

# Banners Unfurled

SEPTEMBER, 1999

## LAST SUMMER OF THE CENTURY

The last summer of the century has come and gone just like all the others except that on BEALE ST. the bars have added more outdoor music and the apathy has been more pronounced. We got off to a great start



### NOTHING TO FEAR

(A modern day tale of public evangelism. This comes from the "Jews for Jesus" newsletter. I know we differ in some things but I like them because they have guts and 'play the man'. II Samuel 10:12)

I was never more intimidated to share my faith than on the streets of Jerusalem several years ago. I had all the symptoms of an anxiety attack at the thought of standing on Ben Yehuda Street, handing out gospel tracts. For days just prior to our arrival in Jerusalem, God had been speaking to my heart about my fears. The Lord reminded me that He would not fail me on the streets of Jerusalem.

Seven of us had come to distribute our literature. Our t-shirts proclaimed that Jesus is the Messiah, and within minutes I began to hear the word 'missionary' whispered throughout the crowd that gathered. The whispers escalated to yells, and several people began screaming insults in Hebrew and Yiddish.

In less than five minutes, the crowd became hostile enough to tear the tract bags from our shoulders, scattering our tracts. Two of the men with us were surrounded by an angry mob who began to pull at them and to hit them with their fists. One person in our group lost his glasses, but a man standing and watching was kind enough to pick them up and hand them to one of the women.

I was shoved to the ground, and an Orthodox man threatened to kick me. But a woman standing outside of the mob yelled at him and he hurled insults at me instead. The woman began to cry, trying to make sense of the chaos. I got up and she asked me in broken English why the people were so upset. I explained that we believe Y'shua is the promised Messiah, and that they disagree.

"How can you do this?" she asked, "Why aren't you afraid?" I realized then that I wasn't afraid. All my fear and anxiety had subsided and was replaced with an amazing sense of peace- peace that nothing would separate me from God, nothing. I couldn't speak Hebrew, but somehow I communicated to this Israeli woman that believing in Jesus was so important that it was worth the risk to tell others.

Sharing our faith is not an option, it is a command. Chances are we will be rejected by some, but . . . it is not we who are rejected, it is Jesus.

when we had a visitor who went to BEALE with us, came back ecstatic, and "had a fire rekindled" according to her own words. The next week, after travelling elsewhere, she came back loaded for bear. We were now rebuked for believing heresy (the KJV is the word of God) and left us with a bag full of material which was supposed to "open our eyes". **IT DIDN'T!** That was a new experience. Oh, well, win some and lose some!

We were able to get a 700' roll of banner material (Tyvek) up to **Bro. Kevin Deegan in Rochester, NY** and he and his crew are cranking out banners to those who want them and will use them. If you want to go into production, we will supply you the material.

A quote on the cover of **WIRED** said, "**Faster Faster Faster until the thrill of speed overcomes the fear of death**" and is a picture of our society today. The Harley Davidson bikers were here this summer and one of them assured me that he was as saved as I was. I asked him if he realized that everyone in Heaven was not equal and began to deal with him about rewards, but he got a call on his cell phone before he could give me a reply. That's it! **Never any down time to think about God.**

Bro. Dennis Black and I have had a great time each week in the **Wilder Youth Development Center**. We have about 15-20 young men that come. The countenance of some has changed, and souls are saved regularly. Freida & Mrs. Black have had 4 saved in the womens' jail since May and 35 Bible studies done with 6 earning a certificate for completion of the first course.

***In the name of our God, we will set up our banners. Psalm 20: 5.***

Carolyn read the tracts her son got at the Blast, called us and Freida led her to the Lord in May. She has done several Bible studies and called last week to thank Freida and tell her she had gotten into a church. Even better-she had her friend Linda on the phone because she wanted Freida to help her get saved too. Linda was happy to get saved and is now doing Bible studies also.

It was a blessing to have Bro. Wes Neill and his son Wesley (7) here with us last weekend. Wes is a new convert to the King James Bible belief and street preaching. He was here with us for the BEALE STREET BLAST 99 and saw the difference believing the Bible makes. Since that time God led him out of a non-denominational non-doctrinal church into a Bible believing church in Tyler, Texas where he is now the head of their street ministry!! They spent the weekend and went to BEALE to preach with us Friday and Saturday nights. Young Wesley got to witness the best of the brewer's art as a brawl broke out 10 feet away that left two men belly up on the street with the crowd gathered around longing for more. Wesley and Freida ran for cover as the police thundered to the rescue before a full-scale problem developed. I saw a "Christian" girl crying that had just defended the street party and I turned to her and said **"Just the kind of place for a 'nice' Christian girl to be. Just the kind of place!!"** She had no reply. Wesley took it like a man and was back with his tract bag on Saturday night.

### BEALE STREET BLAST 2000

BEALE STREET BLAST 2000 will be held **May 4-7** at the Victory Valley Bible Conference Campground. The cost will be approximately the same as last year- \$100 per person for the entire weekend (food and lodging) and \$100 per night for families over 5. Start saving now-a buck or two a week and you'll have it. Last year exceeded our expectations; we are counting on the Lord to bring together some good teaching sessions for you and of course being in the middle of 150,000 hostile sinners against God does its own work. Bro. **Sutek** and Bro. **Eubanks** as well as others will be here Lord willing. Registration info will be in the next issue.

### EMPHASIS OF MY PREACHING

Over the years the emphasis of my preaching changes and this summer I have been trying to emphasize the **Ten Commandments**. It started with a tape and literature from a street preacher in California named Ray Comfort. He emphasizes the use of the law, specifically the Ten Commandments, to show a person their NEED of salvation. ". . . *I had not known sin, but by the law: for I had not known lust, except the law had said, Thou shalt not covet*" (Roman 7:7). And Galatians 3: 24 *"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ. . ."*

As a result I've seen bigger crowds of people stand around for longer to listen to the message. I emphasize what God said about lying, murder, adultery, fornication, honoring parents, etc. People just don't think their sins are worthy of Hell so that explanation is part of my current message. I still preach that as *'natural brute beasts'* they have *"eyes full of adultery and that cannot cease from sin."* (II Peter 2:14). Many are shocked to learn that Jesus equated looking and lusting with adultery- a sin that deserved capital punishment. They are sometimes dumbfounded. They think everyone lusts and it's the natural thing to do especially for

### WHY I PREACH WITH A BANNER

**It separates me from the crowd and identifies my purpose. The banner gives me a greater presence than I would have without it.**

**It attracts people to me by its content. They actually come to me to ask questions. Why are you here? What does the banner mean? Through it I get many more chances to plant a seed.**

**It preaches to others even when I am dealing one on one with someone else. MANY pictures of me with the banner have been taken and now appear around the world in photo albums and video clips.**

**My banner of the Great White Throne Judgment (a copy made from the soul winning tract "Tell It Like It Is" by Dr. Peter Ruckman) focuses my preaching. Explaining the picture automatically keeps my attention on men being sinners, lost and undone, hopeless unless they receive the Lord Jesus Christ as their Savior.**

a young man. I'm looking for someone that is concerned about his or her soul and to my knowledge I have never had a TRUE convert (I have had some professions) from the street. I hope the Lord is doing something I don't know about because unless He is I will be 'empty handed' of real CONVERSIONS from the street. Mind you, I've never been one to have someone add Jesus to their already wonderful life. I make salvation as easy as it is, but I try to make sure they understand that salvation is **"Christ in you"** and there aren't really a lot of takers in the party crowd. Even so I **don't want to inoculate more people with empty professions**, as I believe the super churches have done with their extravaganzas. I deal with their 'converts' all the time. There is no repentance, no conviction of their wickedness and no knowledge of the holiness of God. I have professing Christians tell me (seriously) that Jesus Christ would elbow up to the bar and have a drink with someone. That's pretty far away from Biblical salvation if you ask me. Yet they profess to be saved because they 'believe in God' and have 'asked Jesus into their hearts'. Only God knows, but a life without change is probably "NO LIFE."

### DISTRICT COURT IN CINCINNATI

Pray for the ruling on my case that was appealed and should come in 3-6 months according to my lawyer.

***"Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest." Mt. 9:38***

### CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

College Ball Game Crowds  
Most Weekends

Don't let the Century go by without a weekend of evangelism. We'll take care of your food and lodging while you're here.

You can contact me at 901 386-2035 or by E-mail [klansing@concentric.net](mailto:klansing@concentric.net)  
Ken Lansing, Memphis, Tennessee

# Battlefield Bulletins

BRO. MIKE WOLSKI- POLAND

We have had a good time on the streets with the banner. **Many people will stop and look at it giving the other fellows a chance to talk to them.** We have had the banner out 3 times on Saturdays. After we pass out tracts the group will get together to sing and then one of the fellows will preach a 15-20 minute sermon. I've seen where in that time groups of up to 15 people will stop and listen for at least 5 minutes and then many leave. This can happen up to 4 times during the preaching, so 50-60 people have stopped by to hear for at least 5 minutes and **all the time the banner is staring them in the face.** Those that can talk Polish try to start conversations with those that are listening at the end. It has been effective in getting out the gospel and we have seen people come out to visit the church the next day. Thanks again for the effort in getting us the sign.

BRO. PERRY DEMOPOULOS- UKRAINE

I had a good time with Bro. Hall when I was in Tennessee. We were able to get materials for a couple of banners to make here in Ukraine. He did one for me while I was in the states. While I was going from church to church I'd open our banner up to let the people know what we were planning to do here in Ukraine. Well, the Lord has been blessing. **Many people are just blown away by the banner.**

LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH  
DEFUNIAK SPRINGS, FLORIDA  
BRO. ROGER GRANDSTAFF

The one (banner) I received while with you all has been a blessing. I take it with me most of the time I go out, I have learned to pay attention to the wind before going. I had it with me the other night in Andalusia, Alabama . . . . I was standing with the banner and a teenage **girl just walked across the street and asked what the banner meant.** She was already saved but the curiosity of the banner brought her to me. . The banner is definitely a great tool to use on the street, **sometimes when I am preaching I will pick up the banner with one hand and take a step or two toward the "congregation" and I feel as if I have a staff in my hand.**

BRO. RAY MEIER- AMARILLO, TX

I've known that they (banners) would be effective, but just never went to the trouble to use one. To make a long story short, the other night they had the Polk Street Block Party here in Amarillo. I went down and parked some pickups in strategic locations . . . . Anyhow Bro. Larry Hickam happened by, and . . . I asked if I could borrow his banner. It was sure a blessing and **the banner got a lot of attention.** It is one of Christ on the cross and has Rom. 5:8 on it. We must've preached to 300 or 400 people that night in the space of an hour until our voices were blown out. They had to stand in line for up to 10 minutes just about 15 feet from where we were . . . but even though many refused the tracts **they all got an eye full of the banner.** Moral of the story: I'd sure like to have one.

TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH  
HELENWOOD, TENNESSEE

Recently the street preaching team from Trinity Baptist Church in Helenwood, Tennessee got an "encouraging" letter from the usual well meaning Christian. This brother suggested some **alternative methods** to "shouting at someone" which produces a "negative reaction". You know- it was the usual "While the enthusiasm is appreciated, your methodology perhaps leaves something to be desired." He suggested the following instead of preaching:

- 1) Attracting listeners with **music** of the type commonly expected in the Gatlinburg area. (THE MUSIC IS THE PROBLEM)
- 2) Perhaps a '**comfort station**' with free soft drinks and a place to sit. (LIKE JOHN THE BAPTIST HAD)
- 3) **Puppet shows** for kids (parents will also listen and absorb the message.)
- 4) Fliers used should be '**user friendly**', not confrontational, and not use 'Christianese'. The present generation is out of touch with 'church' and related terminology and basic Bible teachings, so don't assume they know about a 'personal savior', what true 'repentance' is, 'receiving' the Lord Jesus Christ. While what you say is right, it won't communicate with the modern generation.

**Our reply: I Corinthians 1:21 " . . it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe."**

## PILGRIM MEETS PROFESSIONAL EVANGELIST

Being a new traveler on the road to the Celestial City, my soul was filled with joy and I endeavored to speak of the Saviour to every person I met. I had joined myself with a body of likeminded pilgrims and we were much enthused when we heard that EVANGELIST would be with us for several evenings. I could hardly wait for him to arrive in order that I might solicit his wisdom and help in speaking to the worldlings around us. My heart was heavily burdened with the thought of their undone souls and I prayed earnestly that he would be able to prevail with God in order that they might have their burdens lifted as mine had been. Daily I prayed for these souls who were dear to me and prepared their names for EVANGELIST in order that he could go and plead with them in the daytime hours. Knowing that God especially prepares an evangelist's heart and abilities to touch sin darkened hearts, I had much anticipation for the salvation of their souls, as I think my fellow pilgrims did for their loved ones also.

We gathered the first evening with high spirits and were looking to God for a special touch as EVANGELIST and PASTOR APATHY arrived to speak God's word to us. My heart thrilled to think of all the souls they had no doubt been able to visit with that day. But as PASTOR APATHY stood, he let it be know with much foolish jesting that he and EVANGELIST had spent the day at Vanity Fair enjoying some of the local amusements. My heart was much dismayed but I had hopes that perhaps the next day they would be able to visit some of my loved ones who were rushing headlong to the City of Destruction. Alas, after EVANGELIST had preached from the beloved words of truth (which seemed to lack much power), PASTOR APATHY announced that any pilgrims who wished to join them the next day could do so for a game of golf and perhaps we would even have a tournament for the week. Thinking I must be mistaken, I gave the most earnest heed and indeed EVANGELIST jested even more about PASTOR WORLDLY MINDED who he had played and defeated in his last meeting.

My heart was moved within me when I realized that EVANGELIST and PASTOR APATHY would truly be spending their days in worldly pursuits. As a child I had heard many times that when EVANGELIST came to town, he would pray and ask fellow pilgrims for the names of those they were concerned about that he might attempt to turn them to the Heavenly Highway while he was here. But alas, an older pilgrim sadly informed me that was many years ago. Evangelists no longer feel that same burden. As I mused on these things, I thought I understood now why NO SOULS joined us on our trip to the Celestial City that week. It was a painful and heartbreaking discovery. It was then that I remembered that EVANGELIST's first name had been PROFESSIONAL!

-By F Lansing

**"BUT WATCH THOU IN ALL THINGS, ENDURE AFFLICTIONS, DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST, MAKE FULL PROOF OF THY MINISTRY."**

**II Timothy 4:5**

## *Banners Unfurled*

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## First Class Mail

