

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



Pastor & Mrs. C 'Old-Fashioned Sunday'

# My 4th Of July Declaration

**INTRODUCTION:** My dad used to say, "Son, now and then you just need to get some things off your chest." So, I'm going to get some things off my chest. Will you bear with me? Fellow pastors, I am an ordained, independent, fundamental, Bible-believing, King James only, salvation by grace, baptism by immersion, local New Testament Baptist Church preacher. Our church has a "Constitution" and "Statement of Faith" that is almost identical with every independent Baptist church in the entire region. With that being said, bear with me as I unload.

#### FIRST: THE TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE PAIN OF OTHERS.

<u>I JOHN 2:9-10</u>

I have now been in the ministry for 40 years. If I were to tell you what I know about fellow preachers, it could be enough to make a billy goat puke. *Illustration:* One of my fellow local church pastors counseled one of my church members without calling me or verifying anything. This church member bragged about how committing adultery helped his marriage. This church member bragged about how he drank with customers to make a sale. When he went to a fellow Baptist pastor, taking several families with him, he said, "You just can't talk to Pastor Collingsworth." By the way, he did not last there either, but think of the pain created in the local body of Christ. That pastor did not write me or call me. Why? That's his way of building a church!

#### SECOND: THE TURNING OF THE EAR OVER TO DISCORD.

**PROVERBS 6:16-19** 

I lost a couple of families to another church. Both families left notes in the church saying they would not be back; that they disagreed with me. The problem was, they never told me what it was they disagreed with, yet they went to another pastor and unloaded on him. He never called; he never verified. So I called him. He said to me, "I'll listen to anyone that comes to me for counsel because I might be able to help them." Really, then pastor, how can you help them without talking to their last pastor that they have the accusations against? One of the families simply did not pay their bills even though I co-signed for them. I got stung by their problems. By the way! That pastor is no longer there and the church is in a mess.

<u>Illustration:</u> A young man was drinking and committing other wicked acts. Therefore, I would not recommend him to Hyles-Anderson College. Another pastor swore an oath that the young man had been a member of his church for nine years. Pastors, get real!

#### THIRD: THE TRANSFER OF MEMBERSHIPS.

I CORINTHIANS 14:40

If any of our church members choose to join a church of like faith, their membership is transferred. I may not even agree with why they decide to leave, but their membership will be transferred at the request of the next church of like faith. *Point to Make:* Rarely, if ever, does any fellow local church in this area request a transfer of membership. Why? They do not believe in or follow their own rules and regulations they voted on as a church.

#### It Is Never The Story They Tell



Dr. Bob Gray

In the past thirty days, I have received fifteen phone calls from pastors who have lost church members to other pastors in the same area. The new pastors never picked up the phone and called the former pastor about the people transferring to their churches. Some preachers are so eager for growth that they do not care if these transfers are ethical or not. The result is a lack of ethical cooperation among men of God who are supposed to be leading their people in the battle for the souls of men, not a battle for transfers.

There is always a reason why people leave one ministry to go to another, and it is never the story they tell. It amazes me that these pastors can accept transfers without ever checking with the previous pastor. You may be taking in a thief, a child molester, a home wrecker, a homosexual, or a sexual deviant. Even the business world will check references. I would hate to think that Wal-Mart is more diligent to its cause than Baptist preachers are to the cause of Christ.

We had a deacon at LBT who was caught stealing money from the offerings. He left and went to another fundamental church in the area. No one called to check him out, and soon he was the church treasurer. On another occasion, a member who had been accused of making sexual advances to his own daughter left and joined another church in the area. His pastor never called for a reference, either. I shiver when I think of the responsibility of placing workers in the nursery, primary Sunday school departments, children's churches, or bus routes, only to learn later of some misconduct in their previous church. I would hate to put our young people in harm's way simply because I was so thrilled that someone actually joined our church.

#### Pole Who Saved WWII Jews Honored

A Polish woman who helped save the lives of 2,500 Jewish children during World War II has been honored by Poland's parliament.

Irena Sendlerowa, a former social worker who is now 97, organized the rescue from the Warsaw ghetto with the help of the Polish underground army. Ms Sendlerowa was arrested and tortured by the German Gestapo. She refused to divulge her activities and narrowly escaped execution when her quard was bribed to release her.

The BBC's Adam Easton in Warsaw says that unlike Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist memorialized in Steven Spielberg's award-winning film, Irena Sendlerowa is not known throughout the world. She lives quietly in a Warsaw nursing home. As a young social worker, she was allowed to enter Warsaw's Jewish ghetto.

When the Nazis began the deportations of the ghetto's Jews to the death camps, she organized a team to rescue the children. Some were smuggled out in workmen's tool bags. Others left by the sewers or secret passageways. At least 2,500 children were placed with Polish families and Catholic convents. Poland's 3.5 million-strong Jewish community was almost completely wiped out by the Nazi Holocaust.

At a special session, the upper house of parliament unanimously approved a resolution honoring Ms Sendlerowa for organizing the "rescue of the most defenseless victims of the Nazi ideology: the Jewish children." President Lech Kaczynski said she was a "great hero who can be justly named for the Nobel Peace Prize". She was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize, but lost to Al Gore for his work on Global Warming.



"WE MET IN YOUR STORE. AND I THOUGHT THIS WOULD BE EASIER THAN A DIVORCE."



The Berean Quartet will be with us July 24th.



#### **Carolyn Tuck's American Apple Dumplings** 11/2 cup sugar

2 Granny Smith apples, cored and peeled 2 10 oz pks crescent rolls 1 cup butter

1 tsp cinnamon 112 oz can of Mountain Dew

Preheat oven to 350, grease 9x13 baking dish. Cut each apple into 8 wedges and set aside. Separate the crescent roll dough into triangles. Roll each apple wedge in dough staring at the tip, pinch to seal and place on dish. Melt butter in small sauce pan and stir in sugar & cinnamon. Pour over the apple dumplings then Mountain Dew over them. Bake for 35 to 40 minutes until golden brown. Enjoy!

<u>Illustration:</u> We had a local church that had a Christian school take one of our families and student who only had 6 weeks of school to finish. Our rule—if you don't attend the graduation service—no graduation. They did not intend to attend, though signing an agreement to do so. They went to the other church which allowed the student to graduate even though they were only there 6 weeks. I called and the pastor said, "I disagree with you. You should not require student and parents to be at graduation." What a liar! His school had the same requirement.

In every church my wife and I have ever been part of, we walked the aisle to join the church, and we walked the aisle to leave the church to join another church when we left. No conniving, anger, hatred, or fleeing the will of God. Pastors! You voted on your church constitution. Do you follow it? What does it say about how you just lost your position?

#### FOURTH: THE TOLERANCE OF HERESY.

**TITUS 3:10-11** 

1. No Regard For The Position Of The Man Of God. I Thessalonians 5:12-13

<u>Illustration:</u> A man told me, "There is no such thing; everyone is a man or woman of God." When I quoted *Hebrews 13:17*, he said it referred to your parents. He left this church and went to another Baptist church. When he joined that church, they never requested a transfer of membership.

2. No Regard For The Preservation Of The Word Of God. *Psalms 12:6-7* 

I had the head of a family tell me, "Not only is the King James Bible not accurate, but no Bible is absolutely correct." He left, went down the road with his family and is now part of a fellow Baptist church that claims they believe the Bible is the Word of God.

3. No Regard For The Purpose Of The Church Of God. *I Corinthians* 12:21-25

Pastor, what makes you think you have the authority to divide another church? An even greater question, what makes you think someone else's church member is telling you the truth? Unity has to do with Bible doctrine, not feelings and personal opinion.

<u>CONCLUSION:</u> Several years ago an alcoholic in our church was having trouble with booze and his family. He refused my counsel repeatedly. He then took his family down the road to another church. He is now a drunk, divorced, and the kids are lunatics! When I confronted the pastor, he said, "I thought I could help them." He could have! By telling them, "Listen to your Pastor!" Another example: A young lady wanted to marry a young Marine. I asked her to wait until he finished with Boot Camp and AIT. She refused. A local Baptist preacher went against my counsel and married them. They are divorced, drug users and spiritually dead. He should have sided with their Pastor.

Fellow pastors, do you not even understand your own calling?

**Prayer of Salvation** 

If you were to die today, are you 100% sure you would go to Heaven?
If not, would you be willing to pray this prayer with me?

"Dear Jesus, I'm asking you to come into my heart and forgive me of my sins. I'm trusting you, Jesus, as my Saviour.

Thank you for saving me. Amen." (Romans 10:9 and 10:13)



#### **Prayer of Service**

"Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" (Acts 9:6)

#### Obama offends Catholics in the UK, says religious schools are divisive.

The Catholic media is up in arms over comments President Obama made during a speech while in Northern Ireland for the G8 summit. Obama made what is described as "an alarming call for an end to Catholic education," in spite of the fact that it is considered "a critical component of the Church."

In front of an audience of about 2,000 young people, including many Catholics, Obama claimed that Catholic education divides people and blocks peace, according to the Scottish Catholic Observer.

"If towns remain divided—if Catholics have their schools and buildings and Protestants have theirs, if we can't see ourselves in one another and fear or resentment are allowed to harden—that too encourages division and discourages cooperation." Obama said.

Catholic World News noted:

Ironically, President Obama made his comments just as Archbishop Gerhard Müller, the prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, told a crowd in Scotland that religious education upholds the dignity of the human person. Archbishop Müller said that Catholic schools should promote "all that is good in the philosophies of societies and human culture."

Fr. John Zuhlsdorf quoted the Observer's article on Fr. Z's blog and added:

Another example of what this man wants: total isolation of any religious values in the private sphere alone. Pres. Obama is working either to intimidate or legislate or even TAX religious freedom out of the public square.

# Something to 'CROW' about!

- 1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last seven (7) years in a row!
- 2. The buses are still rolling!



#### Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

June 23rd Dr. Tom Neal



Vacation **Bible** School It Was Dynamite!

June 26th Dr. Bill McSpadden



### **Special Speakers For 2013**



Dr. Tom Neal June



Dr. Bill McSpadden June



Dr. Bob Grav July



Mrs. Kelli Campbell August



October



Dr. Greg Neal Dr. Dean Miller November

A MINISTER VISITING A LARGE CITY SPOKE AT A BANQUET ON THE NIGHT OF HIS ARRIVAL, AND TOLD SEVERAL ANECDOTES THAT HE EXPECTED TO REPEAT AT MEETINGS THE NEXT DAY. HE ASKED REPORTERS TO KINDLY OMIT THE ANECDOTES FROM THEIR STORIES. A NEW REPORTER'S COVERAGE INCLUDED THE LINE, "THE MINISTER TOLD A NUMBER OF STORIES THAT CANNOT BE PUBLISHED HERE."

#### Becoming Chaste in a World of Filth



Mrs. Francie Taylor

My mom used to dress us up on Sundays in the prettiest dresses she could find. My personal favorite was the white dress with the elaborate lace overlay that Mom got each one of us for Easter. Since there were four of us, we often had dresses that looked alike. I can recall standing in the front yard for those famous photo shoots that parents do when their children are all dressed up. I can vividly remember feeling so pretty in those special Sunday clothes, but there is something else that I also remember. We were not allowed to play outside on Sunday morning before church.

Many of you who are mothers know what my Mom was doing. She was trying to preserve the clean, tidy appearance of her four little girls! Mom was only too aware of the fact that if we even strolled around the yard, we would somehow find a way to get

dirty. So she kept us indoors until time to leave for church, and it became a routine that we simply accepted.

When we are born again by the Spirit of our living God, we are just like the little girls all dressed in lovely white Sunday dresses, ready for worship. Then we stroll back out into the world, and if we're not extremely careful and alert, we become soiled with the world's filth. At first the dirt is just a speck, but the longer one plays in the "yard" of society, the more the soil begins to build up and take over.

#### Prayer



Jack & Beverly Hyles

**Introduction:** Most Christians do not pray very much, and many Christians do not pray at all. There are several things that happen when God's people do not pray.

- . We Sin. I Samuel 12:23, "moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the Lord in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way." What could be plainer? If we do not pray, we sin. If we do not pray for others, we sin. Prayerlessness is no doubt behind every other sin. I talked to a preacher who had gone so far into sin he had left the ministry and was living a wasted, barren life. I asked him where it all started. He said, "That's easy. It started the day I did not go to the prayer closet."
- 2. We do not receive what we need. James 4:2, "Ye lust, and have not; ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain; ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not." Dr. Rice used to fantasize that he went to Heaven and that he saw building after building filled with beautiful things. There were so many beautiful packages and wonderful things that God had. In his fantasy Dr. Rice would ask, "Dear Father, what are these?" and the Father would say with a sad voice, "These are things I had for My children, but they never asked for them." We have not because we ask not!
- 3. We go without wisdom. James 1:5, "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, That giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him." Three things are on the top of my prayer list: power, wisdom and love. This means that at least to this preacher, wisdom is one of the three most important things that he can possess. What a pity for parents to go without wisdom in rearing their children because they do not pray! What a pity for teachers to go without wisdom in leading their churches because they do not pray! What a pity for teachers to go without wisdom in teaching their classes because they do not pray! Oh, to tap the source of the great mind of God for wisdom! It is available. If we do not have it, it is because we do not ask for it.

Conclusion: "Lord, teach us to pray..."

#### Heritage Highlanders July 2013 Schedule



Saturday July 6 Proverbs 31:13
Sewing with Mrs. Kubic
Saturday July 13 Luke 1:47
"Summertime" and keeping focused on our
"Saviour"

Saturday July 20 Summer Salads Saturday July 27 Soulwinning

Proverbs 31:14

John 3:16

Edward and Wilma Fowler

#### Lest We Forget

Edward Fowler Jr. spent his first wedding anniversary fighting on the beaches of Normandy in France.

The date was June 6, 1944, and Fowler was with the 29th Division on Omaha Beach. "Once we landed, each foot soldier had at least a 75-pound backpack on him, plus the added weight of the water we waded through -all carried while being directly fired upon."

The former infantryman describes the experience as a "savage, dirty, frightening horrible hell."

He recalls the sounds of German machine-gun fire and mortar shells whizzing by. "The days were exhausting, and the nights seemed twice as long, with counterattacks one behind the other. The rain came every day and night. My platoon was the scout platoon for the whole company, and this meant we were to search out and find where the enemy was hiding. We encountered a lot of Germans, with hand-to-hand fighting at a close range."

His company successfully claimed the town of St. Lo. "This was a key city to win, as it was the trade center of Normandy. Ten days after landing on the beaches, we were able to take it. But it wasn't until July 18 that we liberated the city and secured it."

About two weeks later, Fowler and about 50 other men in his company were captured by the enemy. "Our clothes had begun to wear thin, and the soles of our shoes were worn out. We lived on less than 700 calories of watery soup a day, eating it slowly, savoring each bite to make it seem more than it actually was. We were infested with lice; they fed on every part of the body. Dysentery, too, was the order of the day, along with sores breaking out on feet and legs."

Fowler spent nine months as a POW. He was eventually flown to a hospital and then "good old home." Back in the States, his bride, Wilma, was at work when she learned Fowler was alive. "When she came back to the floor to tell her friends, she started sobbing so hard they thought I'd been found dead."

After returning home to Oklahoma, Fowler farmed his land and raised five children with Wilma. They planned to celebrate their 70th anniversary on June 6, 2013.

# Some food for thought....or.... Seed From The Silot

At their worst, they can create a disincentive to work, produce or build. "An unlimited power to tax," as Daniel Webster famously said, "invokes, necessarily, a power to destroy."

Somewhere between those extremes, taxes can make us laugh or sigh or cry. Here are just a few examples from across the United States.

Pray for drought In Maryland, the government is taxing "impervious surfaces" - roofs, driveways and basically any other man-made structure that doesn't allow rainwater to naturally soak into the ground. An outgrowth of a 2010 Environmental Protection Agency mandate to reduce runoff into Chesapeake Bay, this "rain tax" will hit property owners in Maryland's 10 most populous counties. Maryland business developer Blair Lee projects that a typical homeowner will pay around \$100 annually. But since businesses will get soaked "with five- and six-figure amounts because they own such large rooftops and parking lots," Lee notes that taxpayers will get a doublewhammy as car dealers, shopping centers, big-box retailers, office buildings and warehouses pass along the costs of complying to their customers.

The rain tax isn't the only revenue source for the Chesapeake Bay cleanup. In what U.S. News & World Report calls the "flush tax," Maryland has levied a \$2.50 monthly charge on "residents who generate wastewater."

What kind of seed are you sowing?

#### THE "DOUBLE TAX"

The estate tax - derided as the "death tax" its many critics—was implemented at a time when wealth was beginning to concentrate in the pockets of a few mega-rich families. The that idea such overconcentration of wealth would not be healthy for America. "We can have concentrated wealth in the hands of a few or we can have democracy," Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis observed. "But we can't have both." Over time, like so many other forms of taxation, the reach of the estate tax grew to grab the hard-earned wealth of people who weren't really rich at all: family farmers, mom-and-pop store owners, lifelong savers and investors.

# HOW THE GRINCH (ALMOST) TAXED CHRISTMAS

2011. the Department Agriculture spawned special "assessment" of 15 cents per "Christmas tree domestically produced or imported into the United States." The purpose of the tax was "to strengthen the position of fresh-cut Christmas trees in the marketplace." But in response to strong public outcry, the White House ordered agriculture officials delav to implementation of the dreaded Christmas tree tax.

A FATHER TOOK HIS SON ON A TIGER HUNT. AS THEY WERE CREEPING THROUGH THE WEEDS, THE FATHER SAID, "SON, THIS HUNT MARKS YOUR PASSAGE INTO MANHOOD. DO YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS?"
"JUST ONE," THE BOY REPLIED. "WHEN THE TIGER KILLS YOU, HOW DO I GET HOME?"



#### Kim Kline's Red White and Blue Salad

2 - 3 oz pkg. of blue jello 4 cups boiling water, divided 4 1/2 cups cold water, divided 1 cup fresh blueberries 1 envelope unflavored gelatin 1 cup milk 2/3 cup sugar 2 cup sour cream 1 tsp. vanilla 2 - 3 oz. pkg. strawberry jello 1 cup fresh strawberries, chopped 8 oz. cool whip, room temp.

In a bowl dissolve strawberry jello in 2 cup boiling water. Then stir in 2 cup of cold water. Add strawberries. Refrigerate until firm, which is about 2-3 hours. Make sure it is firm before next layer.

Put 1/2 cup cold water in saucepan. Sprinkle unflavored gelatin over water. Let stand for 1 minute. Add milk and sugar, cook and stir over medium heat until gelatin and sugar are completely dissolved. Cool this mixture to room temperature then whisk in vanilla and sour cream. Pour over strawberry jello and refrigerate until firm, about 2 hours.

Dissolve blue jello and 2 cup of boiling water in a medium bowl. Stir in 2 cup cold water and add blueberries. Spoon this mixture over white layer in trifle bowl. Chill. Top with Cool Whip, blueberries and strawberries.

# **Our Statement of Faith**

We accept the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice. **Psalm 12:6-7, I Peter 1:23** 

We believe in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons-Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. *Matt.* 28:19-20

We believe in the deity of Christ– His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillenial return.

#### I Corinthians 15:3-4, I Timothy 3:16, Acts 1:11

We believe that all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour. Romans 3:23

We believe that men are born again through faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

#### Acts 16:30-31, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 1:13, John 10:28

We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world. *John 5:28-29, Luke 16:22-23, Rev. 20:11-15* 

We believe that Baptist churches were the first churches of Christianity and that Jesus founded a Baptist church. *John 1:35-37, Acts 1:22* 

# **Baptist Beliefs**

# **B** iblical Authority

- A utonomy of the Local Church
- P riesthood of ALL Believers
- T wo ordinances Baptism & Communion
- I mmersed Church Membership
- S oul-liberty
- T wo officers Pastors and Deacons
- S eparation of Church and State

# **Baptist Heritage**

- John the Baptist, Exalter of Christ
- Meno Simons (1496-1561), Dutch Anabaptist leader
- Roger Williams (1603-1683), Founded the first Baptist church in America in 1638 in Providence, Rhode Island
- John Bunyan (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- John Newton (1725-1807), Baptist preacher that wrote *Amazing Grace*
- Charles Spurgeon (1834-1892), might be the greatest Baptist pastor
- John Franklyn Norris (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- Jack Frasure Hyles (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year

## Heritage Baptist Church

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