

Trinity Bible Church

The Carpenter's House

July 20, 2008

FIRST SERVICE MESSAGE:

Genesis 2:14-15

The Role of Man

Please join us for refreshments between services

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wednesday 23 July Mario Garcia.
Thursday 24 July Ladies Prayer Meeting.
Sunday 27 July Dan Hardy.
Wednesday 30 July Evangelism.
Thursday 31 July Ladies Prayer Meeting.
Saturday 2 Aug Men's Fellowship Breakfast. Olde Orchard.
Sunday 3 Aug The Lord's Table.

- ** Wednesday night class involves learning different ways to present the gospel and the verses that present the Good News. Please make plans to attend and be equipped to present the good news.
- ** This September 11-21 is a great opportunity to join with Child Evangelism Fellowship to present the gospel at the State Fair. Please sign up at the back table. They will do training in the presentation of the "Wordless Book."
- ** This fall we are planning to do a Foundations class on Wednesday nights beginning September 24. It will run for 9-10 weeks. Please try to make plans to attend, even if you have been through it. Invite someone to join you.
- ** We will also be doing a Basics Class that will be taught by Dan Hensley. Please let Dan know of your interest.
- ** Please pray specifically for wisdom, guidance and fruit for the spread of His Kingdom.
- ** Below is a summary of our financial status. For details see Roger.

	June	Year-to-Date	General Fund	Building Fund
Income	\$7,093.11	\$42,919.36		
Expenses	7,347.38	46,252.50		
Balance	(254.27)	(3,333.14)	\$6,868.11	\$7,167.14

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OFFERING

Hymns

The Keys to Life

ROGER AND MARCY OLIVER
CAM INTERNATIONAL
July 2008

PUEBLA BIBLE SEMINARY (PBS) NEWS - Every other year CAM International's Mexico field sponsors a conference that will minister to church leadership serving in Bible churches throughout Mexico. This year the CAM missionaries in Puebla were asked to host the conference along with Puebla Bible Seminary.

The seminary staff and the missionaries wanted this event to minister to the pastoral and leadership family in the churches, both husband and wife. The pastor's wives were invited; children were asked to stay at home. The schedule was open and relaxed to allow for fellowship and renewal of friendships. Speakers were invited who would both challenge and encourage pastors and their wives. Meal times were organized to allow for lots of good fellowship around tables outside under a huge canvas as big as a circus tent.

Thinking about desired results for the event, we hoped the leaders and their spouses would leave the conference rested, having enjoyed good fellowship and food. We hoped that each couple would meet other couples in ministry and learn something about what was going on in other churches. The seminary staff especially wanted the guests to leave with a better understanding of the breadth of services the seminary had to offer. We envisioned that the couples would leave with renewed motivation and hope.

Just a week or so before the conference there were only 37 people registered. Things were not looking good for the conference. But four days before the conference 97 people were signed up and by three days before the conference 147 people had registered. They came together from over 11 states in Mexico for encouragement, to renew relationships, to learn new ministry skills and to gain insight into how to better do the work of the ministry. They left encouraged, built up and challenged.

Many, perhaps most, of the attendees had either graduated or had received classes here at Puebla Bible Seminary. One of the speakers, Jack O 'Brian, had served the seminary for over ten years as the president/director. Another speaker, Oscar Lopez a professor at Dallas Theological Seminary, has been interested and involved in the seminary for years.

The music was good. The speakers were excellent. The evaluations indicate that the teaching, companionship, speakers and workshops were uplifting, instructive and helpful. The evaluations also indicate that the participants left the conference strengthened, more sure of their purpose and with a greater love for their people and their ministries.

One pastor wrote, "Now I understand why God has permitted many things to happen in my life." Another said, "We came tired...but we are leaving refreshed in our spirits." Yet another indicated that the conference strengthened their marriages and their determination to overcome evil with good. Encouragement, camaraderie and refreshment: Those are three of the many good things Mexican pastors, wives and other leaders find at Puebla Bible Seminary.

SO HOW ARE THE OLIVER'S? A friend wrote recently and commented that he was getting the seminary's newsletter but for some time hadn't heard anything about the Oliver's personal life and ministry. He was right; we don't write much about ourselves. We are responsible for nine Mexican employees, plus the students and the missionaries who are at

Puebla Bible Seminary so we spend most of our efforts telling their stories. Our Army retirement allows us a degree of freedom to do that but the additional support we receive helps too. It makes it possible to travel to promote the seminary. Since we spend most of our efforts on support for the seminary, as you might guess, giving to our personal account has dropped. You could pray about that and the seminary when you think of us.

Lots of good things are happening at the seminary these days. We are starting 3 new masters' degrees next year: Biblical counseling, church leadership and missiology. This is a new chapter for the school. The seminary also inaugurated a new distance learning program, a certificate in Biblical studies, for churches that do not have access to a seminary close by. A prayer request would be for wisdom as I begin work on a succession plan. Who will be the next leader of the seminary, when should that happen and how?

Some other things that occupy our time:

PEACEMAKER MINISTRIES: Marcy and I are trained conflict mediators with Peacemaker Ministries. (Check out their web page at www.peacemaker.net). This has become my primary ministry to the churches as the seminary director.

MARRIAGE MINISTRY: We do pre-marriage counseling using a survey instrument called FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication Understanding and Study). A related tool called REFOCCUS, helps strengthen existing marriage. We've lead REFOCCUS studies for our small group and helped start a marriage retreat ministry in the church. REFOCCUS is a great evangelistic tool. It's suitable for non-Christian couples and opens the door to share the Gospel. At least one couple came to know Jesus at one of the marriage retreats. Check it out at www.foccusinc.com.

THE NOT-SO-SMALL GROUP: About four years ago we opened our home to a small group from our local church. We don't meet in our home anymore but still attend and support the leaders, Dani and Selene Rodriguez. That small group is about to blossom into a new church plant. The group was over at our house on Friday night for a dinner - about 40 people came, maybe half were children. Prayer request for wisdom: How best to help this new church while staying focused on our primary ministry in the seminary?

FELEX AND FAMILY: About 3 years ago we took on a poor family, single mother and 3 kids. They give us an avenue to play grandma and grandpa. To them we are mamma Marcy and papa Roger. The little one, Angie (3 years), calls us Ma-chi and Pa-poger. She struggles with her "r's". They need a better place to live and some stability. Prayer request: How best to support them without creating a dependency?

What about Bud and Kathryn? Both are living in Dallas. Bud enjoys working for his Uncle Chris as a roofing salesman. Kathryn has found her calling as a teacher. She is half way through her second year as a 2nd grade bi-lingual teacher in Carrollton, Texas.

And what about you? We love to entertain guests and there is no better way to learn about our ministry than to come visit. We'd love to have you. We also travel a good bit in support of the seminary. We need help making contacts who would give us an opportunity to talk about the seminary. Wouldn't that be a good reason to visit you? Pray about it.

Our Dallas phone number is 213-774-4871.

Email: Roger bigol@mindspring.com. Marcy: marcyo@mindspring.com.

Genesis 2:14-15
The Role of Man

2:11 C.T. = The name of the first is Pishon; it flows around the whole land of the Havilah, where there is the gold.

2:12 C.T. = The gold of that land is good; the bdellium and the onyx stone are there.

2:13 C.T. = The name of the second river is Gihon; it flows around the whole land of Cush.

Gen 2:14 = The Third and Fourth Rivers.

2:14 C.T. = The name of the third river is Tigris; it flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

Summary:

1. These two rivers are extant today.
2. Moses gives information that a person in 1445 B.C. could verify as proof of the historicity of the events being described.
3. No one seriously questioned this as the inspired Word of God until the so-called "enlightenment" of the 1800's.
4. Although two rivers are no longer extant, there is reasonable proof of the accuracy of this report.
5. The Tigris and Euphrates rivers were very important to the ancients and this area is called the "cradle of civilization."
6. The Euphrates is one of the designated boundaries of the land promised to Abraham. Gen 15:8; Deut 1:7; 11:24; Josh 1:4
7. The Euphrates will be dried up in the 6th Vial Judgment of the Tribulation to make way for the "Kings of the East." Rev 16:12
8. These four rivers illustrate the "Living Water" who is Jesus.
 - A. PISHON means "overflowing water," so Jesus is more than enough.
 - B. GIHON means "bursting forth," indicating that He is Strong enough.
 - C. CHIDDEKEL refers to a palm tree indicating that the water is Gentle enough for a place of rest.
 - D. EUPHRATES means "break forth," indicating that He is the Conqueror.

Gen 2:15 = Enter "The Man."

2:15 C.T. = Then Yahweh Elohim took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to serve it and guard it.

Summary:

1. Adam was made, a garden was planted and Adam was placed there.

2. God “rested” Adam in a place that was initially secure.
3. His role of “rest” involved the service of taking care of the Garden and guarding it from intruders.
4. Adam’s service is not seen as difficult nor as slavery, but things will change after the Fall. Cf 3:17-19
5. His second role was to guard it, so that begs the question “from who or what?”
6. The twofold role of the perfect man was to serve and guard what had been entrusted to him.
7. Those two things actually describe the basic role of man in the Plan of God.

The Role of Man

8. He is to render service to:
 - A. God first. Exo 8:1
 - B. Mankind. Matt 23:11
 - C. The earth. Gen 2:15
9. Service is at the heart of relationships but fallen mankind only wants to be served.
 - A. Our so great salvation freed us from the Sin Nature so that now the capability exists to serve in a new way. Rom 7:6
 - B. This freedom is to be directed toward service to others. Gal 5:13
 - C. Turning from idols is a marker of a model church. 1 Thes 1:9
 - D. The Lord Himself “poured the mold.” Matt 20:25-28
12. Part of the service is to guard what has been entrusted.
 - A. It specifically involves the commandments of God. Exo 20:6; Lev 18:26; Deut 26:16
 - B. We are not just to know them but “to do them.” Lev 20:22; 22:31; Deut 4:6
 - C. Guarding requires knowledge and action.

Application: These are two required strategies and behaviors to fulfill the Two Greatest Commands.

The Keys to Life

6. Since the Creator inspired and preserved a written record, how should we read it?
 - A. There are only 2 ways to interpret the Bible, Literal or not-literal.
 - B. Problems with the Non-Literal Method.
 1. The non-literal attitude toward the Word leads to a person studying the Bible to make it say what they want it to say.
 2. This approach is a manifestation of arrogance and a practical denial of inspiration which leads inevitably to moral relativism, because words, verses, chapters or even entire books can be omitted or redefined, or new ones introduced.
 3. Context is not important because the "student" claims the authority to reinterpret words according to personal desires.
 4. There is no more analysis of the text in a systematic way because it is not needed and there is clearly no need for the original languages since the reader is more important than the author concerning interpretation.
 5. Satan is the instigator of the Non-Literal method of interpretation. Cf Gen 3:1-7
 6. The results of this approach can deny the sin nature in regenerate man, no more sin, no divine solution, no more issue of Israel, no moral issues, no hell, no savior, no cross, no resurrection.
 7. The actual function of this attitude is a "form of godliness," that is a marker of the last days. 2 Tim 3:1-5
 8. When people lose their desire to fully know the Author (Php 3:10) or become enslaved to the world, there is more and more interest in "getting their ears tickled," through parables, stories, and formulas.
 9. This is an unbalanced spiritual diet that is not good for the soul.
 10. The current system began in Germany in the with the belief that the gift of prophecy returned.
 11. Out of this came several new "theologies":
 - a. Dominion Theology.
 - b. Replacement Theology. Believes that the Church replaced Israel and that all the promises to Israel now apply to the Church.
 - c. Reconstructionism believes *"that every area dominated by sin must be 'reconstructed' in terms of the Bible."*
 - d. Prosperity Theology. This is a materialism gospel that promises material wealth for all who are spiritual.
 - e. Postmodernism. This is a relativistic theology that by its own admission and profession lacks any systematic understanding of the Word.