



The President's Perspective



Easter People in a Good Friday World

As we approach the Easter season, I am reminded of a statement that I came across recently, that "we live in a Good Friday world." It was on Friday of Passion week that Jesus was betrayed, arrested, scourged and ultimately crucified. The immense suffering that Jesus endured on what we now call "Good Friday" is echoed in the sufferings that we see daily in a sin-cursed world. As intense as the suffering of Jesus was, it was surpassed by the glory of His resurrection. The Christian faith is not one of suffering and death alone, but one of victorious resurrection life. We are not "Good Friday" people, but rather "Easter people in a Good Friday world."

In the last two weeks, we have witnessed the resurrection power of Christ at work in the lives of many. We have just completed meetings in upstate New York and New Jersey. It has been thrilling to see numerous souls saved and revived hearts among God's people.

It was especially thrilling to see so many young people both attending our meetings as well as accepting Christ as Savior. Last week, one young man who was saved early in the week, walked forward, on the last night, with a friend whom he had invited and sat with him as he trusted Christ. At the conclusion of the service, none of the teens wanted to leave, but stayed around the church rejoicing and enjoying each others fellowship. If revival comes to America, it may well come through young people who not only desire to live for their God, but are just "foolish" enough to believe that God can and will revive His church.

On the first day of our meetings in New Jersey, we witnessed an adult lady come forward during the Sunday morning invitation to accept Christ. My heart was overjoyed to learn, after the service, that she is the wife of a Muslim man who has also been attending the church. Her decision will most definitely have repercussions in their home. Your prayers for her husband's salvation would be much appreciated.

We are just a little over a month away from our tent crusade in southern Wisconsin. Things are coming together nicely for that crusade. We earnestly desire your prayers for many to come to Christ during those great days of opportunity. As well, things are now confirmed for the July 4 celebration in Valdese, North Carolina. H.O.P.E. Ministries will be doing all the patriotic music for that event, as well as providing a military speaker for the event (recently retired Pentagon Chaplain, Colonel Ralph Benson). Please pray that the gospel presented in song, message and literature will be used mightily of the Lord to draw many to Christ. If you are going to be in the

area at that time and would like more information about that event, you may call our office at 828-302-2060.

We trust that you will have a blessed Easter season and that you will avail yourself of the great opportunities afforded us at this time of year to be a witness for our Savior.

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We appreciate your input, but please understand that due to the volume of email that we receive, we are unable to personally respond to each email.