

The Kistler Report

June 26, 2009

CRYSTAL RIVER CAMP-MEETING

From Monday to Wednesday (June 22-24), it was my delight to participate in the first annual Crystal River Camp Meeting in Newport, NC. The host church was Community Baptist Church of Newport where my good friend Ken Bartholomew is pastor. Because of its close proximity to Camp Lejune, the church is filled with former and active duty military. This is a balanced church that is in the middle of expansive renovations of their facility. They are located on U.S. Hwy. 70, just several miles from Morehead City, NC.

During the three days, services were held at 10:30 am and 7:00 pm. It was my delight to share the pulpit with Pastor Kenny Grant (Pastor of Christ Community Church of Savannah, GA). Though I'd never met Pastor Grant before, the Lord knit our hearts together over the three days we spent together. Our family provided the special music each evening, as well as almost 30 minutes of pre-service music each night. The meeting was conducted under H.O.P.E. Ministries' big red and white tent.

Although we never discussed the topics of our messages, the Lord powerfully directed both Bro. Kenny's message topics, and mine, so that we were "reading off the same sheet of music." We had a good number of local pastors who supported the meeting and I've continued to receive e-mails and verbal thanks, especially for my message on the first night, "Unity, Not Just Union." It seems that God is speaking to pastor's hearts about the absolute necessity of unity among those of us who believe and preach the infallible Scriptures. Men seem to be connecting to my appeal for us to cease the unnecessary and destructive divisions that have so crippled us and rendered us powerless. I praise God, as this is essential for our very survival, as well as communicating to a lost world the reality of the gospel.

The last evening, I was privileged to preach on "The Anti-Christ, His Rise, Resistance and Religion." The tent was filled that evening with eager listeners. I believe the eyes of many were opened to what is occurring in our nation and around the world. Many decisions were made at the invitation, for which I praise our Wonderful Lord. The power of the gospel and the Word is immeasurable. Please pray for me as this end-time topic is much needed and in demand. Pray also for God's gracious hand of continued blessing on Pastor Bartholomew and his dear people. This is a great church with incredible future potential.

Dave Kistler

President

www.hopeministriesonline.com

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Phone: 828-327-9015

