

Beyond Redemption

By Ronald L. Dart

I have heard it said that Nazi war criminals were convicted and hanged because of the testimony of Jews against them. It's not true.

The testimony of the survivors of the death camps was important, but it was not the most damning testimony. The most damning evidence at Nuremberg was the Nazis' own meticulous record keeping. Robert E. Conot, in his landmark book, *Justice at Nuremberg*, wrote: "No one who experienced the trial or has become familiar with the evidence and record can doubt that the case was proved conclusively; that despite all the horrors that were brought to light, it was, if anything, understated. None of the defendants attempted to refute the evidence. They sought instead to explain away their own participation and to shift the blame onto others."

The shocking thing about the Nuremberg war trials was the introduction of documents in the Nazis' own words. The witnesses included some of the highest officials in the German government who, far from denying what had happened, actually contributed additional information. In Conot's words, "It

was not as if the evidence was circumstantial or depended upon secondary witnesses. It was direct and damning."

It is strange that such evil men would maintain such good records of the evil that they had done. Having taken a good, hard look at the evidence, I find myself seething with anger when people try to deny it ever happened. I have no patience with holocaust deniers.

Failure to Recognize this Evil is Dangerous in the Extreme

Justice Jackson, in his opening

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You Can Help Support the *Born to Win* Broadcast

A gentleman wrote: "This morning brought the news that CEM has removed the *Born to Win* program from KAAY 1090 AM in Little Rock, Arkansas. While I am deeply disappointed that *Born to Win* has been removed from the local station, I understand that your resources are limited and they must be focused on markets that produce the most fruit. I have been blessed to hear *Born to Win* and my understanding of GOD's word has greatly increased due to the teaching of Ronald Dart. I am grateful for the opportunity to hear the program and I have enthusiastically supported the CEM ministry. . ." We greatly appreciate his support and attitude, and deeply regret that he can't hear *Born to Win* at this time. We must be good stewards of your tithes and offerings. As better stations come available, with your help, we hope to go on them.

Wise as Serpents, Harmless as Doves

By Lenny Cacchio

When Paul wrote his letter to the churches in Rome, he faced an interesting set of circumstances. He wrote the letter in about 58 AD, during the reign of Nero, and just a few years after Emperor Claudius had expelled the Jews from Rome. Paul needed to address some tricky issues in his letter, some of them related to the Christians' relationship to the Roman government, a government that had no love lost for its Christian subjects.

Paul ran the risk of his letter falling into the hands of the Roman authorities. How was he to address the needs of the church, say what needed to be said, while avoiding what could be viewed as sedition to an ungodly government?

Romans 13 was Paul's masterpiece in diplomacy. Not only does he outline how the Christians of Rome should conduct themselves, he also sent a subtle message

to any Roman official who might happen upon it. In it he tells the churches how they should relate to the duly constituted authorities:

- a. The authorities that exist are appointed by God.
- b. Do not resist them.
- c. Do good works, and they will praise you.
- d. Be subject to them.
- e. Pay taxes.
- f. Give them respect and honor.

Yet interspersed in this chapter is a respectful recounting of the government's responsibilities to the people:

- a. Be a terror to evil.
- b. Praise those who do good.
- c. Be a servant of God.
- d. Do good for the people and not evil against them.
- e. Use your authority and power to protect and avenge evil perpetrated against the people.
- f. Use tax money honestly and for the good of society.

When this letter fell into official hands, what could they say? Paul told his people to respect the government. The authorities would like that. But the government of Nero did not resemble the government Paul described—quite the contrary. His description of what they weren't was poignant in the breach. He was witnessing to them in a way they could not gainsay, pointing out their flaws without actually saying it.

As our world tries more and more to marginalize Christians, we might very well find ourselves in a situation similar to Paul's. We might find ourselves in a time or place where criticism of those in power will risk investigations, intimidation, lawsuits, or worse. Be wise as serpents and harmless as doves, but we must still speak truth to power.

Recruiting All Volunteers

By Heather Holmes

I am open to any suggestions you might have about helping in advance of the Feast or at the Feast. Someone has already graciously volunteered to head up the charitable giving project. Another thinking person has suggested how to handle the many prayer request we receive. We value your input. So, if you have any ideas about pre-Feast preparation or ways to make next year's Feast even better, please contact me at holmes_hl@yahoo.com. Please keep in mind that the Festival Association needs many volunteers and looks forward to hearing from you.

Outstanding Seniors Luncheon

By Sharon Richardson

The 2008 Seniors Luncheon at the Feast was a big success! The smaller room allowed more intimacy and was conducive to the games we played. The food was plenteous and delicious. Served buffet style, we had salad, braised beef tenderloin tips with gravy, baked chicken, roasted potatoes, a medley of fresh vegetables, rolls, and pie. Each person received a pen and calendar, both monogrammed with the CEM Seniors Luncheon, and tickets were drawn throughout the luncheon for prizes.

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address to the Tribunal remarked, “What makes this inquest significant is that these prisoners represent sinister influences that will lurk in the world long after their bodies have returned to dust.” What a fascinating thing for a judge to say. Could he have been right? Conot remarked, “These influences, in fact, have regenerated like a poisonous weed.” And I must add, they always will in this world, under this system. Failure to recognize this is dangerous in the extreme. The 12th Psalm concludes: “The wicked walk on every side, when the vilest men are exalted.”

All this came to mind while I was reading the 58th Psalm: “Do ye indeed speak righteousness, O congregation? do ye judge uprightly, O ye sons of men? Yea, in heart ye work wickedness; ye weigh the violence of your hands in the earth.”

Two things were striking about this Psalm. One, they weigh the violence of their hands. I think that is what the Nazis were doing with their record keeping. Two, they work wickedness “in heart.”

The Psalm goes on to say: “The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies.” This is one of the most disturbing things about this subject. And not because it is counter to experience, but precisely because it is not. I can’t just say that David was having a bad day when he wrote this Psalm. In the first place, I believe this was written under inspiration. But regardless of

David’s mood, it seems to be true.

I can’t explain it, but the die seems to be cast on some men right from the start. It is that poisonous weed that Robert Conot described—and the Psalm takes a similar tack. “Their poison [that of the wicked] is like the poison of a serpent: they are like the deaf adder that stoppeth her ear; Which will not hearken to the voice of charmers, charming never so wisely.”

***“The wicked are estranged
from the womb: they go
astray as soon as they be
born, speaking lies.”***

Are the Wicked Irredeemable?

The frightening thing that comes to me as I read the Psalms—and it is all throughout them—is that the wicked are irredeemable. Once the die is cast, they are bound for destruction. I don’t like this, but I have to face up to it.

Now let me stop and make something clear. When you find the words “the wicked” in the Bible, they are not talking about sinners. They are not talking about weak willed, heavily tempted, people who fall short. They aren’t talking about difficult children or rebellious teenagers. In fact, the wicked often seem quite ordinary much of the time—even smooth. M. Scott Peck described them in his remarkable book, *People of the Lie*. They tend to be rather banal. This is one of the characteristics of the Nazi regime.

The Bible is not even talking about people who do wrong when they know better. No, “the wicked” are something altogether

different. And unless we understand something about this, we will find many things in the Old Testament incomprehensible.

This is one of those Psalms that some people have a hard time reconciling with their image of God and man. We want to believe that all men are redeemable, that there is no such thing as one who is incorrigibly wicked. It is one of the rationales of those who are opposed to the death penalty. The problem is that Bible is remarkably single-minded when it comes to that category of men called, “the wicked.”

How, exactly, does the Bible define this term, these people? The Tenth Psalm provides a striking outline of exactly what the wicked ones are like. Take a moment to read the Psalm and you will come to realize what the wicked man is, what he does, and why he deserves everything he gets. The Psalm ends with the words: “That the Man of the Earth may no more oppress.”

Who Is Responsible For You Not Being Deceived?

That expression evokes another from Paul: “Now we beseech you, brethren, by the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and by our gathering together unto him, that ye be not soon shaken in mind, or be troubled, neither by spirit, nor by word, nor by letter as from us, as that the day of Christ is at hand. Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that man of sin be revealed, the son of perdition” (2 Thessalonians 2:1-3).

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This man of sin, the son of destruction, goes so far as to sit in the Temple of God showing himself as very God. Paul calls this the “mystery of Iniquity” and speaks of something that holds it back until the time comes for him to be revealed as “that Wicked” whom the Lord will destroy at his coming. Then follows a severe caution. He will deceive many people for the simple reason that “they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.” Strong delusion will carry them away, specifically those people who refuse to recognize “the wicked” for what he is.

“The wicked” is further described in the 36th Psalm. He flatters himself in his own eyes, his words are iniquity and deceit, he devises mischief upon his bed, he sets himself in a way that is not good. There is a terrible finality about this, as though the wicked are set in their ways and will not return. Understand this: It is not that they cannot return. They will not. There is such a thing as fixed wickedness, and there is no remedy for it but destruction.

It is only in understanding this that some of the events of Old Testament history become clear. God told Israel to wipe out entire tribes of people—man, woman, and child. We are not talking about good people who just went bad. We are talking about settled evil, that poisonous weed.

Here is where we must pause to consider the Psalm that says: “The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon

as they be born, speaking lies.” It may be possible that a child is under a curse from his parents and grandparents. But think about this: Even Ahab, the worst king in Israel’s history, was able to repent. So, his sons also could have done. The problem arises when children are brought up from the womb in a poisonous environment. The die is cast and it seems it cannot be changed in this life.

Two Kinds of Evil

There is one more element in this that has to be considered: There is a very real evil in the world that is human evil, but there is also a very present evil in the world that is not human. It is hair-raising to think about, but there is probably spiritual warfare going on right now around our heads. We can get on with our lives because we don’t know about it. But it does break through on us from time to time. John was given a glimpse of this in Revelation: “And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him” (Revelation 12:7-9).

It is a sobering thing to consider what follows: “Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath,

because he knoweth that he hath but a short time” (v. 12).

When you read the Bible and come across the words “the wicked,” realize that you are reading about something inexpressibly evil. Something irredeemable. Something that can only be dealt with by complete destruction. You mustn’t let yourself become timid if you ever have to deal with it. And don’t ever try to do it on your own authority.

I go into this in greater depth, with more Scriptures, in a program titled, *Beyond Redemption*. I would like to send you a *FREE* CD of this program, along with one other. Just check the box on the enclosed card, and two *FREE* programs will be on their way to you.

Keep listening, and keep in touch.

Teen Bowling and Skating Party

By Martha Roberts

Seventy teens and young adults had an absolute blast and considered the bowling party and line dance to be a great success. The bowling alley’s DJ played music everyone enjoyed.

YEA Feast Classes on the Move

Excited kids, three to 20, hurried to their Youth Educational Adventures (YEA) Feast classes at Panama City Beach, Florida for five days. About 40 well prepared volunteers staffed seven classes with a total of 147 students: Beginners (age 3-5), Primaries (age 6-8), Juniors (age 9-11), Intermediates (age 12-15), and Senior Teens (age 16-20).

Diane and Keith Kleeschulte worked hard for months and did a superb job as YEA Team Leaders. They were assisted by teachers on the opening night and the first morning of the Feast in registering students. Each young person was given their *FREE*, age appropriate, full color YEA book to prepare for classes, a map to their classroom, and a YEA catalog. These special lesson books had a different theme for each age group, for example, the YEA Feast book for Beginners' theme was *All Aboard*. Colorful cardboard trains were supplied to reinforce the theme as students got on board and "drove" their trains around the classroom. CEM provided colorful decorations and supplies for every classroom to make YEA classes an exciting happening and to make learning fun.

Because there were no formal YEA classes on the Sabbath and holy days, YEA provided full color lessons and a packet of crayons for children in the three youngest age groups to pick up at registration before the worship service to do during that time.

Any young person who did not have the opportunity to attend these special classes missed out on one of the best Feast events. We invite you to join us next year for even better YEA classes with more spacious and convenient classrooms.

What a joy to hear our youth recite their memory verses, discuss their YEA lessons and Bible readings, and participate in activities that drove the lessons deep into their memory banks. Any young person who did not have the opportunity to attend these special classes missed out on one of the best Feast events. We invite you to join us next year for even better YEA classes with more spacious and convenient classrooms.

YEA volunteers willingly give of their time and energy to serve the youth during the Feast of Tabernacles and the Memorial Day Family Weekend in Paris Landing. If you would like to reap an eternal reward and have the pleasure of seeing the lives of our young people changed, please contact Allie Dart or fill-in the volunteer form included in this mailing and return it in the envelope provided.

FREE OFFER Age of Depression

A terrible change has taken place in the incidence of depression, especially among young people. There is a paradox we have to face. We've seen in our lifetime, a positive change in the quality of the world. Stalinism is dead—almost dead. Fascism is dead. The age of the tyrant may be coming to an end; there are fewer people dying on battlefields by count, than any time since the Boer War. There are fewer children dying of starvation today than at any time in recorded history. Yet in spite of opportunities in the world that have not existed before, we are in the grip of an epidemic of depression and pessimism which is also unprecedented. The lifetime incidence of depression in a given individual is ten times higher in kids born in the 60s than it was for kids born about the time of World War I. How on earth is this possible? Something has changed. Learn what it is and what you can do about it. For a *FREE* CD of this *Born to Win* broadcast that will shed light on this subject, just check the box on the enclosed card and return it in the enclosed envelope.

Eat Your Own Cooking

By Lenny Cacchio

Back in the great bear market of 2000-2002, the most important part of my employment was investing Other People's Money (OPM). My clients all had nest eggs for which I had responsibility.

As is true with most investment companies, we had (in my view) the correct approach of not only diversifying broadly, but also allocating the assets to different classes of investments in order to reduce risk.

Still, we were in the midst of a horrifying market sell-off that began in March 2000 and ratcheted downward with little reprieve until March 2003. I felt like a complete fool watching all of this take place and knowing that I had to stay with the discipline of our strategy with OPM.

But not all the money on the table was OPM. Some of it was MOM (My Own Money). With MOM I could do anything I so chose. What I chose was based on an old saw that hurt as it bit into reality: "Eat your own cooking." I felt I couldn't tell my clients to do one thing while running for cover myself.

A while back I gave a seminar at church on personal finance and pointed out that giving, particularly giving to the poor, is a biblical duty. May I point out that we have no paid staff or even a paid ministry in our congregation. Everything is by volunteer, and that's important to know in order to understand what one lady told me after the service was over.

The lady in question once was a member of a church located in a rather poor neighborhood. When the offering time came, the preachers would have the membership form lines where they would be subject to a form of abuse that I can't imagine any man of God perpetrating.

They would have the people line up in a \$5 line, a \$10 line, a \$25 dollar line, and so forth, and stand in the line depending on how much their offering would be that week.

Meanwhile, our sister in Christ looked on the stage and saw the smiles on the faces of the entire team of preachers with fancy clothes on their bodies and fancy cars in the parking lot while they systematically fleeced the flock and cynically abused said flock in the process.

Clearly the preachers were not eating their own cooking.

This type of thing happens all the time. It happens in politics, it happens in business, it happens in all the world's manmade social structures. I can accept the brokenness of our world, but it breaks my heart to see the power of abuse in our churches. But I'm glad our God rescued our sister in Christ from that church in her neighborhood and delivered her to us.

As is true with most investment companies, we had (in my view) the correct approach of not only diversifying broadly, but also allocating the assets to different classes of investments in order to reduce risk.

Seminars to Learn, to Inspire, and to Motivate

By Nancy Vandemark

More than 850 people enjoyed a variety of seminars offered at the 2008 Feast in Panama City Beach. It was most encouraging to see dedicated young adults, as well as Christian servants who have been around for awhile give of their best in seminar presentations. A "how-to" seminar was presented by Skip Martin on *A Home Fellowship that Works*, showing creative ways to make fellowship/church fun by using multi-media. Other topics included such things as *God's Divine Deliverance*, *Woman to Woman*, *A Closer Look at Hell*, *Mission India 2008 and Beyond*, *Leading a Bible Study*. . . *Who, Me?*, *Teens, Parents, and Freedom*, *How to Use The Armor of God*, and many more subjects.

More than 850 people enjoyed a variety of seminars offered at the 2008 Feast. . .

Two focus groups were held on Wednesday and Thursday, 30 minutes after service. Subjects such as "What does God expect from our congregation?" were discussed.

Plans are in the works to provide a variety of seminars at the Feast in 2009. If you have a passion about a subject you would like to present, note it on the enclosed volunteer form and return it to us in the envelope provided.

A Most Successful 2008 Feast. . .

How Did It Happen?

By Skip Martin

Over 1000 Saints gathered at the Boardwalk Beach Resort in Panama City Beach, Florida to celebrate the 2008 Feast of Tabernacles with worship of God and his Son, Jesus Christ. As you may know, the Feast is one of God's "appointed times" found in the Bible.

The Housing Advantage

This was the first year most of us have been able to stay in the same housing facility. The Boardwalk's housing facilities were a short walk from the meeting rooms. Because so many Feast attendees stayed in the same facility, we were able to spend much more time together visiting and bonding with one another. This Feast was called by many, "the warmest Feast I have ever attended" (and they weren't talking about the weather).

The Festival Association Advantage

I have attended Feasts since 1974, but never fully realized all the work required to put one together. That all changed in 2002 when I became part of a network of Christians dedicated to making the CEM Feast the best it could be. There are many Feast sites around the world. Each site has a group of people who do the lion's share of the "work." At CEM, we call ours the Festival Association (FA). The FA is a group of volunteers, many of

whom work throughout the year to make the Feast as meaningful and enjoyable as possible for others.

This Feast was called by many, "the warmest Feast I have ever attended" (and they weren't talking about the weather).

Planning has already begun for the 2009 Feast. The CEM Feast is broken up into different parts (teams) which, when put together, make the whole Feast. We have teams overseeing Activities, Logistics, Music, Ushering, Seminars, YEA Youth Classes, Youth Day, Audio/Video, etc. Within most of those teams, we have other teams working on individual activities, youth classes, etc. Without these hard working people, we would have only music and sermons at the Feast. This year, in addition to daily worship services, we had over 20 seminars, seven YEA classes for five age groups, two dances, a pie and ice cream social, a seniors luncheon, a pirate cruise, bowling, two puppet shows, a golf tournament, a variety (fun) show, a family picnic, and more. We had three evening worship services: one totally produced by the young adults (Youth Day). In addition to these

activities, there were many impromptu fellowship gatherings, Bible studies, young adult drop-ins, etc. Without the Festival Association volunteers, none of this would have happened.

The Serving Advantage

Since the FA is a volunteer operation, we are always looking for volunteers to share in this opportunity. Two years ago we formed a team to help find folks like you, who wanted to serve their brethren at the Feast, but didn't know how or who to ask (or they had asked, but we failed to follow up). We are committed to working harder at finding volunteers. Most of the activities we sponsor began with someone saying, "I'd like to. . ." We are open to suggestions, and ideas. If you or someone you know, wants to help with the 2009 CEM Feast, it is a very rewarding opportunity that will bless many. Please fill-in the Festival Volunteer form and return it in the envelope provided, or contact Heather Holmes at holmes_hl@yahoo.com. You can also contact me at smartin400@sbcglobal.net and I will pass your comments along.

Without the Festival Association volunteers, none of this would have happened.

What Our Readers Say

“Your program is a wonderful encouragement and thought provoking teaching tool that I love to listen to.

“However, I am a nurse on the 2nd shift, so when I get to bed at 12 a.m., it’s hard for me to wake up to hear your message at 4:30 a.m. (Especially since my 5 youngsters start up running shortly after 6 a.m.) But, if anything could get me up to do dishes and house cleaning when I wake after 3 a.m., it’s your program! I truly can’t describe how I wait through a weirdo who’s on before you until your program comes on.

“So, THANK-YOU for doing such a terrific job! . . .” (SN, Buffalo, NY).

“Just a note to let you know how much I enjoy your message every week. I think in all the years I’ve been listening, there was one week that something else came on at your 9:30 a.m. slot. I had a fit! I immediately called the radio

station, KBRT, and wanted to know what happened. They assured me you would be on next week. You are that important to me and I’m sure a lot of others.

“Thank God for his words thru you and all you inspire. I’m going to be checking out the Bible study on Friday. [You can hear it also at www.borntowin.net.] I look forward to our next conversation—that’s how it feels to me” (A).

“I would like to subscribe to the monthly e-mail newsletter. Your radio show is very inspiring and thought provoking. Thank you and God bless you for your work. I’ll be looking forward to future interactions with you” (KL).

If you would like to receive our email newsletter, please call us at 1-888-BIBLE-44 or subscribe at www.borntowin.net. Click on the “Subscribe to email Newsletter” link under “What Is New?” and submit your information.

In Memory

Christian Educational Ministries gratefully acknowledges a very generous donation made in memory of Jim Ross commemorating the anniversary of his death.

CEM also acknowledges with grateful appreciation the donation made in memory of Edith Jones Ellison, the wife of Vernon Ellison of Ben Wheeler, Texas. Edith, who died October 22, was a loving example and dear friend to many. She will be greatly missed.

Also, CEM acknowledges with gratitude the donation made in memory of Mary Sue Swiger, 77, of Cleveland, Tennessee, who was the dear mother of Ken Swiger. Mrs. Swiger was killed in an automobile accident on October 15. Friends and family regret her tragic death and will greatly miss her as well.

Christian Educational Ministries

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Three Months Ended
July 31, 2008

Receipts:

Contributions	\$301515
CEM Bookstore	25477
Youth Camp	9980
Interest & Rent Income	2139
	\$339111

Expenses:

A/V Supplies	\$ 4170
Mortgage Payments	7333
Office & Adm. Expenses	10467
Mailing Expenses	7644
Postage	21228
Printing	13572
Radio Expenses	186883
Telephone & Utilities	4802
Editorial Services	1378
CEM Bookstore	7270
Conference Expenses	4568
Youth Camp	11377
Employee Benefits	27578
Wages & Payroll Taxes	93585

Total Operating Expenses 401855

Decrease in Fund Balance (\$62744)

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