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New Web Site

We invite everyone to check out our new web site designed by home school graduate, Jason Wood.

What's New?

1. You can download our DVDs and Cds free
2. Slide Show and Pictures, Pictures, Pictures
3. Vintage Photos of Bro. Jed and Sis. Cindy preaching in the 70s.
4. Pictures and tributes to Holy Hubert and Bro. Max Lynch
5. More up-to-date schedule
6. Bro. Jed Journals posted weekly
7. The old Q&A, theology and newsletter sections are there with a new look and some additions.
8. Plus lots much more to come...including some kind of bulletin board and videos.
9. Pay Pal donations easier! (Remember CMUSA in your Christmas giving...all gifts are tax deductible.)

Take a look and send us your feedback. Also encourage your friends to check us out. Under Jason's training, Martha helped build the site and will do much of the webmaster work in the future.

Note: The site looks better in Mozilla Firefox than in Internet Explorer. Not everything is updated in Explorer yet. You can download Mozilla free and get a better look.

SPELLING IT OUT FOR THE STUDENTS

University of Oklahoma, November 30, 2009,

Bro Cope and I drove about nine hours from Columbia to Norman, OK., on Sunday afternoon. The traffic was heavy; and we had an hour or more delay in a slow moving bottle neck on I-35 in Northern Oklahoma.

The weather today was sunny and in the high 50's. I took my normal station on the mall in front of Dale Hall. The Delta Upsilon fraternity, which was my fraternity at Indiana University, was raising money for the Salvation Army. I hailed them as fraternity brothers and razzed them a little; they took it good naturedly. A tall fellow in an elf's outfit ringing a bell came up and wanted to hug me. I feigned fear that he might be a homosexual. Soon he was in front of me loudly ringing the bell. I did not want to compete with the bell, so I stopped preaching; but I made some remarks from time to time to keep the small crowd interested. Soon a policeman arrived, then another and another. He said he had complaints that someone was shouting obscenities. I explained that I had used terms like Hell and Damnation. Most people when they use these words are using them in a profane matter. Perhaps some students have never heard these words except when used in a vain. I fear multitudes of people go to churches where Hell and Damnation are never mentioned. The policeman suggested I not use flammable rhetoric so as to avoid calls to the police. After checking my ID, he concluded that there was not a problem.

The presence of the police drew more students. After the policeman let me continue, I explained the nature of the complaint to the students. I proclaimed that Jesus came so that we would not be D-A-M-N-E-D to H-E-L-L. As I spelled out these words, the students understood the absurdity of the complaint. I also moved down the Mall a little way to get away from the bell ringer.

As I was speaking two Calvinists had gathered around Bro to argue theology. When I turned the meeting over to him, the Calvinists began to question me, especially concerning my governmental view of the atonement. One of these men, Grant K., has publicly confronted me in past visits on issues of the atonement, original sin, and open theism. By having Bro with me, we were able to talk these differences over privately. However, I was tired and wasn't really up to par in the discussion after yesterdays long drive. I explained it takes a lot of thought and concentration to discuss these issues, especially the atonement.

I understood these fellows to be saying that if one does not hold to the penal substitution view of atonement then one is not a Christian. I strongly objected to that point. One needs to accept the fact that somehow through the work of Christ that we may have our sins forgiven. But few Christians could begin to explain the different theories of atonement or even know the issues. I finally said, "I may not know or understand the rationale of the atonement; but this one thing I do know, that whereas

once I was blind, now I see. And seeing Jesus on the Cross is what made the difference.”

Bro addressed about 25 at the end of the day; earlier the crowd at times was 60-70. I had about 6 serious inquirers around me for an hour. Two of whom (one an atheist) thanked me very much for coming to campus.

At the beginning of the day an attractive girl came out of the crowd, shook my hand and said, “You are a brave man confronting these students. I am an atheist.” She walked away; but I sensed that she was sincere in her compliment. I think that few students have seen a Christian who will take the offensive in defending the faith. Most will only defend the faith if they are cornered, and often times not even then. We left campus at 5:30. I said to Bro, “This one day made the long drive worth our time and effort to get here.” He agreed.



UO

SOUNDING BRASS VS THE TRUMPET SOUND

University of Oklahoma, December 1, 2009

In the mid-afternoon a blond coed handed me a hand written two and a half page note which included the following, “Your methods do not reflect Jesus’ ministry. Jesus worked out of love and compassion and truly met people where they were. He never called people out; he was not assertive, aggressive or rude.”

She also cited references from Paul concerning love. She reminded me of Jesus’ ministry with Mary Magdalene. She concluded, “I write to you based on the authority of Scripture which also say in Isaiah, ‘This is my servant in whom I will uphold, he will not cry out, a reed he will not break.’”

The whole passage reads, “Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles. **He shall not cry, nor lift up, nor cause his voice to be heard in the street.** A bruised reed shall he not break, and the smoking flax (dimly burning) shall he not quench: he shall bring forth judgment unto truth (Isa 42:1-3).”

Matthew 12:18-21, cites this prophesy and relates it to Christ. In all of my years of preaching, surprising, I have never had any of my critics refer to this passage to attempt to discredit my method and message. It is difficult to reconcile Isaiah 42:2 to my ministry out of its context. The verse has always puzzled me; because Christ did preach in the streets or outside. Also Proverbs 1:20 says, “Wisdom crieth without, she utterth her voice in the streets.” And Christ is our Wisdom (1 Cor 1:24).

There is a question we often hear in the media, “How will the Arab street respond to this new American middle eastern policy?” The Arab street is disposed to riotous and disorderly behavior. Also the Jewish Zealots were rebellious and violent; they hoped to influence Jesus to forcibly overthrow Roman rule. But Isaiah is teaching that this will not be Jesus’ manner or strategy. His Kingdom will not be of this world. Nor would he make pronouncements in the streets like kings with much pomp and circumstance. Nor would he be like the hypocrites, who performed and announced their good works in the streets that they might have glory of men.

Preceding Matthew’s citation of Isaiah, Jesus heals the man with the withered hand; “then great multitudes followed him and he healed them all; and charged them that they should not make him known: That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet saying (Matt 12:15-17).”

So Isaiah’s servant is humble. Jesus would not promote himself through force or violence; he would not advance a grandiose and ostentatious Kingdom; but he would usher in a new kind of Kingdom, one Righteousness and Humility and Truth and Judgment.

Another possible take on Isaiah 42:2 is that there were different approaches and phases to Jesus’ ministry. At times he was very visible ministering among the multitudes; but at other times he worked quietly behind the scenes, instructing his disciples and fellowshiping with his Father in Heaven. Sometimes he characterized the meek and quiet lamb; but at other times he reflected the roaring lion of the tribe of Judah. The first three verses of Isaiah 42 portray the lamb; but verse 13 speaks of the lion, “The Lord shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.”

Jesus could be quite harsh and condemning against the hypocrites and gainsayers; but those who were honestly seeking God or were young followers, he tended to be gentle and kind not wanting to hurt the oppressed and afflicted or quench the dim light of a new born believer.

I began preaching at 11:15. I found a packaged condom on the ground which someone had thrown at me yesterday. I dramatically picked up the package, opened it, unrolled the condom, held it up and said, "Behold your God." Then I lifted up my cross staff and said, "Behold, my God." The condom contrasted with the crucifix was a good attention getter.

I gathered a crowd of about 25. The vain big fellow who yesterday dressed as an elf and collected money for the Salvation Army returned today without the elf outfit. I had intentionally moved down the mall so that our events would not conflict. But the big elf moved the SA kettle down beside me and started ring his "sounding brass." Many of the students put money in the kettle, which they would not have done had he not been there to harass me. Students were obviously giving to despise God and his messenger. Meanwhile, some were accusing me of lacking love.

I pointed out the irony of the situation. The Salvation Army was found by General William Booth, who preached in the open air with his fellow Salvationists. I said, "I have the love of God which calls you to repentance and salvation from sin. The Salvation Army once had the love of God; but I fear they have largely become a 'resounding gong and tinkling cymbal.' They are now known primarily as a charitable organization, no longer as an militant spiritual army. These fraternity boys collecting money are nothing but a 'sounding brass,' who have not the love of God. 'True charity does not rejoice in iniquity; but it rejoices in Truth.' You students love sin and you hate Truth." My message provoked students to put even more money in the kettle.

After about 40 minutes I only had three to four students listening. One was an atheist, Miles, who had been raised a Lutheran. He asked, "If God told you to kill one of your children would you do it?" Of course, I knew where he was going with this, to God telling Abraham to sacrifice his son.

I asked, "Do you know why God told Abraham to sacrifice Isaac?"

He did not know. I said if you would read the Bible you would learn. He had probably just read about Abraham in Richard Dawkin's book or some other atheist's work. I explained that not only was God testing Abraham; but he was prefiguring the atonement of Christ and attempting to prepare the world to receive the sacrifice of his Son. God provided the ram as a substitute for Isaac. God provided his Son as a substitute for our sins. Abraham believed that God would resurrect Isaac; which pictures God resurrecting his Son. It would be useless for God to give another object lesson by asking a Christian to slay one of his children. Most men did not, nor do they today, get the point of the Abraham and Isaac story; nor do they believe the love of the Father who sacrificed his beloved Son.

Miles then asked questions concerning the age of the earth. This gave me the opportunity to introduce Bro. I said, "We have a scientist with us who has extensively studied this issue; he will give you the scientific evidence which supports a young earth."

Bro not only held the attention of the students; but built up the crowd with a somewhat technical explanation of a young earth.

Bro and I alternated for the rest of the day. We started at 11:15 with the sun shining; but by 1 PM the sun disappeared behind clouds and the temperature dropped into the low 50's. Nevertheless, we maintained a good crowd which mostly ranged from 30-70 throughout the afternoon.

My last session included mostly professing Christians; but few of the claimed to be living holy. I exhorted them on righteousness and the need to forsake all to follow Christ. I personally confronted several on whether they would be willing to give up all sin. Three girls said they would. But when they figured that I was giving an altar call expecting them to renounce all sin immediately and publically, they said, "We can't do that here and now that would be too embarrassing."

I lifted up the Cross and reminded the students how Jesus had to endure the embarrassment of the Cross with maybe not even the loin cloth to cover his nakedness. Certainly we should be willing to publically renounce our shameful lives for his sake." Hebrews 12 says, "Let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Shortly after my exhortations two of the girls walked away. I closed in prayer. I announced that I had a book which I would give to the students. One of the girls, who said she was willing to forsake sin, asked for a book. I gave her a copy of Walking in the Spirit.



UO

BITTERLY COLD

University of Central Oklahoma, December 2, 2009

This was a bitterly cold day. The temperature was only in the low forties; and with winds up to 30 mph, the wind-chill factor was low 30's. We decided to go to UCO over OU; since UCO would be a new campus, we figured we would be more likely to gather a crowd. Also, it was an opportunity to check out the campus to make sure there were no free speech issues.

Since this is the first time I have ever preached on the campus, yesterday, I emailed the police to introduce Bro and myself. Upon arrival the cold Oklahoma wind almost blew us away. I said to Bro, "Now this is dedication." Bro and I held signs; and I began to preach at 11:15 in a relative low key manner, mostly calling students' attention to my new colorful sandwich board listing sins typical to students.

Three fellows stopped with 15 minutes. One of them was a boisterous and proud sinner. Eventually, a cadet in uniform stopped to argue. He claimed to be a Christian; but he pleaded for sin and despised our approach. He was very loud and determined not to listen. Finally, he said he needed to change clothes before he got himself in trouble. Later he returned and stayed all afternoon. A crowd of 25 gathered which remained steady for most of the afternoon.

The main issue throughout the day was holiness. Bro had really stirred up the students on the issue of living above sin. However, from 3:30 to 4:30 Bro had a group of around a dozen quietly listening to him teach on overcoming sin. One boy was convinced and even said he was committed to moral purity. Bro made the point if we can just get one student on each campus to promote holiness, that one man could dramatically change the campus.

Several students, who had earlier opposed me, including the cadet, thanked me for coming to the campus. Late in the afternoon a policeman came out to observe the situation. He remembered me from his undergraduate days at OU. We concluded there are no issues on this campus regarding free speech. Bro and I agreed that considering the cold weather, it was a wonderfully great day on campus. It was remarkable that we were able to get students to stand out in the cold hour after hour. We noticed that some were literally shaking from the cold; but they could not seem to leave. Hopefully, by returning tomorrow we can succeed in getting them shaking with the conviction of sin.



UCO

ANOTHER COLD DAY

University of Central Oklahoma, December 3, 2009

Today was another bitterly cold day. I cannot remember the last time I preached in such cold weather. Evidently it was not uncommon for Paul, "In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in **COLD** and nakedness (2 Cor 11:27)." Despite the cold, we gathered a crowd that averaged around 20-25 for most of the afternoon.

There were several students who were beside themselves as a result of the preaching. The students have been so stirred; that I have not even been able to give my testimony or tell some of my regular stories for the last two days.

Two students told Bro that they wanted to have victory over sin and asked how they might do it. Bro testified that he had times of lengthy instruction to the students. It was an odd day in that at times the students would be much stirred; and at times they settled down to become teachable.

At 1:30, Drew, a self-described schizophrenic, challenged me to a debate at 3 PM, when he would be through with classes. When he arrived at 3 Bro was speaking. I suggested that we go inside the Student Center out of the cold and he could ask me

what he liked. We sat at a table and eventually three other students joined us. I told Drew that God would give him peace of mind, when he turned from his sins and trusted in Jesus.

Once again today there were a number of students who stayed with us most of them shivering in the cold. It is remarkable that often pastors and teachers cannot get students to go to church or a Bible study; but they will stand for hours listening to the Word of God in the cold. Why? I suggest that it is because they know that Biblical Truth is either being compromised in these other settings; or else they are rarely confronted with their sin, which they intuitively know is their need.

Early in the afternoon, Janis Ferguson (jferguson25@uco.edu), Coordinator of Student Organizations, had me sign a form stating our purpose for being on campus. She asked me to contact her the next time I come to campus.



UCO

“DON’T WORRY, GOD IS LOVE”

University of Oklahoma, December 4, 2009

“Don’t worry, God is love,” is a sign that several students held up for much of the afternoon. I responded, “These people are deifying love. God is love; but love is not God. Yet the idea of love expressed in the students’ signs typifies the lawless love promoted in our society and even in our churches. It is a love that requires nothing and excuses everything. This is not the love expressed by our Lord Jesus Christ;” who when he spoke of love, it was in the context of his law. ‘If you love me, keep my commandments,’ he said.”

When we started the day it was only 28 degrees; however, the sun was shining which made it more comfortable than the last two days. In the mid-afternoon the police moved

us down the oval away from a classroom from where a professor had complained about the noise. Usually, when we are moved by the police, we will lose a lot of the crowd. But virtually everyone followed us to “the pit” in the middle of the oval, which turned out to be a good place and where the students could sit which makes for better crowd control. When we moved a Jewish boy, who has been heckling us since we have been on campus, helped me with my stuff.

An English professor asked me to speak in his 3:30 class in composition. They are studying narrative. He asked me to give my narrative on how I entered into the campus ministry. It was a class of about 25 students who were polite and attentive. I made a 20 minute introduction concerning my calling. Then I opened up the class to questions. Each question enabled me to expound on basics of Christianity like Heaven and Hell, Jesus as the only way to salvation, holiness and consecration. I spoke as if I was addressing a Sunday School Class. No one interrupted me or argued against anything I said. I have been invited into many classrooms over the years. This was one of my best sessions ever. I was able to answer with some depth to every question asked. The professor gave me the whole hour.

Bro was still holding forth outside to about 20 students when I returned at 4:30. The temperature had dropped considerably as the sun had passed behind buildings. Without interruption, I gave a final appeal to the gathering of the necessity of searching for God with all your heart and the necessity of forsaking all to follow the Lord.

This was a wonderful week on campus. When I saw how cold it was going to be Wednesday through Friday, I was tempted to return home since cold weather is a great hindrance to open air preaching. But we decided to persevere and had great days in the cold.

You may donate through paypal(see above) or send to our home address **CMUSA
2402 Longview Dr. Columbia, MO 65203.**

Thank YOU!