



## The President's Perspective



### REPORTING & REJOICING

"For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming." (I Thess. 2:19)

We are now home from two incredible weeks of evangelistic outreach in Washington, DC. Though tired in body, we are rejoicing in spirit at the awesome things God did in our nation's capital.

We began our two-week ministry in DC with two days inside the Pentagon. It was my privilege to speak on June 6th at the Pentagon Prayer Breakfast (a second opportunity for me) and on June 7th in the Pentagon Auditorium. I am thrilled to report that three souls were saved among those who attended those events. The new Pentagon Chaplain, Col. William Broome and Deputy Chaplain Maj. Alan Pomaville were gracious hosts. The time they spent with us, giving us a tour of the Pentagon and introducing us to notable individuals who work there, is something that I will never forget. A highlight of our visit to the Pentagon had to be meeting two-star General David Hicks, the Chief Chaplain of the Army. This incredible Christian gentleman has his testimony in print in the form of a gospel tract, published by Good News Publishers. He is bold and unashamed in his witness for Christ. I look forward to additional times of ministry in the Pentagon and to further cultivation of relationships with these fine men.

As soon as our Pentagon Outreach was over, we began preparation for our third Washington, DC Crusade. The tent went up on Thursday, chairs went in on Friday and Saturday evening we began our crusade with an afternoon concert and evening showing of the hugely popular Christian film *FACING THE GIANTS*. At the conclusion of the film, a dear lady was saved. Her conversion was all the more dramatic considering the fact that her husband had come to Christ a few weeks earlier as a result of listening to a series of my messages on CD. He brought his wife to DC just to meet me. Little did he know that their visit would be life-changing for his wife. What a way to begin a week!!

From the very outset of the crusade, we saw the hand of the Lord at work. Souls were saved at the conclusion of every service. That we know of, a total of 58 were born into the family of God. That number is likely to go up in the coming days as we continue to hear of others saved as a result of the 20,000+ John/Romans booklets, 10,000 Metro Maps (with the gospel on them), 7000 water bottles (with the gospel on them) and other gospel literature that was distributed over the course of the week. Approximately 300 volunteers came to help from over 35 churches across the nation. They formed a

massive army that hit the streets with the gospel. One of our board members, who had never attended a DC Crusade, was astounded that so many, from so far, would take their vacation time to labor for the Savior in Washington.

The week was eventful in other ways, as well. On Tuesday evening, the Lord changed my message from the one that I had prepared, to one on spiritual warfare-an appropriate message for Washington, DC. I felt compelled to begin the message with the following admonition, "No matter what happens tonight, no matter what interruption might occur, I urge you to keep you focus on a message that the Devil doesn't want you to hear." Little did I know that about ten minutes after that comment, our Head of Security, Mike White, would have to pull two individuals from the service. Those two individuals had tried to get money from some of our attendees, using a story that their car had been impounded and some of their items stolen. Ultimately, nine DC police cars, four officers on bicycles and our security team were involved. The two had weapons and assorted drug items on their persons and had been sought by the Capitol Police for several days. Though I was aware that something was "going down" just outside the tent, the Lord gave me His power to continue preaching. The audience listened with rapt attention and at the conclusion of the service, a young marine, seated close to the disturbance, was saved. I have nothing but praise for Mike White (Security Head), Chuck Nelson and Andy Lambert (Asst. Security Chairmen), and our entire security team. They handled what could have been a disastrous situation with the utmost professionalism.

Several elements stand out as highlights of the week. On Wednesday, the Army Band conducted a rehearsal for an evening concert just across from our tent. Because they were rehearsing in intense heat that day, we approached the Major in charge with an offer of free water for the entire band. They gladly accepted our offer and took approximately 200 bottles of ice-cold water with the gospel message on the label. In addition, we gave them copies of our military tribute, FOR FREEDOM'S DREAM. One young lady in the band asked for two boxes of the DVD's to send to her friends in Iraq. Pictures of us conversing with the band members are now posted on our website (DC photo slide-show). On Thursday afternoon, the Daybreak Quartet, Jose' Young and several others on our team, went to Arlington National Cemetery to sing and make brief comments at the grave of a young military man who was killed in Iraq. We filmed the brief service there to send to his family. While Daybreak and Jose were singing, I noticed that another family was standing nearby, listening to the music. When I asked who they were, they informed us that their son was also killed in Iraq and that they were in town for a personal meeting with the President. We enjoyed a sweet time of fellowship with them and were able to present them with some gospel material. I included some extra material for them to give to the President, which they assured me they would do. We pray that this will open doors for us inside Arlington Cemetery in the days ahead.

While I could say more about the crusade week (including our White House tour-with the opportunity to see the President take off in Marine One from the south lawn), I think that the following testimonies from those who attended will be more powerful.

"On Monday morning, a group of us teens went to Union Station to hand out pamphlets and invitations to the crusade. After 20 minutes, a man came by and I offered him an invitation and a pamphlet. He said, "Thanks!" As I watched him walk away, I observed him reading the material. Suddenly, he turned and walked over to me and asked, "Do you believe what is in this booklet?" I said, "Yes!" I tried to explain the gospel to him and he promised to come to the service that night. I didn't see him in the service that night. However, after the invitation, I noticed a man being dealt with. Mr. Kistler came by to greet him and it was at that point that I realized who the man was. It was at that point that I "freaked out" and told my dad that he was the man I invited that morning. I still do not know his name, but I'm so thankful that he got saved."  
Erin, from Oregon

"I would like to thank you for your ministry. I just attended the 2007 Tent Crusade with my church. Your messages spoke to my heart every night. At the beginning of the week I was scared of talking to people on the streets and inviting them to the crusade. But, by the end of the week I was comfortable with it and enjoyed every minute of it. By the end of the week, I saw several people under the tent that I invited. Thank you everything you do."  
Ahoshea, from North Carolina

"I just want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to come to DC to help with the tent ministry. I was awed and amazed at how organized a tent meeting could be. The messages, the music and the fellowship with other Christian brothers and sisters from all over the US was unbelievable. I would never have imagined that people in DC would be so willing to accept the gospel."  
Teresa, from Georgia

"I am writing to tell you how amazing our trip to the DC Crusade was. We had the privilege to sit in on the Sunday evening service. The whole night was incredible. There is truly a lot of musical talent with HOPE Ministries. The quartet wowed us all. We talked about Jose's voice for days. I was personally in awe of your family and your zeal to serve the Lord. Your son's voice was incredible and your daughter can play a violin unlike anyone I've ever heard. Our church devoted the entire service Sunday night to our trip to DC. The men and women who went stood and testified how good the Lord had been to us."  
Jackie, from Indiana

"I highly appreciated your service last night. And it is my great pleasure to meet all of you. The DVD you gave me will be a gift to my son. In this way I want to tell my son of the American Freedom. Warmly welcome you to pay visit to Chinese Embassy. Best regards!  
Official from Chinese Embassy (visited the Saturday afternoon concert)

"I just had to let you know how exciting it was to meet you and how much your mission work means to me. I was so incredibly touched by what I saw there under the tent last night in the yards of our nation's capital. I never would have thought that night as I wandered aimlessly that I would see GOD working in such a way through his people. To be able to walk by the Washington Monument and hear "Jesus" name ring

out in music and message was simply breathtaking. I believe, no, I know He sent me there for a reason. I am willing to do and go wherever. Meeting you and the others was such an inspiration to me. It reminds me to keep fighting for and building His kingdom. I could just see so many hearts that were filled with love, compassion and hope; everything that our GOD possesses."

Tiffany, from California

Please visit our photo slide-show and check the website frequently for further updates. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow!

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