



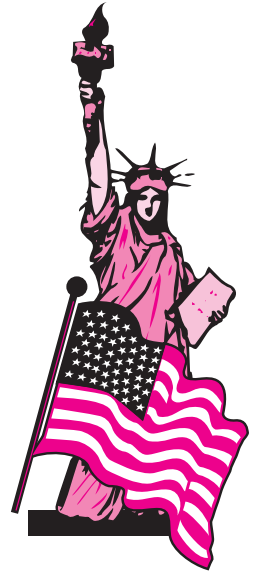
CONTENDING FOR
FUNDAMENTAL CHRISTIANITY

The Voice IN THE Wilderness

"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make His paths straight."

Mark 1:3

Published Monthly
Free Subscription



CONTENDING FOR
AMERICAN FREEDOM

July 2005

AMERICA

It all started – 'twas wonderment to see
Blessed by God a mighty nation to be.

Wise men assembled, not armies arrayed
By the Divine were they led to men persuade.

No sunshine patriot here to be found
But Valley Forged from the sterling pound.

When hammered hard they stood to test
And up from trial there arose the best.

To declare these truths self-evident
Absolved and united and independent.

Creator endowed the blessed to pursue
Life and liberty in this land anew.

The churches supported the patriot cause
No musket wadding – Watts Hymnal, no pause.

The smoke it settled over cloudless day
A UNION to walk the Constitution way.

Those men had assembled with motive so pure
For their country's liberty and happiness to secure.

Life and fortune with sacred honor they pledged
For this Provident design could not be hedged.

And so in July and on this fourth we wave
The flag of truth for souls, may America be saved.

-RLW

The King James Bible is
printed in England.

The Mayflower arrives in
New England.

The Pilgrims
Thanksgiving with
92 Indian guests.

1611

1620

1621

(Timeline continues on
Page 4)



MY PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Dear Friends:

"To plant, and under ye Divine blessing to propagate in this Wilderness, the blessed Reformed, Protestant Religion, in ye purity of its Order, and Worship." Shock, shock, but that was the purpose of Yale College as stated by the trustees on November 11, 1701. What would those trustees think today?

Yes, there is a Wilderness out there; and a beast that would gnash upon those who engage in things eternal. It is our purpose to lift up the precious blessed name and news of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To HIM who is worthy be honour and glory, amen!

Thousands each month read this little "voice" and many join us in prayer as well as financial support to cry out the message of hope. What a joy to be a part of the sweet rather than the bitter - to share in building rather than tearing down. Thank you so very much for the partnership

we have as labourers together in Christ.

Mr. Spurgeon stated: "A magazine which is not outspoken and is destitute of principle, is a literary nuisance." Contending for the faith without

1. It is better to be divided by TRUTH than united by error.
2. It is better to speak the TRUTH that hurts and then heals than a lie that comforts and then kills.
3. It is better to hear tough or even rough TRUTH than tender or polished lies.
4. It is better to be hated for telling the TRUTH than loved for telling a lie.
5. It is better to stand alone for the TRUTH than stand with a crowd in a lie.

seeming contentious is difficult at times. However, it was Jesus in the temple with whip in hand. Christ

said, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites!" Note that Jesus called these religious leaders hypocrites, fools, and other non-complimentary judgments. Then, do you recall the rich ruler who heard the words of Jesus and went away sorrowful? No, Jesus did not call this rich ruler back saying, "I love you." Yes, Jesus loved the soul of this lost individual enslaved by the material things of this world. Nevertheless, truth was truth, and HIS love could not be compromised.

We too must stand on the truth of God's Word. Contend for the faith and compromise not. Paul denounced those individuals who turned away. The Apostle John said he would remember the deeds of Diotrephes. Those prating, malicious words meant to hinder and harm the work of God were condemned by the apostle. Destructive individuals who bitterly attack God's work position

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The Voice in the Wilderness is a nonprofit, independent incorporation, founded by Rev. Dr. J. Royce Thomason D.P.D. Ph.D., evangelist and medical missionary. The organization is dedicated to the spreading of the whole gospel to the world, especially in foreign lands. The program consists of building mission stations, supporting American missionaries and native pastors by partnering with the local church in various areas of ministry and preaching Christ to the lost. We are supported by the gifts of those who care. Contributions to The Voice in the Wilderness for projects or to support the ministry of a missionary will be used as indicated by the donor following approved policies and procedures. Gifts are tax deductible and should be made out to The Voice in the Wilderness. The Voice in the Wilderness Magazine is a fundamental publication, published each month in behalf of the work of the Lord and preservation of the liberties of our United States. Printed material from other sources does not necessarily imply an endorsement from this ministry. There is no subscription charge; all interested people of good will may have a copy sent regularly to their address simply by requesting it. Address all correspondence to: The Voice in the Wilderness, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.

IS GOD'S WORK IN YOUR WILL?

A bequest in your Will to Voice in the Wilderness can assure that the outreach of this ministry at home and abroad will continue after you have gone to your eternal reward. Prayerfully consider us in your Estate Planning.

Thank you!

New Faces - New Opportunities



Bro. and Sis. Williamson (right) are honored to have their son-in-law, Steve, and daughter, Rebekah, (left) join them in serving our Lord through the ministries of The Voice in the Wilderness. Today when so many young people choose secular pursuits, it is a joy to have our children in full-time Christian ministry.

Steve Lilly's Testimony

In the late 1960's, my parents met in Guyana, South America. They were working as teachers to missionary children. I believe that this is where I got my heart to reach the world for Christ.

I was led to the Lord at the age of five when my mother was teaching

about the *Wordless Book* the first week of school. While we were living in the state of New Hampshire, my parents, my brother, and I learned to trust in the Lord to supply our daily needs. God used many different circumstances to teach me to rely upon Him.

During my sixth grade year, my parents felt that God was moving them. Our new ministry was in the south – far away from our family and friends. It was while in Virginia that we had our first contact with *The Voice in the Wilderness*.

As a high school student, I started drifting from God. I graduated from high school and attended Pensacola Christian College. At PCC, even though I was around teaching and preaching of God's Word on a daily basis, I drifted away from God even more. I finally got so cold and callous that I just quit going to school.

I returned home to where my parents were serving in a new ministry in North Carolina. I started working construction for a man in the church. Through this ministry in North Carolina, God really started working on my heart. The church had a bus outreach, and I was allowed to work with the third grade boys. Also, during this time, Rebekah came to teach at the Christian School. The singles ministry had sparked a new friendship. A new friend, Godly church leaders, and God's constant prodding showed me that I needed to return and finish my degree at PCC.

Upon the completion of my degree, I started teaching at a Christian school in South Carolina. Rebekah and I were married a year later and ministered in that same school the following year. It was during a teacher's conference that God started working on our hearts to do

something great for Him. After much prayer, God opened the doors and we followed His leading to The Voice in the Wilderness. We appreciate your prayers as we work in the "Aquila and Priscilla" ministry.

Rebekah Lilly's Testimony

Standing outside our home, I had cornered one of my neighborhood friends. "Don't you know you're a sinner? Get saved. Get saved now!"

As a little five-year-old girl, I knelt down by the sofa in our living room and accepted Jesus as my Saviour. From that point on, I became even more a part of my parents' ministry. Because my parents had promised the Lord to always provide a Christian education for their children, I attended a Christian day school in the mountains of Vermont. As my third grade year approached, my parents followed the Lord's leading and we embarked on a new journey in my education experience – home school. The Lord's perfect direction provided us with an excellent Christ-centered curriculum that would continue to educate me through my senior year.

From Vermont through Virginia and North Carolina, across the plains to the Northwest and South to Dallas, Texas, - my life surrounded my family's ministry of serving the Lord. The challenging curriculum I learned from was constantly being supported by daily adventures.

During my senior year of high school in Dallas, after praying, searching, and researching, I said goodbye to Mom and Dad, and I set a goal to complete a Bachelor's Degree in Education at Pensacola Christian College. The Lord amazingly met every college need and

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*For Personal Correspondence,
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JUDGES

“American courts today appear to have forgotten our founders’ deep roots in the Bible. This judicial amnesia could have severe consequences for our nation. Whether America thrives or flounders in the 21st Century could primarily depend upon who wins the battle for the courts in this generation. Will it be those judges who remember our biblical roots, or those who want to replace them with secular substitutes?”

“For 150 years after the Declaration of Independence proclaimed America’s freedom from England, our leaders universally recognized the biblical foundations that undergirded our nation’s legal system. President Abraham Lincoln, who emancipated the slaves after the Civil War, still rightly understood in the mid-nineteenth century that God alone was the grantor of America’s rights. He understood that the Almighty had given these rights to every person in all times and in all places, including those African slaves who had been brought to America against their will. By the close of the nineteenth century, however, America’s leading jurists had set themselves on another course – one that was intended to deny the hand of God in this nation’s legal

system.

“Prior to 1900, American lawyers all studied the law using a book by William Blackstone called *Commentaries* on English Common Law. The first 140 pages of this book outlined the biblical principles that controlled both British and American common law. America’s Founders used Blackstone’s principles to undergird a new legal system in their emerging nation. In fact, Blackstone’s four-volume *Commentaries*, published a decade before the Declaration of Independence in 1776, became more popular in America than in England. America was a blank slate for formulating a new legal system based entirely on the principles of the Bible.

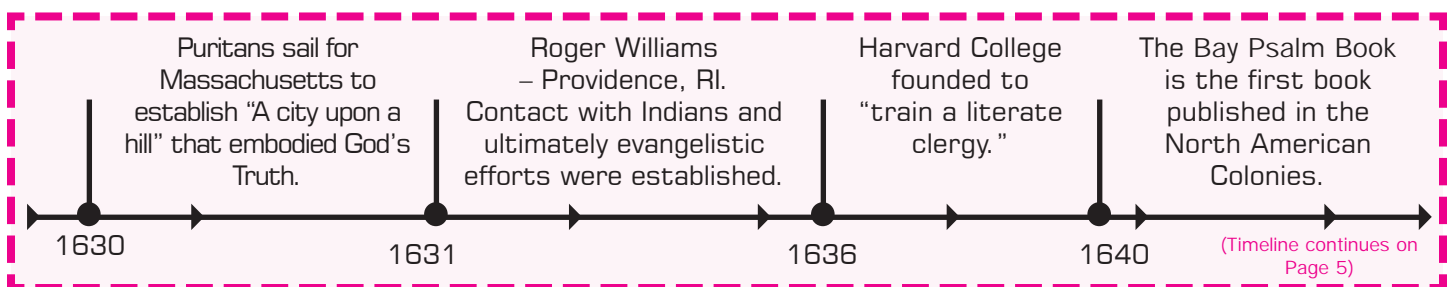
“After 1900, legal trendsetters like Christopher Columbus Langdell at the new Harvard Law School began to deliberately substitute evolutionary legal principles for the fixed, immutable and unchanging laws of God that were previously the basis of American jurisprudence. Charles Darwin published his earth-shattering book promoting evolution, *The Origin of Species*, in 1859. The biology principles outlined in that book almost immediately began to

infiltrate other areas of learning. One of these areas was the law, where some jurists had already been looking for a way to eliminate God from the legal equation.

“By the 1870’s, Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. began to see the solution to an American legal system without God in the evolutionary principles of Charles Darwin. Holmes, who was considered a great legal philosopher and jurist, boldly announced in the 1870s that there was no “brooding omnipresence in the sky” (i.e. God) that mankind was obligated to be subordinate to in the legal arena. Holmes’ ideas were heralded by other legal thinkers of that day as new, modern theories destined to leave behind the religious underpinnings of the past, which these jurists believed were holding back progress in the nation.

“By the beginning of the 20th Century, elite new law schools like Harvard were undermining the authority of God in the law. Legal educators eagerly abandoned the biblical principles memorialized in the Declaration of Independence, enshrined in the Constitution, and taught in Blackstone’s

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Commentaries.

"Lawyers began attending law schools that ignored Blackstone and taught a far-reaching, progressive legal theory of case precedents that permitted the law to evolve, expand, and grow in whatever shape these jurists desired. This was the beginning of judicial tyranny in America. Judges no longer saw themselves as subordinate to God's law, but began to believe they could alter the law in any way they thought would be best for society.

"After this deliberate judicial move away from God, American jurisprudence coasted for half a century on the collective biblical memory of the past. But, by the 1960s, American elitists in education and in other academic fields began to join these evolutionary, anti-God legal philosophers. Since then, the God of the Bible that guided and inspired the Founders and American jurists for nearly two centuries has been gradually pushed out of America's legal system.

"Blackstone, the Founders, and all early American lawyers and judges recognized that God had created humanity for Himself. Therefore, all people were entirely dependent, not only on the physical laws of the universe, but also on equally applicable moral laws. God's moral laws are as immutable and fixed as the laws of gravity and physics, said Blackstone.

"No law enacted by man, Blackstone said, is legitimate unless it reflects the moral law of God revealed in the Bible. That is the primary reason, for instance, why murder, adultery, theft, and lying are wrong. These basic principles are found in the Ten Commandments – the basis for both biblical faith and American law.

"All governments, Blackstone said, must be grounded in God's moral revelation in order to function properly. Therefore, all societies must be based on God's foundational principle of families, beginning with one man and one woman united for life.

When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make them know the statutes of God, and his laws.

Exodus 18:16

"That biblical revelation is the real reason why homosexual marriage is wrong for all societies. It is also the primary reason why today's homosexual advocates and many judges who support this movement are so intent on simultaneously undermining the biblical basis for law in America through an invented legal principle of 'separation of church and state,' which was first imposed on America in a 1947 United States Supreme Court decision.

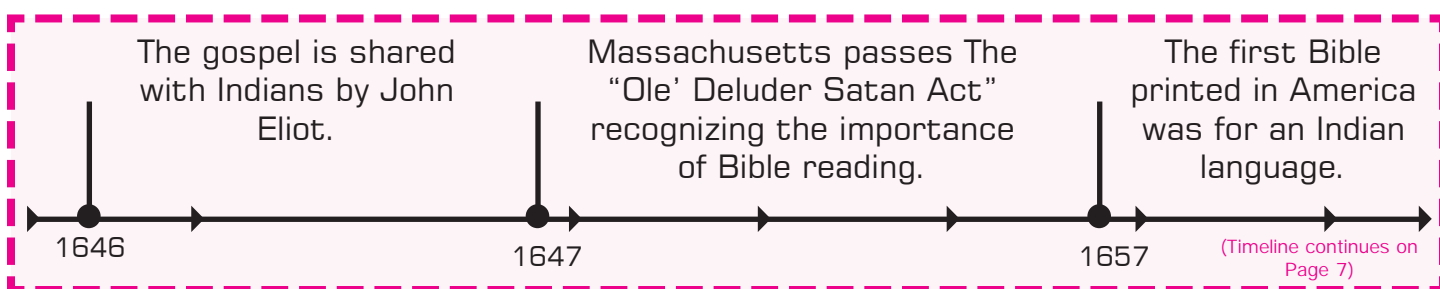
"The Supreme Court's support of abortion in 1973 is illegitimate

for the same reason. Supreme Court justices do not have the authority to contradict God's moral code and call it law. The erroneous legal reasoning in *Roe v. Wade*, as well as in other recent Supreme Court rulings on homosexuality and other moral issues, is merely the logical conclusion of an evolving secular legal philosophy that began heading down the wrong road in 1872 when Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr. first declared the death of God in the legal world.

"Blackstone correctly argued that no law of society is a valid law if it contradicts the moral laws of God. That is the only legitimate basis on which to oppose the legalization of abortion, of euthanasia, or of gay marriage. The moral law of God was the foundation for all American law in both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

"It is absolutely amazing to consider how strange this basic American legal philosophy now sounds in a nation where every citizen is considered 'free' to live in any sort of licentious manner. But Blackstone and America's Founders believed that all rights and all freedoms must be based on the recognition of every citizen's individual duty owed to the Creator God. Every American freedom granted in the Declaration of Independence was originally recognized by the Founders as arising from a corresponding individually

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MISSION SPOTLIGHT

MISSIONS REPORT FROM VENEZUELA - *CELEBRATING CHRIST*



For many years *The Voice in the Wilderness* has been involved with missions in Venezuela. From the jungle work of Sophie Muller to churches in cities of millions, it has been a joy to share even in a small way with those called to serve in Venezuela. The jungle work of Sister Sophie continues strong under the leadership and support of several ministries, churches, and individuals. Bro. Williamson talked with two missionaries who have worked and are presently developing a new outreach to some of the Indians Sophie served among. *The Voice in the Wilderness* is now working with several pastors in Venezuela.



Bro. Williamson returned in May 2005 for his 4th missions trip to Venezuela. Thank God for the strong witness in the city of Caracas. The millions in this capital need the good news that Jesus saves. Notice the Muslim Mosque with its towering Minaret in the heart of the business district. Bro. Williamson took this picture just as a storm blew in from the sea. Yet, not apparent here in this photo, a rainbow peered through the heavy clouds. Even though an ominous political cloud hangs over the country along with Satan's use of religion to deceive, God's truth is still being proclaimed by His faithful. In May, it was a privilege for Bro. Williamson to preach for Pastor Paez and meet the Institute students preparing to reach their country for Christ.



Bro. Tico Alonso traveled with Bro. Williamson to Venezuela and assisted with translation and preaching in the churches and Bible Institute. Pastor Paez looks on as Tico shares his testimony to a church filled with enthusiastic believers. The powerful singing of this congregation was tremendous. Their energy was contagious. Thank God for this wonderful church.



On to Barquisimeto, and it was evident the Pioneer Church choir had prayed, prepared, and practiced as they sang stirring songs for our Lord's glory. Bro. Jose is doing a great job leading the music. Over the last few years, Bro. Niger and Bro. Luis and many others have grown in the Lord. Praise the Lord for these dedicated people.

Missionary Tim Carte, his wife and mother-in-law labor faithfully winning souls in Barquisimeto. It has been an honor to preach and teach numerous times for this missionary and his church family.



On Wednesday night, a man they had been praying for trusted Christ as Saviour! What a joy to share in this blessed event.

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They call her “Divina Pastora” – the Divine Shepherdess. Reportedly she saved the people from a horrible plague. A million and a half parade through the streets with her (a statue) in a frenzied celebration and worship.



This is the Church of the Divina Pastora. Bro. Williamson went inside to take a photo of the statue that draws over a million and a half people to celebration.



The “Christ” of Catholicism stays on the cross. Did you notice the crucifix Pope John Paul II carried? The “Mass” is a perpetual sacrifice offered over and over again. Yet according to Rome’s teachings, not even sufficient alone to take care of sin. In the Church of Divina Pastora at the entrance, a large room to the left houses burning candles and life size models on a cross and carrying a cross.

The oppressiveness of this place is very real. This is not the message of the resurrected Christ and life eternal through Him alone. The message of Divina Pastora is idolatry, the mass is a works system, and Catholicism is man-made religion of bondage not God’s salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone!

In this photo the colorfully robed figure bearing the cross to the right is replicated by men in the street processions. In some Catholic countries, devotees are actually nailed to a cross. These extreme acts, along with many other deeds of self deprivation, are characteristic of man’s efforts to build the tower of Babel to heaven.

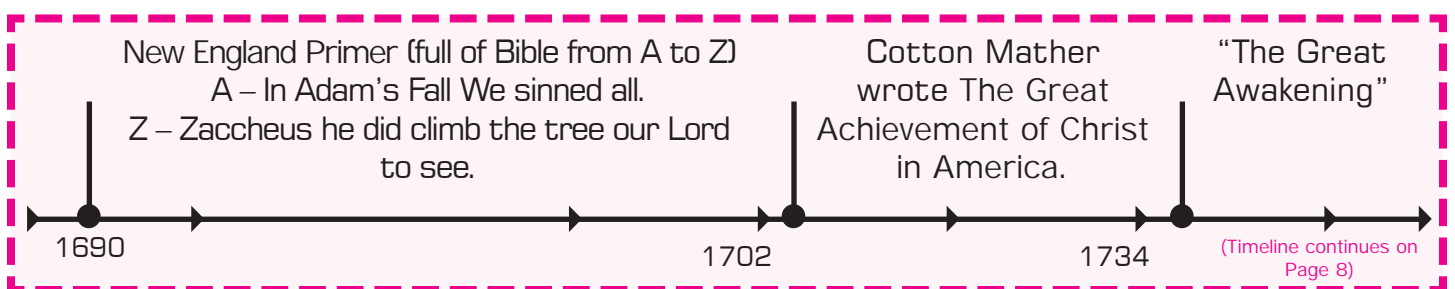


At the death of John Paul II, evangelicals, pastors, and churches in America spoke such words of respect and regard for the Pope. Many who once exposed the error of Catholicism now embrace it. If one would study, let alone travel the world where the Catholic Church has been entrenched for years, it would be obvious the mix of superstition, witchcraft, and world religion by Catholicism. Just down the road from Divina Pastora is Maria Leonsa. She joins Africa religion, witchcraft and Catholicism. This darkness and demonism is damnable. Surely Bible believing Christians have enough discernment to see the horrors of Rome.

Make no mistake, Divina Pastora is just one of the countless “Mary” type idols that multitudes bow down to and pray to for help and blessing.



(Continued on page 8)



Mission Spotlight - Venezuela

(Continued from page 7)



It has been a joy over the years to see the “Wonderful Grace Baptist Church” grow from infancy to a thriving, Bible preaching, soul-winning work of God. Business man and church member Bro. Garcia looks on as concrete is hand mixed for the construction of their new church building. Praise God for the faithfulness and enthusiasm of these precious servants of Christ.



The Voice in the Wilderness has been a small part of church building projects around the world. Several years ago, The Voice gave money for land – now materials for construction. These precious people have sacrificed financially and given themselves physically to see their church go forward for our Lord’s glory! Amen!

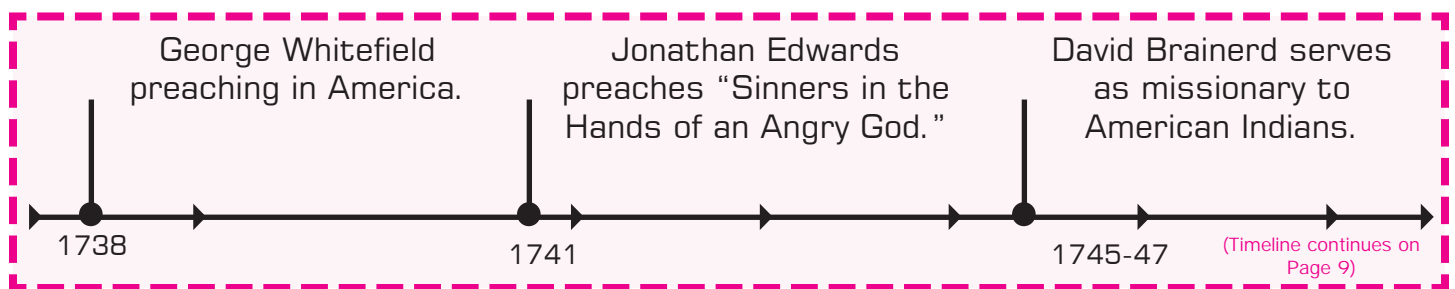


Hard work, sweat, and dedication were the order of the day in Sabana de Para. From the young people to the adults – everyone was working together. Shovels, wheelbarrows and elbow grease combined to move dirt, gravel, and concrete. Out of the dust rose a place breathed upon by The Spirit to send forth the message of Light and Life



Bro. Carlos Ramos (with the glasses and big smile) is the founding pastor of this dynamic work in Sabana de Para. It has been a joy to know him and his family. What a privilege to preach for Bro. Ramos and be personally challenged by his life and ministry. God bless Bro. and Sis. Ramos as they now plant the second church in Yaritagua.

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Bro. Estelvio Garcia was trained under the leadership of Bro. Ramos. He now pastors the church in Sabana de Para, and God is using him and his wife in a mighty way. May 2005 was this church's sixth birthday and what a glorious day of celebration it was!



A highlight of Bro. Williamson's ministry was preaching the sixth anniversary service of this great church. 538 souls were present with salvation decisions and others committing their lives to Christ. How can this happen in only six short years? Well, consider the fact that each day Monday through Friday at 6:00 in the morning in two different homes of church members, God's people gather to pray. They pray for souls, their city, their church, their pastor, and their Lord's blessing and power. Maybe God is answering their prayers, sacrifice and commitment.



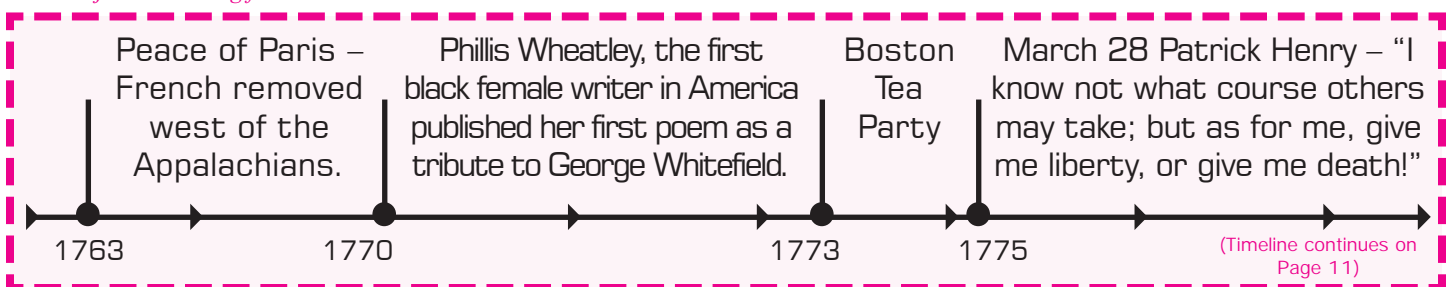
A beautiful cake was presented in honor of our Lord's blessing on this church's sixth birthday. The congregation lifted their voices in jubilant praise.



Bro. Estelvio and one of the dedicated young men in the church join Bro. Williamson for a photo opportunity. This was a week of rejoicing - preaching in the churches, and seeing the Lord's hand at work in the hearts and lives of so many in Venezuela. Praise the Lord for the great things He is doing! Alleluia!

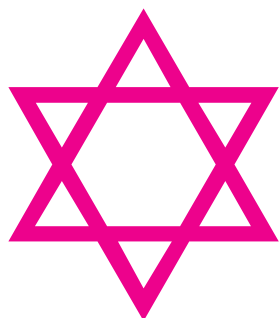


The youth had prayed, prepared, and practiced their music. They did an excellent job ministering for our Lord.



RELIGIOUS NEWS

& News From Here & There



JUDGEMENT IS TURNED AWAY BACKWARD

- "...and judgment is turned away backward and justice standeth afar off: for truth is fallen in the street..." (Isaiah 59:14). Dr. Ralph Colas wrote: "Someone has said, 'things are not getting creamier – they are getting crummier!' A recent news item from New Hampshire related that Daveen Litwins, rabbi of a Jewish Reform synagogue in Florence, NH, helped write a resolution supporting gay marriage for 100 Reform rabbis in the Northeast.

"The resolution declared, 'As rabbis we believe it is our obligation as people of faith to vigorously defend the dignity of every human being, consistent with the principle that each of us is created in the divine image. We are changing the basic terrain of the world we inherited.'

"While these religious leaders say they are changing the 'basic terrain of the world,' they are NOT changing the plain teaching of the Word of God. In Paul's letter to the church of Corinth he gave a list of sins, including homosexuality, but to the believers he wrote, 'And

such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of God' (I Cor. 6:11).

"I thank the Lord for those who refuse to embrace the godless culture and instead seek to obey, without reservation, the precious truths of God's Word."



SAINT'S ALIVE – The small limestone slab was retrieved from a local quarry by stonemason Johnny Beeston and his wife, Ruth, of Somerset, England, and for many years marked the final resting place of their beloved cat "Winkle." But then a local potter spied the tombstone and rightly guessed that it was no ordinary monument: At Sotheby's recently, the 10th century carving of St. Peter fetched the equivalent of nearly \$386,000.

ENTANGLED IN THIS WORLD FROM "A" TO "Z"

– One morning Christi received

a piece of paper that suddenly shattered the future for her daughter. You see, she had been served with a legal notice that she was being sued by her former lesbian co-habitant, Leslie (not her real name). Leslie was not suing for Christi's assets or her earnings. Rather, *Leslie sued for the most valuable thing to any loving mother...* the right to visit and raise her daughter.

Christi alone was the biological mother of this two year old. She alone had given birth to her. She alone was her legal guardian. Leslie had never adopted the girl. Furthermore, Christi had no legally binding relationship with Leslie via contract, marriage, or any form of domestic partnership.

But after Christi's case had been heard, the unthinkable happened. The Utah State court judge residing over the case ruled against Christi, declaring that Leslie had a right to frequent and regular visitation of Christi's daughter. This court order virtually shattered the established case precedence that had always protected the rights of legal parents and guardians over their children.

Each year, thousands upon thousands of single parents are set free from lifestyles and relationships they feel are wrong or harmful to themselves and their children. For you see, Christi had given her life to Christ and had new spiritual life. Yet, there are complicated entanglements

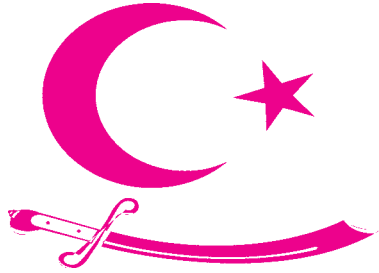
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and consequences. From lesbian/homosexual lifestyles to divorce and remarriage, homes and hearts are being scared by Satan, self and sin. Taken in part from *pacificjustice.org*

MORAL VALUES, ABORTION, POLITICAL LINES BLURRED!!

– Are Republicans going to waste the multitude of opportunities as a majority voice? Democrats switch tactics and are partly urged to ‘embrace’ moral values. Hillary Clinton and Howard Dean want to reach out. Even the GOP broadens stance with Ken Mehlman naming a co-chair who backs abortion rights; Rudy Giuliani is given roles despite support for abortion right. Leaders on both sides look to blur the lines after a generation of unyielding stances. Susan Page in *USA TODAY* recently wrote that three years ago a group called Democrats for Life asked to be added to the list of organizations with links on the Democratic National Committee website - the answer was no. The reason: The organization disagreed with the party platform’s endorsement of abortion rights. The platform hasn’t changed, but the posture toward those who disagree with it has. Since election setbacks in 2004, the new Democratic chairman, Howard Dean, and 2008 presidential prospect Hillary Rodham Clinton are among those who argue that Democrats have to do more to reach out to those who oppose abortion.



MUSLIMS PLAN TO BUILD 5TH MINARET ON TEMPLE MOUNT

– In a issue of *News From Israel* we read: “Jordanian Wakf officials are planning on building a fifth minaret on the Temple Mount, and Israel has not objected to the proposal, a senior Jordanian official said.

“We informed the Jerusalem police chief that we are going to build a fifth minaret at the site,” said Dr. Raierf Najim, the vice president of the Jordanian Construction committee, in a telephone interview with *The Jerusalem Post* from Amman.

“Najim, who is overseeing the renovation of the southern and eastern Temple Mount walls, said the planned minaret was the brainchild of Jordanian King Abdullah II and would be constructed near the eastern wall of the Temple Mount.

“Four other minarets exist on the Temple Mount; three near the Western Wall and one near the northern wall.

“Jerusalem police declined comment, but Najim said Wakf officials inferred from the silence of the Jerusalem police chief, Cmdr.

Ilan Franco, that Israel had no objection to the plan.

“An Internal Security Ministry spokesman said that his office was not aware of any such request, while the Antiquities Authority declined comment on the matter.

“A spokesman for Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, Raanan Gissin, told the *Post* the building of the minaret is ‘within Jordan’s religious autonomy’ as the traditional overseer of maintenance at the site.

“Najim said construction work on the minaret – which is estimated to cost 250,000 Jordanian dinars (\$352,000) – would begin in 2005, after a design similar to the four existing minarets is completed.

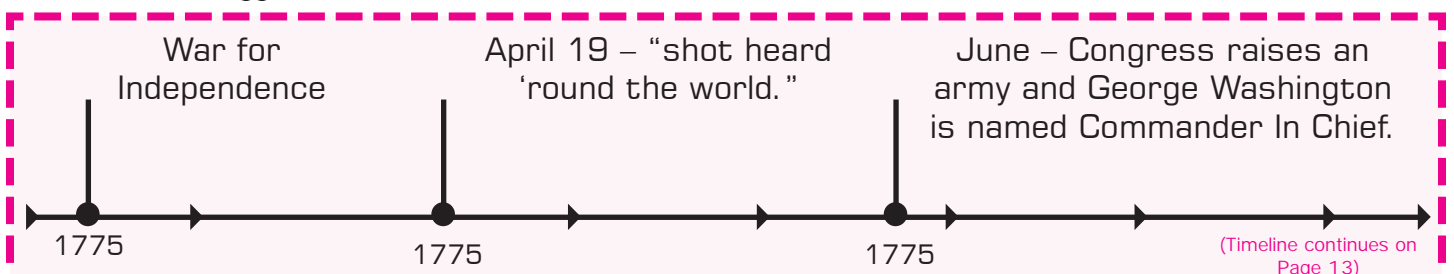
“He added that the tentative location chosen for the planned fifth minaret, just north of the Golden Gate near the eastern wall, would not require ‘deep excavations.’

“But leading Israeli archeologists, who have been decrying the lack of archeological supervision at the site for the past four years, lambasted the plan.

“Indicative of the close Israeli-Jordanian relationship is the fact that Franco, the Jerusalem police chief, went to Amman with his deputy to work out prayer arrangements for Muslim worshipers at the Temple Mount.

“Jordanian officials suggested that the five Temple Mount minarets would symbolize the five pillars of

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Islam, which include fasting and praying, although in the interview Najim conceded that the number five was not sacrosanct, with other mosques containing fewer or more minarets.” —*Jerusalem Post*, 22 September 2004

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN ISRAEL? – “Israel is a country with phenomenal growth. New roads, construction, and a sincere sense of optimism appeared to be the order of the day...Israelis officials...were firm in their commitment not to cave in to the forces opposing the existence of the Jewish state.

“On the surface, there is a quiet hope that Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen) will rein in the terrorists and make peace with Israel. On the other hand, many leaders are suspicious, knowing that for decades Abbas was Yasser Arafat’s right-hand man. Abbas has never retracted his public statement that the Holocaust never happened; and while he speaks peace to the West, his Palestinian Authority publications and broadcasts continue to spew their hatred of Israel. When the recent suicide bombing took place in Tel Aviv, Abbas condemned it to Western leaders. However, his PA publications in Arabic honored the bomber as a martyr and ran stories in support of his family.

“Psalm 83 makes it clear that those who hate God hate His people ***For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. (vv.2-3)*** Furthermore, their ultimate goal is to destroy Israel and the Jewish people. ***They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the***

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name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. (v.4)

“The very real question is, does Abu Mazen want genuine peace, or is he among those who will take all they can get at the moment, then seek to destroy the Chosen People and possess their land?” *The Friends of Israel – W. Sutter 5/2005*

The hour is late. We must be faithful to carry the gospel even to the dangerous regions of the world.



ESTIMATED ELEVEN MILLION ILLEGAL ALIENS IN U.S. – *The Washington Times* reporter Stephen Dinan recently wrote that more than 6 million illegal immigrant Mexicans now live in the US, making up more than half of the nation’s nearly 11 million illegal aliens, according to a new study. The report, by the Pew Hispanic Center, found that illegal immigrants have dispersed far more widely than 15

years ago, with nearly 40 percent now living outside of the six states that traditionally have attracted the most immigrants. Arizona is now fifth on the list, vaulting ahead of Illinois and New Jersey and trailing only California, Texas, Florida and New York. “The rapid growth of the undocumented population has been the principal driver of growth in the foreign-born populations in new settlement states such as Arizona, North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee,” wrote Jeffrey S. Passel, a senior research associate at the center. Mr. Passel’s study found that between 80 percent and 85 percent of Mexican-born people now in the US came here illegally. Mr. Passel’s study estimates that 485,000 new illegal immigrants arrived every year between 2000 and 2004, an increase of 23 percent, to 10.3 million in 2004. Given that rate of growth, he calculated there are nearly 11 million now. The report also estimates that there are more than 3 million US born children in families headed by illegal immigrants.

SAUDIA ARABIA – One week after arresting 40 Pakistani Christians, Saudi Arabia’s *mutawaa* religious police broke into another private worship service, arresting five expatriate Christian elders in Riyadh. High-ranking Muslim sheikhs reportedly took part in the April 29 raid on a congregation of 60 Ethiopian and Eritrean Christians who had gathered for prayer. The crackdown on Christians has yet to provoke the Bush administration to enforce sanctions more than six months after naming the Saudi kingdom one of the world’s worst religious persecutors. “We don’t

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www.thevoiceinthewilderness.org

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want to offend governments by announcing something prematurely,” a State Department spokesman to *WORLD* magazine reporter. *World* 5/14/05



FOOLISH JUDGES – [“A wise King scattereth the wicked, and bringeth the wheel over them” – Proverb 20:26; “When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn” Proverb 29:2; “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil...” Isaiah 5:20.]

The Supreme Court of the United States has made yet another foolish ruling, this time determining that it is unconstitutional to execute murderers who are under 18 years of age when they commit their crimes, regardless of how heinous. The 5-4 ruling overturned the death sentences of about 70 juvenile murderers across the land. Writing the decision for the majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy said, “Our society view juveniles... as categorically less culpable than the average criminal,” thus revealing that his authority is not the U.S. Constitution but the shifting sand of

public opinion. God established the death penalty for murder immediately after the Flood and it has never been rescinded. God told Noah and his sons, “Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made he man” (Gen. 9:6). This was upheld in the Law of Moses, with exceptions for accidental killings and for those committed in the act of self-defense or against a thief breaking into one’s home. No exceptions were made for youth. In fact, the Bible specifically says that young rebels are subject to death. “For every one that curseth his father or his mother shall be surely

put to death: he hath cursed his father or his mother; his blood shall be upon him” (Lev. 20:9). In fact, it is not only youth who are murderers who are in danger of God’s judgment. “The eye that mocked at his father, and despiseth to obey his mother, the ravens of the valley shall pick it out, and the young eagles shall eat it” (Prov. 30:17). This generation is in for a great shock when it learns that the very pampering it so loved was what kept it from learning the fear of God and possibly fleeing to Christ for safety. *Friday Church News Notes*, March 18, 2005
www.wayoflife.org



SPECIAL GIFTS

Recently received by The Voice in the Wilderness, Inc., Ministry.

Given by: Pauline Davis and Naomi Bassel

In Memory of: James A. Davis

We would like to express our thanks to those who have given a memorial gift to **The Voice in the Wilderness, Inc. Ministry**. These names will be added to a plaque and displayed in our office. If you would like to give a special memorial gift or honor someone, please send your “special gift” along with the person’s name (legibly printed) you would like listed in an upcoming issue to: **The Voice in the Wilderness, PO Box 7037, Asheville, NC 28802.**



**THE VOICE IN THE
WILDERNESS NEEDS A SET
OF HAND BELLS TO USE IN
OUR MISSIONS WORK AND
CHURCH MEETINGS. CAN
YOU HELP? CONTACT US:
828-649-1043**

Congress signs
the Declaration of
Independence

The Stars and Stripes
approved to be official flag of
the thirteen United States.

Valley Forge

1776

1777

1777

(Timeline concludes on
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owed duty to God.

"Every man created by God is duty bound to subordinate himself to God in society. America was founded specifically to protect and defend the right of every citizen to carry out his duty to God as each see fit. Included in man's duties to God are the moral duties that men owe to one another when they choose to live together in societies. But the Founders never envisioned the protection of rights such as alleged 'rights' to pornography or sexual license that are not grounded in God's moral laws. On the other hand, the Founders did envision the protection of the religious expression of every individual in America. Faith is a free gift of God to be received or rejected individually. In America, therefore, even Buddhists, Muslims, and atheists are protected in exercising their own faith or lack of faith. But the basis of the freedom that even non-Christians enjoy in America is the biblical Creator God who does not force faith on anyone. If America as a society does not continue to honor and acknowledge God, all religious rights will eventually disappear along with our rights to life, liberty and happiness.

"One of the most important legal principles expounded by Blackstone was that law may only be imposed on an inferior by a superior. The King was not a superior, but was equal to the citizens and inferior to God. God is the only superior able to impose moral laws on mankind. That imposition is primarily what many modern citizens and jurists are seeking to avoid today under our 'new' American law.

"Blackstone acknowledged that there are some areas in the law where God has not clearly given moral principles to follow. One example would be whether to set the speed limit at 50 or 60 miles per hour. Blackstone calls these morally neutral laws 'municipal law,' areas where citizens are free to decide the law for themselves. However, in areas where God has clearly set down moral laws, such as in the prohibition of murder and theft, any laws imposed by governments or judges that are contrary to these moral laws of God are illegitimate.

"That is the biblical basis upon which America was founded. It is a heritage we barely remember in twenty-first-century America, but which we urgently need to acknowledge and reclaim if we intend to protect and maintain our unique and free nation and our precious system of government and law.

"Modern judicial tyranny sets itself up against the laws of God and seeks to organize society by its own rules. We must return our legal system to Godly principles if we expect our nation to endure for another 250 years. We must oppose judicial tyranny and support judges who respect God's law and who seek to preserve the moral laws of God incorporated by our Founders into the legal fabric of our nation. It is only when we resubmit our nation to God's moral laws that freedom can be protected for all our citizens and our nation can continue to be the America we have all known and loved."

From My Briefcase, Attorney David C. Gibbs, Jr., April 2005 WWW.CHRISTIANLAW.ORG



Nuggets of Gold

1. "I regret that I have but one life to give for my country." *Nathan Hale*
2. "Associate yourself with men of good quality if you esteem your own reputation; for 'tis better to be alone than in bad company." *George Washington*
3. "You can't hold a man down without staying down with him." *Booker T. Washington*
4. "Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said." *Unknown*
5. "It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues." *Abraham Lincoln*
6. "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded, not by religionists, but by Christians; not on religions, but on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For this very reason peoples of other faiths have been afforded asylum, prosperity, and freedom of worship here." *Patrick Henry*



(Continued from page 3)

expense and even provided a special way for me to be able to finish a Master of Arts Degree as well.

As far as the Lord had taken me, I still had to trust that He would provide a ministry that I could serve in as a single teacher. And He did! A Christian school in North Carolina became my new ministry, my home, and the place where the Lord introduced me to my future husband. After three years of teaching, Steve and I married on July 3. We began our life together in ministry at a Christian school in South Carolina.

It was during a teacher's convention that the Lord began to deal with our hearts in a specific way. Our daily prayer became "Lord, do something GREAT in our lives." Not just okay, but great – that was our desire. Once again, the Lord's answer to prayer was brilliantly clear, and I am pleased to join in ministry with my husband at The Voice in the Wilderness.

HOW LONG SHALL I GIVE?

"Go break to the needy
Sweet Charity's bread.
For giving is living,"
the angel said.

"And must I be giving
again and again?"

My peevish and pitiless answer ran.

"Oh, No" said the angel,
piercing me through,
"Just give til the Master
quits giving to you."

-Unknown



(Continued from page 2)

themselves in a perilous place. It is not pleasant to rebuke and warn, but thank God for *The Voice in the Wilderness* and the clear message consistently "Contending for the faith."

Nehemiah was concerned about the broken walls. The boundaries must be drawn and separation maintained. This publication simply presents biblically drawn lines. Some church folk do not like that. Specific preaching, naming sin, and a call to holy living are not popular. Many call it legalism. Salvation is by grace through faith in Jesus Christ alone and salvation will produce fruit unto holiness (Romans 6:22). I wrote these notes in the margin of my Bible from a sermon preached by a fellow pastor:

1. **It is better to be divided by TRUTH than united by error.**
2. **It is better to speak the TRUTH that hurts and then heals than a lie that comforts and then kills.**

3. **It is better to hear tough or even rough TRUTH than tender or polished lies.**
4. **It is better to be hated for telling the TRUTH than loved for telling a lie.**
5. **It is better to stand alone for the TRUTH than stand with a crowd in a lie.**

I pray *The Voice in the Wilderness* paper and *The Voice in the Wilderness* ministry will always take a stand on the TRUTH – popular or not.

Your prayers and gifts enable the printing and missionary efforts of *The Voice in the Wilderness* to continue. As is the case for many ministries, summer can be a lean time financially. Please help us pray that support will be adequate right into the fall months. Thanks again for your faithfulness to our wonderful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

For Christ and Souls,

Bro. Ronnie
Isa. 40:31



Would anyone be interested in helping two Christian businessmen in Venezuela establish a bus service? Under the watch care of their pastor, this would meet two needs – employment for two faithful church members, and in addition the bus would be used by the church, free of charge, to transport people to church. This will require a six to ten thousand dollar investment. Call our office 828-649-1043 for more details.

Cornwallis
surrenders at
Yorktown, VA.

Treaty of Paris – The King of
England recognizes the thirteen
former Colonies as "free, sovereign,
and independent states."

George Washington calls
it "The Little Baptist
State of Rhode Island."

1781

1783

1789





**"I Pray Heaven To Bestow
THE BEST OF BLESSINGS
ON THIS HOUSE."**

- John Adams -



From Williamsburg and Yorktown to Washington and the White House, God has richly Blessed America. Pray for those who still courageously defend the principles upon which this nation was founded. God Bless America.
In God We Trust.



Dear *Voice in the Wilderness* Subscriber,

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