

Born to Win

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Newsletter of the CEM Network

June 15, 2001

Personal from. . .

Ronald L. Dart

Dear Friend,

Not long ago, Allie and I took our annual vacation in northern Arkansas and on the way up, we stopped in Little Rock for a “Meet the Teacher” afternoon where we met a lot of old friends and some new friends from radio station KAAZ in Little Rock. We have been on that station for years and I wanted to meet some of the people who listen. We had a great afternoon visiting with the folks there.

I gave a message that afternoon titled “Trial by Ordeal.” I had been thinking about two interesting questions from the Bible that intersected at an obscure passage in Numbers. On the one hand, it is interesting how many important concepts of modern jurisprudence have their origins in biblical law. We take our freedom and our system for granted, but it hasn’t been so very long ago that trial by ordeal was practiced commonly in the world. In that old system, the mere accusation of a crime was enough to get you killed. Even today, there may be societies where one is presumed guilty and has to prove his innocence.

But in some societies, a person accused of witchcraft was as good as dead upon the accusation. For they would throw the accused into the river. If she sank and drowned, she was not a witch and was innocent. If she floated, she was a witch and was burned at the stake. One might call this a lose/lose proposition.

But in biblical law, there was a presumption of innocence, and it is borne out in the “Trial of Jealousy” from the fifth chapter of the Book of Numbers. One suspects that the law originated in the wilderness when a man became jealous of his wife, assuming without proof that she had been with another man. Realizing how devastating such a charge could be in such a tight society, the matter had to be dealt with in such a way that the issue was closed. So God gave Moses a curious little ceremony which put an end to any such accusation, one way or the other. Reading the passage, I felt once again that God has a sense of humor.

In this ceremony, a man could make a formal accusation against his wife based on his own jealousy alone. The priest would then take the woman, with the appropriate offerings, and sit her “before the Lord.” He would then take holy water and put a pinch of dust off the floor of the tabernacle in the water, making “bitter water.” He would then inform the woman of the charges against her and the curses to come upon her if she was guilty. He then wrote the curses down in a book and then blotted out the curses with the bitter water. Only then did he have the woman drink the water. If she was innocent, nothing happened. If she was guilty, her belly would swell and her “thigh” (her loins) would rot. Naturally,

it required a miracle to punish the woman. Otherwise the “bitter water” was harmless.

But what struck me about the passage is that the curses were blotted out of the book before the woman’s guilt or innocence was determined. In other words, the divine law presumed her innocence.

The intersecting idea with this passage was on my mind as a result of a question that was raised pursuant to my radio program series on “Christian Holidays.” A common question that is raised comes from Colossians 2:14 and the presumption that part of the law was “blotted out” and nailed to the cross. It is a common mistake, but one that a knowledge of the Old Testament

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should forestall. I developed this connection in the sermon that day and would like for you to have a free cassette tape of the message. To get your own *free* tape, check the box on the enclosed card and return it to us.

And oh yes, we continued on our vacation with our dog, Maggie and had a wonderful time along the Buffalo River. The fishing could have been better but the companionship could not have been. Thanks for listening, and keep in touch.

With love in Christ's service,
Ronald L. Dart



Tune in for the latest weekly broadcast.

June 16 - June 22

A Father in the House

June 23 - June 29

Christian Holidays 16

June 30 - July 6

Christian Holidays 17

July 7 - July 13

Christian Holidays 18

Radio Update

Please note the following new stations:

Jackson, Mississippi

WTWZ 1120 AM

Monday - Saturday at 7:00 a.m.

Kansas City, Kansas

KCNW 1380 AM

Monday - Saturday at 4:00 p.m.

Gretna, Louisiana

WLNO 1060 AM

Monday - Friday at 4:30 a.m.

Saturdays at 7:30 a.m.

and 11:00 p.m.

Calendar of Events

June 24th - July 1st - Summer Camp

This year's summer camp, sponsored by Christian Educational Ministries, will be held from June 24 to July 1 and will again be held at Camp Wewoka Woods, near Wewoka, Oklahoma. Summer camp is open to all teens who have reached their thirteenth birthday by the time camp ends and who have not yet reached their nineteenth birthday. Camp is open to all teens, regardless of their church affiliation, or that of their parents. We will have water skiing, tubing, softball, swimming, horseback riding, volleyball, and indoor basketball as well as group initiatives. Lots of great fun will be provided at the annual funshow and dance. For more information call (903)509-2999 or write P O Box 560, Whitehouse, TX 75791 or e-mail lsw@cemnetwork.com. Visit our website for the latest updates on summer camp.

July 14th - Salina, Kansas Meet the Teacher

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a "Meet the Teacher" session in Salina, Kansas, on Saturday, July 14th at 1:30 in the afternoon, at the Salina Red Coach Inn, 2110 W Crawford. For more information or directions please contact David Hays at hays@informatics.net or John B. Nelson at (913) 523-4240.

July 15th - Kansas City, Missouri Meet the Teacher

Ronald L. Dart will be speaking at a "Meet the Teacher" session in Kansas City, Missouri, on Sunday, July 15th, at 1:30 in the afternoon, at the Adams Mark Hotel, 9103 E. 39th Street. For more information or directions please contact Leonard or Diane Cacchio at (816) 524-2442 or l_cacchio@yahoo.com.

July 28th and 29th - Chicago, Illinois Christian Renewal Conference

Christian Educational Ministries and the Church of God-Downers Grove are sponsoring a "Christian Renewal Conference" in the Chicago, Illinois, area on Saturday and Sunday, July 28th and 29th. Speakers include Ronald L. Dart, C. Wayne Cole, and David L. Havir. The meetings will begin at 9:30 each morning, at the Oakbrook Park District Activity Center, 1450 Forest Gate Road, in Oakbrook, Illinois. For more information, please contact Ken or Trisha Svehla at (630) 968-6153.

Niceville Seminars? . . . There is still time!

If you have been thinking about giving a seminar at Niceville, there is still time to suggest your topic! We especially need some subjects that are focused on women's concerns, or that cover a topic from a woman's point of view. We have a fixed number of time slots, determined by the number of days there will be seminars and the number of meeting rooms. Don't delay!

Some exciting topics!

We already have some exciting sounding seminars lined up. Watch for information about these seminar subjects in future Networks and on our website. The seminars are shaping up with excellent variety, great presenters and some very thought-provoking subjects. Here are a couple of examples:

◆ **How to Get the Most Out of a Public Education?** Homeschooling is not always an option, but the public school system can be a difficult place for a Christian to send their children. A life-long member of the Churches of God, and 15 year veteran school teacher will lead this session on how to help your children get the most out of public schools, both academically and socially. (Note: Here is a great opportunity for someone with experience in the subject to do a companion seminar on homeschooling.)

◆ **How Did We Get the New Testament?** Did Mark really write the Gospel attributed to him, or was it written much later by someone else? Are the Gospels reliable? Did the Catholic Church decide what should be in the New Testament? Since we don't have the original manuscripts, can we be confident that the New Testament we have today is the one that God intended? This two-part seminar will explore these questions and more about how the New Testament came to be.

Subjects still needed:

There is still time to suggest a topic. If you have an idea, would like to discuss an idea, or to volunteer, please send the following information to the Festival Seminar Coordinator:

Title of Seminar: Select an interesting title that communicates the subject matter of your seminar.

Description: A short paragraph describing the subject, the benefits attendees will receive from the subject, and the general contents of the seminar. The description will be used in the Festival schedule to advertise and inform attendees about the seminar.

Personal information: Include a short bio that explains who you are and your church background. If you have any special qualifications related to the seminar subject, please mention them either here or in the description.

Special requirements: If you have any special needs such as potential schedule conflicts, include them here. The presentation rooms include basic audio equipment, but other equipment, such as a slide or overhead projector, will need to be arranged for ahead of time. Presenters who need a computer will have to make their own arrangements.

Contact information: Please tell us how we can reach you. Include your address, phone number where you can be reached, and, if you have e-mail, your e-mail address.

Send your ideas to:

We need your ideas and your participation. If you have an idea for a subject that you would like to present, a subject that you would like to hear presented or would like to ask a question or discuss an idea before proposing it, send an e-mail to Jim Ross at rossj@msn.com, or write to Jim Ross, 608 Havencrest Drive, Desoto, Texas 75115. The Festival is your Feast, and we need your involvement to help make this a very special Festival for all.

Daily Radio

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

Huntsville, Alabama

3:30 p.m. daily - WBXR 1140 AM

Little Rock, Arkansas

5:30 p.m. daily - KAAY 1090 AM

Denver, Colorado

5:00 a.m. daily - KLT 670 AM

Pensacola, Florida

7:00 a.m. daily - WSAG 550 AM

7:00 a.m. daily - WZNO 1230 AM

Augusta, Georgia

5:30 p.m. daily - WFAM 1050 AM

Morrow, Georgia

7:30 a.m. & 7 p.m. daily

WSSA 1570 AM

Kansas City, Kansas

4:00 p.m. daily - KCNW 1380 AM

Richmond, Kentucky

12:30 p.m. daily - WCBR 1110 AM

Gretna, Louisiana

4:30 a.m. daily - WLNO 1060 AM

Denton, Maryland

10:00 a.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

Asheville, North Carolina

4:00 p.m. daily - WSKY 1230 AM

Mount Olive, North Carolina

11:00 a.m. daily - WDJS 1430 AM

Charleston, South Carolina

4:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m. daily

WZJY 1480 AM

Greenville, South Carolina

4:30 p.m. daily - WELP 1050 AM

Chattanooga, Tennessee

5:00 p.m. daily - WLMR 1450 AM

Beaumont, Texas

8:30 a.m. daily - KQHN 1510 AM

Dallas, Texas

6:30 a.m. daily - KSKY 660 AM

Jacksonville, Texas

5:30 p.m. daily - KLJT 102.3 FM

Ephrata, Washington

6:00 a.m. Monday - Saturday

KTRW 970 AM

Your Letters

Dear *Born to Win*,

Hello, I have been an inmate at Leavenworth for 10 years. I wanted to write you and thank you for your wonderful ministry. I have learned about God's Word to us and salvation through His Son, Jesus. Thank you for your Bible teaching through the radio.

H.H.

Dear Mr. Dart,

I am very impressed with your perseverance and perception of worldly events culminating until the return of Jesus Christ. Please accept my offering for God's work.

S. D.

Pennsylvania

Dear Ron Dart,

My wife and I certainly do enjoy your messages right before we head out to church each Sunday morning. It is very inspiring and also uplifting.

It is great to hear someone say what needs to be said, and has the guts to say it.

We are so tired of hearing a wimp of a message at our church. Your delivery is great also.

We are 85 years old and will continue to support your ministry.

R. L.

Oklahoma

Daily Radio

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

**The following stations
broadcast daily at 2:30 p.m.**

Northeastern Oregon

KGDN 101.3 FM

Central Washington

KGER 95.9 FM

Moses Lake, Washington

KTAC 93.9 FM

Northwest Washington

KTBI 810 AM

Spokane, Washington

KSPO 106.5 FM

Yakima, Washington

KYAK 930 AM

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