Able and Not Cain by Jim O’Brien. Explore how families can nurture character development in children to maintain the basic good life values.
- Monday** 9:30 a.m. **Faith, Focus, and Frivolities** by Jeff Osborn. Faith exercised and focused on Spiritual aspects will prevent frivolities (cares of this world) from keeping us down.
Introverts and Those Who Love Them by Elaine Jacobs. Explore what makes an introvert, self-care for introverts, and what introverts contribute to the world.
Understanding the Friendship Pyramid by Tony Bosserman. Learn lessons from David and Jonathan that can take your friendships to a higher level.
- Tuesday** 9:30 a.m. **Extreme Makeover: Feast Edition** by Pam Dewey. Jump-start spiritual and physical changes by “Letting This Feast Be a Turning Point In Your Life!”
Global Challenge – Fishing for Men (Session 1 of 2) by Gordon Enger. Do you read the Bible with a “top line mentality” to see how God will bless you, rather than with the “bottom line responsibility” of blessing the nations?
- Wednesday** 9:30 a.m. **Better Home Fellowship Bible Studies** (Session 1 of 2) by Bill Jacobs. Learn how to rev up your group by working as a team to create relevant, stimulating group Bible studies.
Global Challenge – Fishing for Men (Session 2 of 2) by Gordon Enger. Many believers read the Bible with a “top line mentality” to see how God will bless us, but do not see our “bottom line responsibility” of blessing the nations.
Home Schooling: Why, What, and How by Dan and Margie White. Veteran home schooling parents will provide incentive and information to those who are considering home schooling, with others sharing their experiences.
- Thursday** 9:30 a.m. **My Story, His Story, Your Story: Finding the White Stone** by Joan Osborn. What kind of story have Christians fallen into, and what is our part in *The Story*?
Witnesses of Jesus Christ by Joe Weicks. While we may not often think of ourselves as “witnesses of Jesus Christ,” this is exactly what we’re supposed to be!
Journeys of the Twelve Apostles by Terry Gray. Research and speculations of James McBirney about the lives and deaths of the Apostles will be presented from a perspective compatible with the theory of British Israelism.
- Friday** 9:30 a.m. **Better Home Fellowship Bible Studies** (Session 2 of 2) by Bill Jacobs. Use team work to rev up your group to create relevant, stimulating group Bible studies.
The Wine is Good but the Meat Has Gone Bad by Dennis DeJarnette. Explore how and why translators make their decisions – audience participation exercise.
Fifty Days of Evangelism by Linda Benton. Geared to prepare you, your church, or home fellowship to evangelize between Passover and Pentecost.

*The Survival of Jerusalem
continued from page 1 . . .*

end of the vision that saw the opening of seven seals, the blowing of seven trumpets, and the pouring out of seven vials upon the earth, John came to this fascinating image: "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared" (Revelation 16:12 KJV). It is tempting to see the armies of Islam in this vision.

And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty (vv. 13-14).

People call this the battle of Armageddon, but that is only the place of assembly. It is called "the battle of that great day of God Almighty."

Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon (vv. 15-16).

History has a way of repeating itself, and Isaiah is the one who tells us it is so (Isaiah 41:21-23). And sure enough, if I follow all this back into biblical history, I find a fascinating prophecy. It is found in an earlier chapter of Isaiah at a time when Jerusalem was threatened by invading Assyrian armies.

"O My people, who dwell in Zion," said God, "do not be afraid of the Assyrian."

Mind you, the Assyrians had carried captive all of the House of Israel and some of the very cities of Judah. But they did not take Jerusalem. What follows in the prophecy is a list of towns. I once went to the trouble of looking them up on a map, mainly out of curiosity. As it happens, these towns are all grouped along a line from Meggiddo to Jerusalem. And at the last of those cities, in view of Jerusalem, God said He would cut them off like lopping a branch from a tree. It has echoes of what John saw of the gathering at Armageddon.

Zechariah's prophecy has some fascinating overtones.

Then the leaders of Judah will say in their hearts, "The people of Jerusalem are strong, because the LORD Almighty is their God." On that day I will make the leaders of Judah like a firepot in a woodpile, like a flaming torch among sheaves. They will consume right and left all the surrounding peoples, but Jerusalem will remain intact in her place (Zechariah 12:5-6).

We thought about this prophecy during the Six Day War, and again in the Yom Kippur War. The latest Lebanon War is not really an exception. But there are other prophecies that speak of serious trouble for Jerusalem at the time of the end. But in the end, something quite remarkable happens.

And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and supplication. They will look on

me, the one they have pierced, and they will mourn for him as one mourns for an only child, and grieve bitterly for him as one grieves for a firstborn son (v. 10).

Christians have long associated this prophecy with a statement by John, because John cites it in connection with the Roman soldier who pierced Jesus. And the prophecy goes on to speak of the conversion of the House of Judah.

There's more, but space does not permit. The rest is developed in a new program titled, *The Survival of Jerusalem*. To receive a *FREE* audio edition of the program just check the box on the enclosed card to tell us whether you prefer tape or CD.

Thanks for listening, and keep in touch.

Forgetting not Jerusalem,

Ronald L. Dart

P.S. Since the holy day season is coming up, for your convenience a special envelope is enclosed for any offer you may want to give (Deuteronomy 16:16).



Radio Update

Cochran, GA
WDXQ 96.7 FM
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

Phoenix, AZ
KXEG 1280 AM
M-F 2:30 p.m.

Phoenix, AZ
KXXT 1010 AM
Sunday 7:30 a.m.

Sulphur Springs, TX
KSCH 95.9 AM
Sunday 10:00 a.m.

A Feast to Surpass All Others

By Skip Martin

“Pardon me, boys, is that the Chattanooga Choo Choo?” Yes, those are the words to a song, but also the location where CEM opens its 2006 Feast of Tabernacles. . . the Chattanooga Choo Choo, 1400 Market Street, Chattanooga, TN.

This is the first year for CEM to be in Chattanooga. Everyone who visits Chattanooga comes away very impressed with the beautiful location in the Smokey Mountains. There is PLENTY to do, and too much to list, but there are dinner theaters, an IMAX theater, the Tennessee Aquarium, lots of Civil War History, a children’s museum, the Art District, cooler weather, and plenty of restaurants for every budget.

Many restaurants and attractions are on the north end of the city, next to the Tennessee River. Walk across the river on the “walking bridge,” stroll through the park, ride on the carousel, or play in the water fountain among the “water geysers.” You can get to most places by riding the *FREE* electric shuttle that runs from 6 a.m. until 7:30 p.m. There is also plenty of public parking close to the action and the Convention Center.

The Convention Center, where all services and activities will be held after opening night, is about the size of three football fields. Never before have so many interesting and exciting things been available at the Feast: white water rafting, family dance, teen bowling, the famous Pie and Ice Cream Social, two community projects, free movies, dinner cruise, the fun show, golf, dinner theater, family picnic, and several “Meet and Greets.”

In addition to the many fun activities, the REAL reason for the Feast is to learn more about the Almighty God, and worship Him in song and study. Each day will start with action-packed YEA classes for ages 3-20. While YEA classes are in session, a great lineup of presenters will facilitate thought-provoking seminars for adults on subjects ranging from alcoholism to super heroes. As always, an outstanding music program and Youth Day will highlight your Feast. Come join us for fun, fellowship, and inspirational worship of the Almighty God and His Son.

Youth Day 2006

A Chance to Let Your Light Shine!

With the Feast comes one of its highlights – Youth Day! Intended for young people from preschool to college age, Youth Day provides young folks an opportunity to participate in the worship service in a unique way. This year’s Youth Day theme is “Go Light Your World.” Children, teens, and young adults will be sharing the message of God’s presence in their lives and some of the many ways they share that blessing with others.

Youth Day is the perfect time for young people to share the gifts and talents that God has given them. If you would like to perform special music or dance, do a Scripture reading or testimonial, or if you have another idea about how to let your light shine, please contact Chris or Lisa Gregor at c.l.gregor@mindspring.com or call 770-785-9890.

Get Off To A Good Start

YEA is revved up and ready to go! Our spiritual tanks have been filled. We have read the road map. But where is the starting line?

All YEA Feast teachers and workers should attend the Orientation Meeting on Saturday, October 14th immediately following worship service in the Convention Center, room two. Lunch will be served. Insights and information gained from this meeting should help classes run smoothly.

This important meeting will get our Feast classes off to a great start. It is your opportunity to meet your teaching team. Classrooms will be assigned and supplies distributed, enabling you to have your room set up and ready for the first day of class.

You are vital to the success of Feast 2006, and we value your contribution to making a difference in the lives of our children and teens.

Calendar of Events

Feast of Tabernacles,
Chattanooga Convention
Center, Chattanooga, TN,
from October 6 through
October 14, 2006. Daily
worship services at 11 a.m.
The public is invited.

Christian Educational Ministries

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