



brojed@aol.com

brojed.org

[cell:573-999-0347](tel:573-999-0347)



LOVE'N ON 'EM

University of Washington, May 17, 2010,

I started preaching in the middle of a break on Red Square at 11:25. One young man stopped and asked, "What are you doing?" I knew immediately that I had a professing Christian on my hands who did not like preaching against sin. He repeatedly advised, "You need to just love on people." He told me that he was from Texas and the son of a Southern Baptist preacher and he is at the University with a team witnessing to students this week. I regularly hear this expression from

evangelicals, “Just love on them.” What does that mean? This love bug was pathetic especially considering he had been raised in church.

The PK gave up on me after 20 minutes but other students came up and by noon I had a crowd of 25 to 35, until it started raining about 12:45. About a dozen remained through the rain. Unfortunately, I had left my umbrella in the car. Here in the NW students do not use umbrellas much since they are used to a lot of rain. This audience thought they were very intellectual and but in reality they were more argumentative than rational. Theirs was a feigned intellectualism.

Suddenly a man stood out from the crowd and said, “I appreciate you standing up for what you believe in the midst of such opposition. Few people can do that.”

His words of encouragement had the effect mellowing the gainsayers somewhat. At 1:15 when the rain stopped, everyone left. I supposed they had to go to class. Now the sun was breaking though the clouds, but despite the better weather I did not get anyone stop at the 1:20 break.

I sat in my chair anticipating that students would come up and talk to me. Sun, a student from South Korea, approached to ask if I remembered him. We talked about evangelism and I told him of the conversation which I had with the Southern Baptist. Sun liked my preaching. He told me that I was one of the men he most respected. He said I had impacted his life when I was here last year. He played guitar in a church praise band. But he said, “Until I heard you, I was just doing it out of a sense of duty.” Sense of duty is still a big factor in Asian societies. He said he was now constrained by a love for God to minister. I talked with Sun and a Catholic Asian, who joined our conversation, until 2:15, when I told these men I needed to start preaching again.

I gathered another audience of up to 25 students and preached until 3:45. Meanwhile, I noticed the Southern Baptist PK had stuck up a conversation with someone who had been arguing with me. Sometimes evangelicals will take advantage of my plowing which gives them an opportunity to love on ‘em. Without my plow’n, their love’n will not get much attention. However, rarely, will they ever give me any credit for breaking up the fallow ground.

Before I left I conversed with Michael, whose face I remembered from last year’s preaching. I asked him where he stood with God. He wasn’t sure. I informed him when we have forsaken all to serve him we will know where we stand. I encouraged him in the life of discipleship.

“I OBEY GOD, BUT I AM A SINNER”

University of Washington, May 18, 2010

I opened up on Red Square at 12:15. A group of hussies from yesterday sat on the steps of the square with whom I interacted mostly concerning sexual issues. Others soon joined the assembly including a few boys but they did not have much to say. I covered the latter part of Romans 1 concerning women leaving their natural use.

One girl who was not sitting with the hussies said, “I am a Christian and I obey God but I am a sinner.” I replied, “If you obey God, you are not sinner. If you are a sinner, you are not obeying God.” She could not seem to grasp my logic. Perhaps she did not want to listen to reason since that would remove her excuse to sin.

The witnessing love bugs from Texas were lurking around hoping to pick off some of my potential fruit. Off away one of the Texans was playing bongo drums and another one a guitar. But contemporary Christian music doesn't gather sinners like the uncompromised Word of God. After about 90 minutes the rain returned and my gathering scattered. It rained off and on after that, consequently I never gathered another crowd.

I did have a long talk with one of the Texans concerning evangelism and the relationship of faith and works. He claimed that repentance was only preached to Jews and not to Gentiles. According to him, Christians may have to repent but not unbelievers. I refuted him with Acts 17:30, “God now commands all men everywhere to repent.” Paul was addressing Greek philosophers at Athens.

The not so tall Texan also claimed that God does not bring judgment today, that the judgments of the NT represent a transitional period. He referred to himself as a dispensationalist. I would add of the extreme variety. He reprovved me for causing the liberals of Seattle to perceive Christians as hateful. He claimed that Paul never would have preached like I preach. Of course, I cannot imagine that Paul used bongo drums in his evangelizing.

At 3:30, I left campus in a light rain.

A TEACHABLE AUDIENCE

University of Washington, May 19, 2010

The prediction was for stormy weather in the afternoon. Therefore, I started preaching early while the sun was still shining at 10:15 AM. I gathered an audience right away. The students were attentive and had interesting questions. One boy said he was trying to love God with all of his heart but he said he could not. I emphasized that love is a choice and discipline. But we do not rely simply on our own efforts, “the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit which is given unto us” that believe. The students seemed sincere in their queries and were really looking for answers concerning such questions as reconciling a loving God with evil in the universe.

Political and economic issues were not addressed today. Much to my surprise the students did not much defend sexual immorality or even homosexuality when I spoke out against these sins. They actually gave the impression that they wanted to know why I thought marriage was necessary. I am always happy to give them reasons other than simply because the Bible says so. Nor did they argue vehemently when I defended the traditional roles of men and women. In other words I had a teachable audience, which is unusual for college students.

The individual with whom I had the most interaction was a man of the Baha’i Faith, which emphasizes peace and the unity of God, religion and humankind. I pointed out that Jesus did not come to bring peace and unity but division (Matt 10-34-36). Jesus did pray for unity among all who followed him (John 17). I also informed him that God was not a strict unity, but a Tri-unity, only Christians believe in the one true Triune God. The Baha’i guy believed that the religions of the world were many paths up the same mountain or many rivers flowing into the same ocean. Of course, I counted with John 14:6. Only Jesus atoned for the sins of mankind and only Jesus rose from the dead to be alive for evermore. He is the one who conquered sin, the devil, death, the grave, and Hell.

I admitted that if Baha’i is true, than we Christians are wrong because there cannot be many ways to God and only one way to God at the same time. I went over and over with him on this point. But I could not get him to acknowledge that if what Jesus said is true, than he was wrong. He claimed that John 14:6 could not be taken literally. I countered if Jesus was speaking figuratively, figurative language still has a literal meaning. I tried to get him to explain how one could conclude there are many ways to God out of Jesus saying that he is the only way, whether

you take what he said literally or figuratively. Of course, he could not explain it, so he fell back on denying that Jesus ever claimed that he was the only way.

I was glad to have this discussion because even many evangelicals are hedging on the fact that Jesus is “the way, the truth, the life.” Those that believe this are usually unwilling to say it. And unbelievers have bought into pluralism. I explained that if there was another way, than Jesus need not to have drunk of his bitter cup. His loving father would have taken it from him, if there was some other way to save mankind. What separates Christianity from other religions is the atonement. This conversation led into a discussion with others why the atonement was necessary.

The weather remained clear and sunny until 1 PM when clouds moved in, which by 2 PM turned into wind and rain. It became so windy that at point, being not all that steady on my feet any more, I was almost blown over, but I steadied myself with my staff. I was surprised that 12-15 students stayed through the wind and rain until after 3 PM, when finally my audience scattered for shelter.

This was the best preach of the week so far and one of the better days that I have had this semester. I was happy to get in almost 5 hours of preaching. I had no interaction with the Texas witnessing team. For a while several of them were sitting on the steps listening with the others.

“THIS HAS BEEN VERY EDUCATIONAL”

University of Washington, May 20, 2010,

I drove to campus in a light rain by the time I started preaching at 11:15 the precipitation had stopped but it was windy, cloudy and only in the low fifties. No one stopped at the class break so I sat on Red Square in front of the steps of the Kane building reading the Song of Moses in Deut 32. A girl named Kim sat down in front of me and spoke, “Yesterday, you said if anyone could demonstrate they had a better belief system than the one taught in the Bible that you would renounce Christianity and follow that philosophy or religion. What makes something better or worse?”

I answered, “The better belief system would promote the highest good of all, including and especially God, and work to prevent the highest misery of all. We

intuitively know that freedom is better than slavery, peace is better than war, health is better than sickness and disease, honesty is better than cheating, and truth is better than a lie. Christianity promotes the better and opposes the worse.”

Kim had never been to church. She did say in her childhood she had been to two church camps but the emphasis was on recreation. She had many sincere questions; others joined the conversation including a young man who said he was considering becoming a Christian and he had been listening to me this week. I encouraged him to ponder Romans 10:9-10. After almost an hour Kim’s parting words were “This has been very educational.” Evidently, I am the only minister that she has ever heard or with whom she has had a conversation. In this day of age I fear this is increasingly the case as I meet more and more students who have no church or religious background, especially in a place like Seattle.

“How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things! (Romans 10:14)?”

It is vital that my faithful patrons continue to send me forth with your financial support. I ask all Christians, who read my dispatches, to prayerfully consider becoming a regular contributor to my ministry to those who have not heard the good news.

A very contentious student came up firing all sorts of objections to Christianity. He was a student of Ancient History; he first claimed that there was no record in Egyptian history of the Exodus. He denied that there was an Exodus. He described himself as a humanist with Christian parents and an atheist wife. By 1 PM it started raining and everyone scatted but he stayed in the rain. After a while, I suggested that we seek the cover of the Kane building porch. My patience with this young man seemed to affect him in that he became less contentious more agreeable to at least the morals which the Bible promotes. After the rain stopped we went back to the steps and eventually others joined us and the Exodus denier sat quietly and listened to my conversation with others.

As for the Exodus never happening, it is mind boggling to assume that the Jews would pass down a story for millenniums from generation to generation which portrays them so unfavorably. The Pentateuch describes the Jews as rebels, complainers, cowards, and ingrates, who do not appreciate their freedom but always looking back to Egypt. People make up national myths which portray themselves as heroic, positively, not negatively.

At times my audience, which varied from 6-12 people, was mostly made up of professing Christians so I exhorted them on discipleship and forsaking all to follow Christ. I urged them to rise up against evil and boldly proclaim the word. One Asian student asked, “How do I get the fire?”

I preached from Acts 2 and spoke of the necessity of being filled with the Holy Ghost. I warned him to be sure he has parted from all sin because sin will quench the fire of the Holy Spirit.

At one point a man came up and screamed, “My students told me what you were preaching. I do not want to go to Heaven where people like you are. I am gay and I want to go to Hell where my friends are.” He left without giving me a chance to respond.

There was one girl who was around for much of the afternoon who professed Christianity but objected to my lack of love. Before the gay professor screamed about his desire for Hell, she claimed that she noticed me smile once when I warned people they were headed for Hell. I pointed out to this girl her hypocrisy in that she laughed when the professor said he wanted to go to Hell with his friends. She blamed me and people like me for turning him and those who thought like him to Christianity. I did not see the Texas witnessing team today.

Finally all but one person left, I looked at my watch and was surprised to see that it was 3:45. It seemed that the day had gone so fast. I decided to call it a day. Although I had the smallest audience of the week, I was satisfied because virtually everyone was attentive. I especially appreciated the opportunity to exhort the Christians on campus who were opened to my message; usually I am dealing primarily with unbelievers or hypocrites.

TAMING THE REBELS

University of Washington, May 21, 2010

Two of the group of hussies who have been coming out daily came with a larger group and sat down shortly after I started preaching at 12:20. One of the girls I am pretty sure is a lesbian; the other is probably also lesbian. It is a shame because the girls are likeable. One seems more hardcore than the other. The sexual issue came up immediately and soon I had a crowd of about 30 which was not bad since the weather continues to be cloudy and in the low fifties; it got colder as the afternoon progressed. I told a complete account of my testimony. There have been so many

questions this week, that I have not had the opportunity to give my testimony daily.

Someone asked me what Judgment Day would be like so I preached on the Great White Throne Judgment from Rev 20. Again politics or economics were not issues. Even though there were Teaching Assistants who were demonstrating for higher pay on the Square. But no one seemed to be paying attention to them.

Comparative religions were an issue. I explained that I would not follow or serve the god or gods of other religions, even if they one of these religions was true. Other Gods are not worthy of my worship since none of them are loving and just.

A few students remarked today that I was mellower than last year. I answered, "I am able to be since the students are not so outrageous; I tamed them with the whip of the word last year."

Lindsey, a Christian girl from last year who is very supportive of my ministry, has spent a number of hours listening this week. By 3:30 only Lindsey and Sun, the Asian student who was affected by my ministry last year, were listening. I decided to wrap it up and Sun helped me back to the car with my stuff.

All in all it has been a very good week considering the weather was often wet, cloudy and cold. I almost always had people to teach the way of the Lord.

Funds Needed

On May 16, the day after Martha graduated, Bro. Jed departed for his final mission of this school year. He will be preaching the Gospel daily on campuses in Washington and Oregon through the first week of June. Just the plane ticket and rental car cost over \$1000. Added to that will be the daily expenses of being on the road. Your giving will be a big help with the Northwest Mission. We can't do it without you our partners in God's work.

Prayers Needed More!

April 23 Bro. Jed started having considerable discomfort in his leg, which can be severe when standing, walking or sitting. He has persevered and, with the Lord's help, has not missed a day of campus preaching. He has been diagnosed with a pinched nerve and is seeing a chiropractor. Please pray for healing and that Bro. Jed will be strengthened as he preaches.

Also pray for the thousands who will be confronted with the truths of the Gospel over the next weeks of ministry. It is a spiritual battle saints, and we need you our prayer warriors! In Christ, *Sis. Cindy*

You may donate to CMUSA by mailing to our home office at 2402 Longview Dr., Columbia, Missouri 65203 or through Pay Pal by going to our web site, brojed.org. Gifts are tax deductible. Special thanks to all our givers!!