

# Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry Newsletter

May / June 2015

Changing lives from the inside out!

There are absolutes for Christians today and the Church should be teaching them.

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**churches**

Sin is sin and nothing society does can change sin to no longer be sinful. We have seen a drastic change in many groups of people, churches, and society in general in what they now abolish as being sinful. Some might say, "it is a younger generation and they have different ideals of sin." That no doubt is part of their excuse. Today we see whole denominations, known in the past for their godly conservative views on Scripture, now seeing God's unchanging Word as no longer meaning what it has always meant.

Over the years we have seen liberal churches become more liberal and conservative churches become less conservative. Now denominations, because of peer pressure, are saying we have to find a place for people actively, continually, practicing sin to be a part

of the church. I agree sinners need to be in church. If the plan of getting them into church, however, includes not preaching messages that would offend their sinful life-style, that will not only hinder their coming to the truth, it will water down Scripture and make others think that practicing a life outside what the Bible teaches is no longer wrong. I hate to think what the next generation of individuals coming out of that church will be like. They would be a little less convicted of sin, each generation becoming more vile than the last, like it has been for years now in some churches. We see state and federal officials, lawmakers, and leaders pushing their own agenda trying to make laws to accommodate perverse minorities. Comparing their plight with people

who have been discriminated against because of race or national origin in the past is an insult to these people. To call Christians intolerant because we call sin, sin is the very definition of intolerant. To say because we love God and live according to His truth, and we speak against sin, that it is hateful toward anyone is a lie. There are people who call themselves Christians who hate people for the way they live. True Christians love the people living in sin and wish them to know the truth so God's truth will make them free from their sin. If your congregation is afraid to preach the truth for fear of offending someone known to be living in sin, you will be accountable to God for your lack of teaching the truth.

## May 10th is a special day for someone special. Dear Mom

I guess in most of our lives our mother is a very important figure and has as much or more to do with what we become in life as anyone else. As you celebrate Mother's Day, be thankful to God for still having a mother you can show your love toward. My mother is with the Lord as is my

father. Some people never show the love they should toward their parents. Later in life they have a change in their life and wish they could have done better showing proper respect toward their parents. Perhaps this is your plight in life, wishing you had shown more love and now it is too late. If you

have a wife or a daughter perhaps you can show this love toward them and teach them to love in a godly manner. To all of you moms out there, may God greatly bless you with peace, and joy. May your children come to know God and in that draw closer to you as well.



Now that's a snake

Here we have a poem sent by one of the inmate pen pals from out of state.

His Son  
 Well I have a story that I'd  
 like to share  
 So gather round and don't  
 despair  
 For see there is a God, a God  
 above  
 And I just want to share, share  
 His love  
 Now you may ask just how I  
 know  
 And that's what I'm about to  
 show  
 For see this was all God's  
 inspiration  
 Genesis through Revelation.  
 Yet Matthew, Mark, Luke and  
 John

Is about His one and only Son  
 Who came upon this old earth  
 By a virgin mother who gave  
 birth.  
 And at the tender age of thirty  
 three  
 He gave His life for both you  
 and me  
 He hung upon an old wooden  
 cross  
 And the people surely felt the  
 loss  
 But in three days He would  
 rise  
 And be seen by many eyes  
 Now if we take a look at the  
 Book of Acts  
 We'll see so many, so many

facts  
 About a man, a man named  
 Saul  
 Who would later become the  
 Apostle Paul  
 And preach the words of Je-  
 sus Christ  
 That He paid the ultimate,  
 ultimate price  
 For all of man, mankind sins,  
 And baby that's where the  
 love, the love begins.

One of my pen pals shared  
 this and gave me permission  
 to share it with you all.

Mother's Day should be celebrated every day with a special love.

My mother has been with the Lord for many years now. I miss her as much today as I ever did. Not in the same way, of course, but I would love to have talks with her to make her smile, and to do something to make her laugh. One thing is for sure, I have few regrets when it comes to the love I showed her. Of course going to prison and using drugs is something I do regret because of that pain

and embarrassment I caused her and my family, but she always knew I loved her because I not only told her regularly, I showed her in many way. The reason I mention this is because I see young people today more than any other time disrespecting their parents and talking to them in a very degrading way, not taking care of an aging parent because of a past mistake a parent made. I see so-called

Christian children almost dissociating themselves from their parent so that can spend their money on luxuries and ignore the people who raised them up. If you really want to wish your mother a happy Mother's Day, then honor her daily as the Lord instructs. **Matt. 15:4** "For God commanded, saying, Honour thy father and mother: and, He that curseth father or mother, let him die the death."

Thought for May 1, 2002

Can I ever run out of praises for you oh Lord? Is there any good thing in my life that is not from you? Do I awake in the morning without your power? Do I breathe my next breath without you allowing it to be so? You are my life and my breath, you are joy and peace, and outside your presence I would cease to exist.

Likewise if you love your father show that love as Scriptures commands.

My father is also with the Lord. My mother died while I was in prison but I got to spend time with my father on his deathbed and some time before. I believe my sister and I were able to lead him to Jesus before he died. **Eph. 6:2** "Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth." Just as there is a

promise if one disrespects his parents in **Matt. 15:4**, there is a promise here in Eph. 6:2 for the child to live well and live long on the earth. I can not help but think of the children living under a curse of rebellion instead of the blessing of obedience to one's parents. Being obedient to parents falls under being obedient to God as He states in **Heb. 13:17** "Obey them that have the rule over you, and

submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that [is] unprofitable for you." Eph. 6:1 and Col. 3:20 both command children to obey their parents. Lets not pretend we love our parents one day a year and rebel against their guidance the rest of the year.

## Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matt. 11:28

Are you weary from the trials you are going through in what I see as these last days? Do you feel like there is nothing good to look forward to? As we look at the world around us going to hell in a hand basket, are we losing our faith? **Rom 12:1, 2** 1 "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, [which is] your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what [is] that

good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." We cannot keep a godly perspective while filling our minds with the things of the world; we need to renew our minds with God's Word daily. We need to think on the things of God. **Phil. 4:8, 9** 8 "Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things [are] honest, whatsoever things [are] just, whatsoever things [are] pure, whatsoever things [are] lovely, whatsoever things [are] good report; if [there be] any virtue, and if [there be] any praise, think on these things. 9

Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you." Where were those things learned? By hearing the Word of God. If you want God's rest and peace, they are available to His children. **2 Cor. 6:17, 18** 17 "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean [thing]; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty."



Still loving dogs

## Coming Soon!

Have you ever passed by a theater and seen a sign like the one above. It would tell of a coming attraction or someone who would be appearing there soon. That sign is to alert everyone not to miss this coming event. Well I want to encourage everyone who reads this article not to miss the most important event in our upcoming history. Jesus is coming for His church very

soon, from all I see around me. People have become complacent because of God's longsuffering and mercy on this world. Instead of looking at the signs, which are to make sure His children are ready, churches are becoming more worldly, wanting to fit in and not be separate from the world. Jesus will come for His church, the church will be gone, and people will still

deny Jesus as Lord. I am glad I am called and saved and am being separated daily from the ways of the world. Matt. 24:44 "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Do not be foolish although no one knows the day or the hour (Matt. 24:36) God will not leave His children ignorant of His coming soon. Be ready!

## Please add these items to your prayer list.

We would appreciate your prayers for more places for men and woman to be released to rather than releasing so many back into society with no place to live or work.

We would appreciate more discretion and mercy in the parole board's decisions when men and women who have served a sufficient amount of time, been model inmates for very long periods of time,

completed every program offered to rehabilitate them, and are refused parole for the serious nature and circumstance of the crime.

We would appreciate your prayers for the opportunity to share about Rehoboth Jail & Prison Ministry with more churches so if they have a need we can meet, they can reach out to us.

We would appreciate prayer for the health of the board members, as well as for me, and prayer for God's Word being professed to always be the most important aspect of this ministry.

We pray when someone has a spiritual need by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit we can provide a Biblical answer for them that they might grow closer to God.

## Thought for June 4, 2002

Once I did know the Lord and I thought myself happy and complete. Then God called me out of the world and as I came unto Him I found myself lacking in all good things. Now I am complete in Christ and through the blood I lack no good thing, for every good and perfect comes down for the Father of lights.

**Matt. 25: 35– 39, 45** 35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: 36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. 37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed [thee]? or thirsty, and gave [thee] drink? 38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took [thee] in? or naked, and clothed [thee]? 39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? 40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done [it] unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done [it] unto me.

## MAY 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Mother's Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

## JUNE 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Father's Day	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Red numbers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Sunday are evenings I minister in Dillwyn and Buckingham prisons.

The blue number is the Thursdays we pass out food at the food pantry in Schuyler.

The orange numbers are the days I preach at a local church.

The green numbers are the days we have the (MOM) Monthly Outreach Meal at Living Word Christian Fellowship.

### 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 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.

### Offerings & Donations are tax-deductible since

Rehoboth is a non-profit 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

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Phone: (434) 831-2593

Web site: [www.jailandprisonministries.org](http://www.jailandprisonministries.org)

## Restoration House

Recently we looked at a piece of land we thought might be a good place to start our Restoration House Program. Things did not work out, but that is fine because we are not seeking our will, but God's will and His timing as to if and when we get this program started. We know if God is not in it we will only have disappointments. What we want, once again, is **a farm with a house** large enough to house 10 inmates, to **raise a garden, and some animals** to allow the program to support itself. We will provide jobs for inmates released from prison while in turn they will pay room and board. If we could even lease a farm that is lying dormant and keep the

taxes paid up it could be a blessing to us as well as the owner. Perhaps God might even provides someone to donate a farm for a tax write-off to a 501(C3) organization. That would be even better! With seeing the failure of no parole in Virginia, and the rising inmate population and long sentencing, we feel something will need to be done about overcrowdedness. In 2014 there were more prison closings and state budget cuts. As a result, we feel there could be a possibility of more inmates being released from prison, and where will they go? Some of the men who might possibly be released have been incarcerated for over 40 years, and

they will need to a way to reenter society slowly, with some help. We are prepared to offer that help, given a place to house these men. Many people agree some of the men should be released but many of these same people who think a Restoration House would be a good idea are the same people who say "not in my neighborhood." I have news for you. There are inmates being released under the new law every day right in your neighborhood who have served their time and will not have any supervision. Surprise! In a Restoration House Program the men released to the program would be under the director of the operation's supervision while on the

property. When they are working they would be accountable to their supervision. The men who sign in for work will have spot checks at their jobs to be sure they are working every day. As a group, the men in the house would be encouraged to do community service work for the elderly, help soup kitchens, and assist local church in outreaches they are involved in, under the supervision of the ministry board of directors. When we ask for donations for Restoration House or a place to house the men, I do not think the community is fully aware of the precautions we are taking to make the community safer. Check out our website for more details.