2012 MAY/JUNE

## Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

#### CHANGING LIVES FROM THE INSIDE OUT

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# Where is the Christian Voice today?

It seems as if society is trying to silence the voice of true Christians completely today. Society, in general, seems to feel we need to tolerate every cult or religion and give them free voice as long as the name **JESUS** is not mentioned. Satan has been very subtle in causing society to shut out the only name that can save their lost souls. The god that people are allowed to mention has no association with Christianity because there is nothing mentioned about sending His only Son to save their lost souls. This generic god could be Allah, the god of Islam, who the Koran states has no son. It could be Buddha, or any number of religious icons, as long as JESUS is completely left out of the mix. There is a Christian singing group who mentions the name **JESUS** several times in a song on their album, and secular radio stations refuse to play it for that reason. However, after they exalted His name, they sold more of that album than any other. We, as Christians, are going to face very severe persecution and be called intolerant if we state the truth: **IESUS** is not just the way - He is the only Way. This persecution could lead to being fined or incarcerated in the future. I am not speaking of 10 years from now; I am speaking of very soon.

Are we going to stand firm and not allow anyone to cause us to deny the Name above all names? If society can cause us to shut our



The only name that can save a lost soul **JESUS.** 

mouths if we honor and praise lesus in public, then, in fact, are we not denying Him? Matt. 10:33-40 33 "But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven. 34 Think not that I am come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. 35 For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. 36 And a man's foes [shall be] they of his own household. 37 He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. 38 And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me. 39 He that findeth his life shall lose

it: and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it. 40 He that receiveth you receiveth me, and he that receiveth me receiveth him that sent me." Too many people read the Word but still do not recognize the signs of the end times developing around them. Too many think the world will go on and on, since it has for so long. They think the end might happen way off in the future but certainly not in their lifetime. I Thess. 5:2-**5** 2 "For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. 3 For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. 4 But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief. 5 Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." I would paraphrase Joshua 24:15 "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve;" whether the gods of this world, the gods that say everyone will go to heaven, or say you do not have to obey, there are no absolutes, or god is so good he would never send anyone to Hell, but as for Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry, we will serve the LORD (Jehovah).

#### PAGE 2



Do you have a humble and submissive heart?

## Would you call yourself humble?

I remember the first time I was present at a foot washing service. I must say, I was a little embarrassed when the man I most respected came up to me and asked if he could wash my feet. I said, "I do not think so, I would feel better if I washed yours!" I felt a little like the disciples must have felt when Jesus washed their feet at His last meal with them before the crucifixion. I did not feel worthy to have this true man of God wash my feet. He gently explained this was a way I could humble myself by allowing someone to do this for

me, but I figured it should be the other way around. I thought I would only be showing humility by doing this for someone else. When I submitted and allowed him to do this service to me and then returned the service to him, I felt a new humility I could not understand or explain.

I remember, also, when I first started this ministry, I received a gift from someone I thought needed the money more than the ministry did. I tried to refuse the gift, thinking I was being godly and humble, only

to have the giver tell me, "Don't steal my blessing!" They went on to tell me they were expecting God to honor His Word in supplying all their needs through His riches in glory through Christ Jesus. They had felt the Lord leading them to give, so to them it did not come to mind to worry about how much they had left. I never thought I would need to learn to humble myself to receive a gift. Those were some very important lessons in my life about humility, as well as some about false humility.

#### Thought on Jan.23, 2002:

Night comes and my thoughts go to you, Oh Lord. You have brought me through another day. I have been protected from the dangers that surround me one more day. Your mercy is great unto me, Oh Lord. Your longsuffering is beyond explanation. Your love is without understanding.



Have you ever felt like you were totally alone? Well you weren't.

### How are those resolutions coming along?

Usually, at the beginning of the year, I mention people making resolutions and how soon they are forgotten. So I would like to ask you here, almost half way through the year, how is it going? Have you made promises to God to get more intimate with Him, read the Bible through every year, do a daily devotional, or pray more and listen to God for an answer? Or, have you said you were going to commit more of your time in the service of God to others? If so, and you have fallen behind or not kept this promise, I would suggest not to wait until January 2013. The Word says we are not promised tomorrow, let alone next year. So, as we renew ourselves and take up our cross daily, let's make past promises a reality now - not tomorrow. I am still dealing with a more intimate prayer time with God, being serious and not rushing to get everything said and everyone mentioned so I can get to work on Bible studies or other ministry duties. I catch myself doing this at times, so I am not going to say I will do that next year or next time. As God reminds me when I have slacked off in this promise, I stop and pray then and there. Then, I am not going to be sorry later saying, "I wish I would have..." I need to take a break from writing this newsletter; God just reminded me, I did not spend enough intimate time in prayer this morning.

### Have you been so down you felt forsaken?

Satan likes nothing better than to make Christians feel God has abandoned them. Trust me, I know the feeling, and I know it is false. Usually when I feel forsaken, it is because I see the way I think my prayer should be answered, expect it to be answered in a certain time frame, and it does not happen. I think thoughts like, "I am doing all I know to do, serving God. I am not doing such and such, so why has God abandoned me?" I know God does not like being put in a box by well-meaning Christians, as if we say, "I have this all figured out, God, so now that I have explained it, you should not have any problems accomplishing it." When God says, "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee," (**Heb 13: 5b**) He means it. When we learn to wait on God's will in His time, we will not be as likely to feel forsaken or abandoned. **Pro. 3:5, 6** 5 "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. 6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths."

Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry

#### May/June Newsletter

## What have I said lately to make the name of Jesus heard?



How often do you sincerely speak of the Lord Jesus in your everyday conversation with lost souls? Do you save all of that conversation for your brothers and sisters in Christ? Is Christ exalted in your general conver-

Have you yet become a fisher of men?

sation? If you were tried for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you? The reason I ask these questions is. I remember a

time one might have been able to say I did not do this very thing. Not long ago, I had a man asked my chairman something about me that gave me a lot of joy. I worked for this man who professes Christ. When things went well, I would naturally say

"Praise the Lord." It is a habit, and I feel a good one. He asked Tim Miller about me as if he was not used to hearing such words of praise. He told Tim as I was working I would say, "Praise the Lord" when things went well. What was that all about? Tim was able to tell him I was actually giving God glory for the blessing of my work routine when things fell into place. I do not say that to brag, just to say "Thank you Lord" for instilling in me a good habit, and a way of making people

think about God when they come into contact with me. Of the habits I still suffer with that are not from God, I thought I might share one we all might do better to have - praise Him in all we say and do.

Thought for Jan. 30, 2002 Blessings pour out on me as I give to you Father. There is no comparison! Who can outgive my God?

## **Does your life reflect what you believe?**

My life does not always reflect my true love for God. I confess to you, and I have confessed to God. After all these years of serving the Lord, I still have anger issues. I have tried to convince myself it is "my thorn in the flesh" as Paul spoke of, but deep down I do not believe that. I believe God wants me not to exhibit this kind of anger even when I am alone and no

one is influenced by it. I believe God can deliver me from this anger, but I cannot figure why after all of my repenting, and prayer for forgiveness, and what I feel is Godly sorrow, I still get angry and sin in thought and word. Yes, the Bible allows us to be angry and sin not. (Eph.4:26) It does not, however, allow one to be angry and sin in thought, deed, or word. I

am able to resist showing such anger when in the presence of others (thank God). I said, "It is to avoid causing them to stumble." If I can withhold this sinful anger in their presence; why not when it is only God and me together? Do I care more about how people look at me than the very God I serve? I have been praying for many years to be delivered from this sin, and it has not happened yet. I do not blame God, for He is able. I just say to you; pray for a brother who knows he has not arrived, but would love to be delivered from this terribly sinful habit. Brother Ron

## Is your time with Jesus all it could be?

I am convinced that very few true Christians spend enough time in prayer. I am certainly including myself in this category. I believe, if the saints of today spent as much time in sincere, earnest, and fervent prayer as the saints before and during the reformation did, things would be much better. While I am fully aware that no matter how

hard one might pray for peace in the world, we know the end is near; God's will, as far as division on the earth, will be done, but God stayed His judgment in many cases because of the prayers of the elect. So, I am not saying we should pray so much that God will tarry, as I am saying pray for the souls to be ready at His coming. We

should not just sit by waiting for the rapture, knowing our final end. Instead, we should watch and pray that souls would actually be willing to spend more intimate time with lesus, so they might be comforted in these the last days.

Watch and pray.



How much time do you spend talking with lesus?

|           | Μ                  | Α   | <b>Y</b> 2                | 201                | 2   | Drew's Corner Page<br>Questions for May/ June<br>1. In the Book of Gen. who was the father of Esau an |  |  |  |
|-----------|--------------------|-----|---------------------------|--------------------|-----|---|--|--|--|
| Sun       | Mon                | Tue | Wed                       | Thu                | Fri | Sat   | 2. Who was ascending and descending on the ladder the upon the earth and reached into heaven?  |  |  |
|           |                    | 1   | 2<br>DCC/<br>PF<br>CBS    | 3                  | 4   | 5   | <ul> <li>3. What did God change Jacob's name to?</li> <li>4. How old was Israel when he died?</li> <li>5. In Judges Manoah and his wife gave birth to a son, whis name?</li> </ul>   |  |  |
|           | 7                  | 8   | 9<br>DCC/<br>RJPM<br>CBS  | 10                 | 11  | 12  | <ul><li>6. Out of the 12 tribes of Israel which one was Samson</li><li>7. How did Samson lose his strength?</li><li>8. Who betrayed Jesus and for how much?</li></ul>  |  |  |
| CC/<br>PM | 14<br>BCC/<br>RJPM | 15  | 16<br>DCC/<br>PF<br>CBS   | 17<br>Food<br>Bank | 18  | 19  | <ul> <li>9. What came out of Jesus side during the last of the crition?</li> <li>10. Who was the rich man who asked Pilate for Jesus' Answers from March / April Newsletter</li> </ul>   |  |  |
|           | 21                 | 22  | 23<br>DCC/<br>RJPM<br>CBS | 24                 | 25  | 26  | 1. Gen. 18:13; She said she was too old. 2. Gen. 3:1; ser<br>and Num. 22:2b; an ass. 3. Gen. 2:17; Adam 4. Num. 9<br>cloud by day fire by night 5. Ezek. 3:2; the scroll or ro<br>Tim. 1:5; grandmother Lois & mother Eunice 7. Ex. 14 |  |  |
|           | 28<br>BCC/<br>RJPM | 29  | 30<br>DCC/<br>PF<br>CBS   | 31                 |     |   | Red sea 1; Josh 3:13, 2 Kings 2:8, 2 Kings 2:14 :Jorda<br>swer (4 times) 9. Jonah 1:17; Jonah 9. Jonah 1:17; 3 d<br>3 nights 10. John 19:30; It is finished.   |  |  |

#### The initials BCC stands for Buckingham Correctional Center; all services held between 6:30 and 7:45 PM. DCC stands for Dillwyn Corrections Center; all services held between 6:00 and 7:30 PM.

RJPM stands for Rehoboth Jail& Prison Ministry.

PF stands for Prison Fellowship.

CBS stands for Community Bible Study. Time varies. Held by Chaplain Ron Baker RJPM

Sunday service and 5th Monday is Worship. The other services are generally an open Bible study.

Food Bank- pass out food to needy in Schuyler, where I live, from a local church every third Thursday between 4:30 PM & 6 PM.

#### **Offerings & Donations**

are tax deductible since Rehoboth is a nonprofit organization. They can be sent to the address below and will be used to further the

Jail & Prison Ministry. Ministry Address Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Ronald R. Baker, Chaplain 6166 Helens Way Schuyler, VA 22969-9607 E-mail: rrbak@juno.com Phone: (434) 831-2593 Web site: www.jailandprisonministries.org

#### **Mission Statement:**

To establish and strengthen the Christian life of inmates and their families by providing opportunities for worship, instruction, nurturing of children, fellowship, service, mutual aid, brotherly counsel, and to establish and strengthen the Christian life of evangelism. To bring the Gospel to the unsaved and to lead them to faith in Christ followed by membership in the body of Christ.

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| 17                | 18                 | 19  | 20<br>DCC/<br>PF<br>CBS   | 21<br>Food<br>Bank | 22  | 23  |
| 24                | 25<br>BCC/<br>RJPM | 26  | 27<br>DCC/<br>RJPM<br>CBS | 28                 | 29  | 30  |