

Banners Unfurled

MAY, 1999

BEALE STREET BLAST WAS A BLAST!!

What can we say but **God** exceeded our expectations!! After days of the worst weather, He alone gave beautiful weather all the hours we were on the street. Memphis in May should really be thankful that God did this for us to enable a record breaking 138,000 people to hear the Good News one more time, or maybe for the first time.

What a time we had!! I believe God put this team together just right with Bro. Jerry Sutek leading and Bro. Bill Eubanks yoked up with him and Bro. David Rowley leading the roof-lifting singing. I facilitated things, along with Bros. Galen Hall & Dennis Black and I want to thank all of those who taught classes (breakouts) or preached in the mornings or anything else to make it possible. The Blackberry Jam (Bro. Dennis Black's kids) sang every service and were a great addition.

Here's what went on:(And is still developing.)

- 120 folks attended the Blast.
- Distributed 50,000 tracts.
- Several professions of faith during the Blast.
- Got one tract back last week with a profession of faith.
- Freida led a lady to the Lord on the phone who had read several tracts her son got and called us.
- The street preachers got the FRONT PAGE of the newspaper instead of the rock music. Hallelujah!! The headline read *EVANGELISTS PLAY TO TOUGH AUDIENCE AT BEALE FESTIVAL*. It had a picture of two preachers with a good shot of the Great White Throne Judgment banner for all to see in case they didn't go to BEALE STREET.
- Ten preachers went home with complete banners, poles and all the hardware thanks to the work of Galen Hall and Kevin Deegan.



• The following week the newspaper did a lengthy story about my federal lawsuit that God gave the victory in last year. In this article it quoted my judge extensively, saying

"Oral and written dissemination of religious views is entitled to the utmost constitutional protection. . . Protection does not fade away merely because the speech is despised or controversial."

The article said that Memphis in May is appealing the ruling in hopes that next year it can keep street preachers away from the huge crowds approaching the gates to its events.

• Last week the American Family Radio network called me and did an interview in which I attempted to do my best to lift up the Lord Jesus, street preaching and the King James Bible.

• Today the Trinity Broadcast Network called and asked me to be interviewed for a television broadcast on the free speech issue and street preaching. This will be hard because I am adverse to their charismatic broadcasting but I believe God has opened this door and I'll do my best to use it for Him and the issues I believe to be important.

God really stirred hearts of those who attended the Blast and only time and eternity will tell what it accomplished in the lives of those we dealt with on the street.

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

Preachers' Parade

If you've never gotten together with a large number of the "Blood Washed Gang" (that's what Bro. Dennis Black calls us) and marched in a street preachers' parade with Bro. Jerry Sutek leading it through the middle of a hostile, jeering, chanting crowd, YOU HAVEN'T LIVED! On Friday night as we were setting up our 25 banners, the mob on the next block was eyeing us suspiciously. Meanwhile a friendly policeman approached us, pointed down the block and said "There's the gates of Hell- go for it!!" Which we did. With Bro. Jerry leading we got into formation with the banners facing the sidewalks and the rest of us in between. Down the street we marched singing *Washed in the Blood, Victory in Jesus*, etc. with the crowd on the sidewalks at first becoming silent in awe and then coming alive with taunts and screams of derision. After 3 blocks we dispersed and witnessed one on one.

One man expressed his frustration to the local paper this way:

Here in Memphis, to avoid some street preachers stuffing their morals down your throat, you have to avoid going to a rejuvenated downtown for one of the biggest music festivals in the country. The only thing these pushy zealots accomplished was littering downtown with thousands of unread pamphlets, and you treat this as front-page news. Maybe next time we should give them a key to the city. I guess the only way to avoid The Commercial Appeal repeatedly trying to save my godless heathen soul is to stop buying it.

DOES THIS MAKE YOU WONDER IF WE COULD CLEAN UP OUR CITIES IF ENOUGH PREACHERS GOT OUTSIDE THEIR CHURCHES??

The BEALE STREET BLAST was a great time of reviving, training and standing for the Lord Jesus Christ. If you missed it, start to plan now for next year. The Music Fest is always the first week-end of May, which should put it on May 4-7. If they change the dates, I'll let you know as soon as possible.

Don't forget that our ministry on BEALE STREET goes on year round. If you are coming through Memphis on a week-end and want to go to BEALE STREET with us, just give me a call. We can sleep and feed 25!

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.

In addition to BEALE STREET, God has opened the door to the Wilder Development Center for young men to Bro. Dennis Black and myself. We have seen several saved there this month and are trying to ground them in the word.

I want to mention again my thanks to Bro. Kevin Deegan from NY who brought a van load of men and says he's bringing 2 vans next year. They made 10 banners which we gave away to preachers who promised they would use them. And also extra thanks to pastor Galen Hall who slaved tirelessly with administrative chores for the Blast and for making the hardware for the banners we gave away. Two or three other groups are going to get into banner production and we intend to make them available along with the hardware free to everyone we can. My heart was really blessed as I saw the great interest in using banners because I think they are so effective.

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

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Any summer night - even during the week - there will be large crowds - Germans, French, Austrians, Ect., even a few Yanks who stray across the line.

You can contact me at 901 386-2035 or by E-mail klansing@concentric.net

Battlefield Bulletins

AFRAID TO DIE

Kay Perkey, whose husband died a year ago, came to the BLAST to get her own spirits lifted and left overflowing. Standing on a corner, she attempted to give a tract to Allen Ropke from New York, who was very curt with her and refused to talk. In fact he told her he DID NOT WANT IT in no uncertain terms. Not knowing what to do, Kay just stood there and began to pray for the man. In a minute or two he turned to her and asked if she was afraid to die. After answering in the negative, he told her he was. Kay assured him that he could take care of that in just a matter of minutes. Taking out her Bible and showing him how he could be saved, they knelt together, Allen asked the Lord to save him and they both came up rejoicing.

GOD'S SENSE OF HUMOR

Some of the funniest things were overheard during the week-end. We only wish we could have had a hidden microphone and there's no telling what we would have heard. One of the best was when Peggy Wolski overheard a man on his cell phone saying "You should be here. There are these evangelists everywhere- **IT'S LIKE THEY'VE BEEN SHOT OUT OF A BIBLE!**"

Freida and Kay Perkey heard a man say to his 'woman' as they passed,
" #@, **THEY'RE LIKE LICE, THEY'RE EVERYWHERE.**"

Another man's comment encouraged me when he said "**WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?**" A few years ago there was only 1 or 2 men here with a banner and now look at them!"

YES, I WILL SEEK GOD'S WILL

A clean looking college age couple (from Ole Miss) walked up to me and allowed me to explain the banner to them. Because they professed to be saved, I dealt with them and the young man especially about seeking God's will and doing it. After a lengthy discussion in which he seemed to be very serious, he said he would determine to seek God's will. He consented to pray a prayer of commitment right there which we did and they went on their way. I may never know what happens but I believe he made a serious decision that day.

COMMENTS FROM THE BEALE ST. BLASTERS

*" Just wanted to thank you both for the best Street Preacher's Convention "ever"! The consensus of all is that **it was "glorious"**!*

*" I wound up with two of the BEALE STREET song books & now everyone wants the books. I just look at them and say '**no go, no get**'.*

*" I sure **didn't feel like going back to work!** I want to say that our family had a "Blast" at the blast! What we saw was the unfruitful works of rock music and the influence that Satan has through that media! I am so thankful that God showed our family the evil of 'Christian' rock music. It is much more than just the words.*

*" I sat in Dr. Jackson's class, **it was great!***

*" I enjoyed being able to choose which class I wanted to hear about. Your first year was **a wonderful success.***

*" The Blast **lit a fire** in me that I hope will never go out. It really gave me a desire to be active in public ministry. I **got spoiled** by all the good preaching and singing as well. I firmly believe that the KJV is THE word of God. I believed that before I came to Memphis but while there I **saw the real difference it makes in believers.** I saw the faith and power in those around me. I had a power in my preaching from a certain faith that what I was proclaiming is God's Word. The problem is I do not attend a KJV church.*

ONE DAY THE PARTY WILL BE OVER

One of the men stopped a group of young people to ask if they knew the Lord. A girl in the group said, "Oh man, look", There were banners staggered all the way down 2 blocks of Beale Street. She looked upset & said "Are they gonna harrass us every time we pass one of those signs? We're here to have a good time. How are we gonna get past all of them?" Then she pulled her friends away and said, "Come on you guys...we're here to party, so let's do it." They were all pretty well gone, but some of them were listening. As I looked down the street, the sight truly was something to behold. We can't help but wonder if those banners will be in their minds when the party is over.

Following the Blast a local radio talk show host asked his audience what they thought of the evangelists. It was reported to me that most of the callers were against our endeavors, which comes as no surprise. I would respond to these attacks by saying that I was in the reveler's face for two reasons. First, to keep them from going to Hell if possible by getting the life God requires to get into heaven, which comes with the person of Jesus Christ indwelling the sinner. And second, to reprove the unfruitful works of darkness according to Ephesians 5:11.

It's wonderful that Christians can get a hold on the truth of the redeeming work of Christ but when it comes to believing the rest of the Bible there's a willful ignorance that is appalling. Professing Christians can defend the vilest music and musicians, they can enjoy the company of drunks and strippers who flash when egged on by the drunks. They are neither sickened nor saddened by the inappropriate public display of sexual conduct, nor do they appear to be bothered by the drugged degenerates that lounge around selling paraphernalia. Eph. 5:11 is just as much Bible as John 3:16 and if a thousand believers were out afflicting the comfortable with the truth we might slow the descent down a little. Bro. Sutek calls it "occupying for righteousness". One of the heathen writing to the Commercial Appeal revealed what would possibly happen if another hundred gospel guns were going off at their street parties - "to avoid some street preachers ... you have to avoid going ... to one of the biggest music festivals in the country." Good, that's just what we want. If they're going to sin, make them do it in private without the city's sponsorship. Hold it down. Don't expose it to anyone. Sin is desirable and appealing until it works its death. Don't let it get away with its attractiveness without opposition. Of course some would say these events help the city. No doubt tourists pour in millions of dollars but what about the long-term effects of broken families and drug & alcohol wasted lives? Strong families and morality would profit more than the wrath of God on this city.

"BUT WATCH THOU IN ALL THINGS, ENDURE AFFLICTIONS, DO THE WORK OF AN EVANGELIST, MAKE FULL PROOF OF THY MINISTRY." II Timothy 4:5

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First Class Mail