

Living to Win

August 15, 2011
Volume 16, Number 8
Christian Educational Ministries

A MASK OF EVIL

From Ronald L. Dart's Program Notes written by Allie Dart

Because of the things that have happened in our lives during the past 16 months, Ron and I decided to read through the Book of Job for our nightly Bible study. We're learning well that Job did not wear *A Mask of Evil*. He was a righteous man, yet God allowed him to suffer. It's been interesting to see how Job's friends probably weren't the encouragement he had hoped for, but they dragged out the magnifying glass, so to speak, to try to find ways where Job had missed the mark.

Throughout this most difficult trial, we've had many very supportive friends for whom we are very grateful. But, the same as Job, there have been those who have somehow felt it their duty to, frankly, make our lives even more miserable. But looking back on this, it should not have been a surprise to us. History is replete with *A Mask of Evil*.

A Book Worth Reading

Whittaker Chambers wrote the 800 page book titled, *Witness*, about the same time Ron and I were finishing high school. This is a book well worth reading. If you do nothing else, drop by your

library and read the three forewords—the first two are by William Buckley and Robert Novak. The third is Whitaker Chambers' letter to his children. This book opened areas Ron nor I had thought about, but we need to talk to you about. But first, we should answer a few questions: How is it possible that Marxism still holds sway among the intelligentsia of this nation? The answer emerged as Ron read Chambers' letter. Communism and Marxism, along with Nazism, were merely masks worn by a much greater and older evil. Ron was reluctant to put a name on it, because we have a bad habit of assuming that when we can name

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

A Mask of Evil

from Ronald L. Dart's notes 1

Matching Gifts—What Is It? 1

Touched By Our Feelings

By Hugh Buchanan 2

What's Planned for the Feast

By Paula Hughes 2

something, we understand it. Not so. Names are treacherous things, and we quickly become inured to them. Liberalism, capitalism, progressivism, conservatism, are examples.

The Key You Need

Ron won't give you a name, but a key. Names are like chameleons, and they take on the coloring of the background and we can look right at them and not see them.

continued on page 3. .

Matching Gifts—What Is It?

Many employers match all or part of the donations their employees and retired employees make to qualifying organizations. Christian Educational Ministries is a qualifying 501(3)(c) organization, and your employer may match gifts to CEM. The employer usually sets a minimum amount you must give in order to trigger matching, and may match 25% of your gift, all the way to dollar for dollar. It's a great way to increase the value of all your gifts to CEM. Ask us for the *FREE* brochure that will help you talk to your employer about matching gifts. This is not something CEM can set up for you, but if you need more information, please call us at 1-888-BIBLE-44.

Touched By Our Feelings

by Hugh Buchanan

In November of 2007 I accompanied my wife, Boni, to the funeral of Wanda, her dear lifelong friend. At the service, I experienced something remarkable and unexpected that lit up one Scripture for me in a way nothing except personal experience can do. I wasn't close to Wanda. Although serious and sobered by the nearness of death, I was not gripped by the aching loneliness and sense of loss the death of a close friend or loved one brings.

At the service, as soon as Boni made eye contact with Wanda's sister, they were drawn toward each other at a run, as if a magnetic force drew them. They threw their arms around each other. Their faces contorted in grimaces of anguish and grief and their eyes filled with tears. Their bodies were wracked with sobbing. Never in my life had I seen such a spontaneous and intense release of emotion.

As I watched, an uncontrollable torrent of empathy, which I did not anticipate, choked my throat and filled my eyes with tears. I had to draw in my breath in an involuntary sob. Had I not been ashamed to cry in front of a hundred strangers, I would have lost control completely. Never had I been gripped by an empathetic reflex such as that.

In that instant I completely understood the passage from the Book of John describing the resurrection of Lazarus. "When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which

came with her, he groaned in the spirit, and was troubled. And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. Jesus wept" (John 11:33-35).

We have all wondered why Jesus wept. The most plausible explanation I've heard was that Christ was crying from the grief that was a normal reaction to the death of a loved one. I believed that until the memorial service. Now I know that Christ wept from empathy! Notice it was the *sight* of the mourner's weeping that caused the emotional response in Jesus.

This has important implications for us. Jesus was moved to tears because he sensed the mourners' grief; his tears were an empathetic reaction to the emotions of others. He wasn't mourning the faithlessness of the people, nor feeling grief over the death of Lazarus. Jesus Christ was overcome with empathy! This realization gives life to a Scripture from Hebrews: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin" (Hebrews 4:15).

Jesus Christ feels empathy for us and is touched by our emotions! He feels our hurts, pains, and fears. He rejoices with us in our victory when we overcome, and delights with us when we learn something vital by combining our life experiences with the truth of the Scriptures.

Christ is willing to give aid in

time of need. "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need" (Hebrews 4:16). "Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep" (Romans 12:15). This Scripture is good advice for man, and characterizes one of God's behaviors. God rejoices or weeps as the tides of his people's fortunes ebb and flow. We don't worship an unfeeling God who does not appreciate our emotional state. Our God is in touch with us and is moved emotionally to act on our behalf.

I'm saddened by Wanda's loss, but I'm grateful for the experience that taught me about Christ's empathy for mankind. I also learned something about spiritual wisdom. It can't all be learned from a book. We must learn by living it, following in Jesus' footsteps.

What's Planned for the Feast?

By Paula Hughes

CEM's new Festival Association team is diligently planning a full schedule of worship services, festival YEA classes/seminars, adult seminars, activities, luncheons, and more to offer the widest possible opportunity for everyone to enjoy the Feast. You'll love it!

Join us for the opening night services Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., October 12 at the Sevierville

continued on page 4. . .

*A Mask of Evil
continued from page 1 . . .*

Liberals are becoming “progressive.” Republicans are becoming “conservatives.” Capitalists are becoming “entrepreneurs.” Secularists are becoming “progressives.” If you will order this *FREE CD, A Mask of Evil*, it will be the *key* to open your eyes to recognize this evil in its earliest forms—wherever it emerges in the political, economic, and social systems of any time.

You must be aware there are two kinds of evil in the world: human evil and spiritual evil. For some reason, people are prone to deny both. Human evil they see as, perhaps, mental illness. Spiritual evil they sometimes deny by rejecting the idea of a personal devil and demons, as mere figures of speech in the Bible, standing for the wicked inclination of our own mind.

Similarities and Differences Between Nazism and Communism

Let’s return to the question: How is it possible that Marxism (or something very much like it), still holds sway among the intelligentsia of this nation? In reading Whitaker Chambers letter to his children, Ron came to at least a partial answer. In some degree, it is revealed in the experiences of ex-communists—defectors. Powerful and insightful excerpts are included in this *Born to Win* program, *A Mask of Evil*, that will enlighten you to both the similarities and the differences between Nazi Germany and the Communist Soviet Union—terror

as an instrument of policy. And you’ll learn it doesn’t stop there, and how Islam fits into this picture.

They Heard Screams. . .

Again the question: How is it possible that Marxism (or something very much like it), still holds sway among the intelligentsia of this nation? In reading Whitaker Chambers’ letter to his children, Ron came to at least a partial answer. In some degree, it is revealed in the experiences of ex-communists—defectors. From Whitaker’s book: “Yet there is one experience which most sincere ex-Communists share. . . . The daughter of a former German diplomat in Moscow was trying to explain to me why her father, who, as an enlightened modern man, had been extremely pro-Communist, had become an implacable anti-Communist. It was hard for her because, as an enlightened modern girl, she shared the Communist vision without being a Communist. But she loved her father and the irrationality of his defection embarrassed her. ‘He was immensely pro-Soviet, she said, ‘and then—you will laugh at me—but you must not laugh at my father—and then—one night—in Moscow—he heard screams. That’s all. Simply one night he heard screams.’” Whitaker Chambers was himself an ex-Communist. He went on: “What Communist has not heard those screams? They come from husbands torn forever from their wives in midnight arrests. They

come, muffled, from the execution cellars of the secret police, from the torture chambers of the Lubyanka, from all the citadels of terror now stretching from Berlin to Canton. They come from those freight cars loaded with men, woman, and children, the enemies of the Communist State, locked in, packed in, left on remote sidings to freeze to death at night in the Russian winter. They came from minds driven mad by the horrors of mass starvation ordered and enforced as a policy of the Communist State. They came from the starved skeletons, worked to death, or flogged to death (as an example to others) in the freezing filth of sub-arctic labor camps. They came from children whose parents are suddenly, inexplicably, taken away from them—parents they will never see again.”

Evil—the same at the core

It was the image of the freight cars that hit me, Ron says. For a moment I actually felt confused, as though I was reading about Nazi Germany instead of the Soviet Union. And in point of fact, the evil is pretty much the same at the core. The Communists and Nazis hated each other, not because they were different, but because they were rivals for the same wicked vision.

Notice what Chambers said as he continued: “What Communist has not heard those screams? Execution, says the Communist code, is the highest measure of social protection. What man can call himself a Communist who has not accepted the fact that terror is an instrument of policy, right if the

continued on page 4. . .

*A Mask of Evil
continued from page 3. . .*

vision is right, justified by history, enjoined by the balance of forces in the social wars of this century? Those screams have reached every Communist's mind. Usually they stop there."

I feel so urgent about protecting our freedom and your freedom that I want to offer you a *FREE* CD of this most important *Born to Win* program, *A Mask of Evil*. Space has only allowed me to scratch the surface of this topic. We have taken the "freedom of religion" clause in the Constitution to mean "freedom from religion." But this liberty leads to corruption. Our school systems, our universities are increasingly godless. As Chambers warns, *religion and freedom are indivisible*. There is so much more you need to learn and understand. I can't urge you enough to order this *FREE* CD and listen carefully to it. Simply check the box on the enclosed card and return it to us.

*What's Planned for the Feast
continued from page 2. . .*

Events Center, Sevierville, TN. Daily worship services begin the next morning at 11:00 a.m. through October 20. You can participate via Video Live Streaming at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/cem-network>, if you can't join us. Call Paula Hughes at 1-888-BIBLE-44 or email adm@borntowin.net for more information.

Looking for worship and learning opportunities? We feel sure our schedule of experienced and knowledgeable speakers for

seminars and sermons will provide thought-provoking and life-enriching presentations. John and Rebecca Klassek, our friends from Australia, with help from other talented musicians, will enhance worship services with inspiring and uplifting hymn services and special music presentations.

An outstanding learning program for children specifically designed for festival-observing Christians will bring eager beavers to class each day. YEA Feast classes/seminars provide exciting learning opportunities for kids from age three to 20. These classes/seminars are scheduled for each day of the Feast, except on the Sabbath and high holy days.

Do you enjoy meeting new people, and seeing old friends? There will be plenty of social opportunities. The ever-popular Pie and Ice Cream Social and the Family Picnic are two special occasions when everybody can get together for fun and fellowship. The Fun Show showcases the talents of all who participate. Ranging from silly to sublime, you never know what to expect from each act.

There will be fun for the youngest: the Buffalo Bob Puppet Show, and the oldest: the Senior Luncheon. We will join seniors from United Christian Ministries at the pavilion at MainStay Suites, Pigeon Forge for a catered luncheon. Too bad it's only for seniors!

If meditation and study combined with relaxation, are what you seek, look no further. The beautiful Smoky Mountains setting in the cool autumn of the year will

provides many opportunities to reflect upon our merciful, bountiful Creator. Nearby Smoky Mountains National Park provides beautiful vistas. Hike, picnic, or take Cades Cove driving tour through the Smoky Mountains National Park.

Rather shop 'til you drop? Not a problem! Whether you're looking for a memento of your visit, or hunting unique items at great prices, Sevierville calls itself the shopping capital of the Smokies. Outlet malls, specialty shops, antique stores, and art galleries await you to come and explore.

How about unique dining experiences? You'll find plenty of good country cooking with down home taste, plus fine dining and ethnic cuisine for the discriminating. Sevierville offers a great selection of delicious foods.

Finally, Sevierville is country singer Dolly Parton's hometown. Visit the theme park named for her, or see Tony-nominated shows direct from Broadway. Take in a museum, or "putt" around on a go kart or golf cart. The list really is endless. Join us, and help spread the word about God's great Feast in Sevierville. Celebrate before the Lord during Feast of Tabernacles 2011! CEM is doing everything we can, but only you can make it the joyous event it should be.

Christian Educational Ministries

PO Box 560
Whitehouse, Texas 75791
phone: 1-888-BIBLE-44
fax: 903.839-9311
e-mail: adm@borntowin.net
website: www.borntowin.net

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