

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR





THE SCROOGE OF CHRISTMAS LUKE 2:1-20



Pastor & Mrs. C "Old-Fashioned Sunday" Introduction: When Charles Dickens, the English novelist, wrote that wonderful Christmas story called <u>A Christmas Carol</u>, the main character in the story was a man named Ebenezer Scrooge. Scrooge was a man totally unmoved concerning the celebration of Christmas. **Luke Chapter 2:7**, reveals where Dickens got his thoughts on the subject of the Scrooge of Christmas. He is the innkeeper who found

no room for Joseph, Mary, nor the Christ of Christmas.

Notice: "And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn." Why was there no room for them?

FIRST: HE WAS UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE CONDITION OF MARY. LUKE 2:5 "... being great with child."

What a hard trip it must have been for Mary. The trip was long, and filled with peril. Tired, and near delivery, she needed rest and comfort. Yet there was no place, not even in the room of the innkeeper. Why? Because he saw another dollar to be made.

This is the exact philosophy that fills America today at Christmas time. We find that Christmas is a money making opportunity for those who live to make another dollar. And yet the concern for the Christ of Christmas is totally absent. Today it is no longer even Christmas, but X-Mas. Christ has been X'ed out of his own birthday.

SECOND: HE WAS UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE COMING MESSIAH. LUKE 2:11 "For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."

It is interesting to note that royalty always received respect, the best food and accommodations, even the personal attention of those in authority. Yet the Christ was given a manger and a trough to be born in. His witnesses and friends, the animals. The angels did not visit the hotel of the innkeeper, but rather they went to deliver the message of the arrival of the Messiah to a few lonely shepherds. This should teach all of us that God sees us in every circumstance at every moment we live. He sees every decision we make.

We Didn't Need Another Bible



Dr. Jack Hyles

I was invited to be on the overview committee of the New King James Version. Of course, I turned it down. By mistake, I got into one of that committee's meetings, thinking it was a different meeting. The men at that table were a hall of fame; famous men that most fundamentalists would love to know.

The chairman of the overview committee stood up, called the meeting to order, and they all started working. On one side of the table were seminary professors doing the research for the New King James Version. Not wanting to be rude by walking out, I just sat there for over an hour and listened as they all talked.

Finally, the chairman looked at me and said, "Dr. Hyles, you haven't said anything yet. How do you feel about the progress we've made thus far on the New King James Bible?"

I said, "I must tell you. I didn't want to say it out loud, but I must tell you. I am not for what is going on. I have the only Bible I want, and I don't need anything else."

I pointed to those seminary professors, with their so-called doctorate degrees that they gave each other, and I said, "You fellows ought to get out of here, get the King James Bible you've got and go soul winning. Preach some old-fashioned revival campaigns, and get a bunch of people out of Hell! Spend your time doing that, and when you stand before God, you'll be more pleasing to Him than if you publish a bible we don't need."

A LITTLE GIRL WAS AT HER FIRST WEDDING AND CAREFULLY OBSERVED THE ENTIRE CEREMONY. WHEN IT ENDED, SHE ASKED HER MOTHER, "WHY DID THE LADY CHANGE HER MIND?" HER MOTHER ASKED, "WHAT DO YOU MEAN?"

"WELL, SHE WENT DOWN THE AISLE WITH ONE MAN AND CAME BACK WITH ANOTHER ONE."

Heritage Highlanders December 2015 Schedule Saturday December 5 Sewing with Mrs. Kubic Saturday December 12 **Baking Christmas Cookies**

Saturday December 19 Proverbs 31:13

Christmas Caroling Saturday December 26 **Romans 10:13**

Psalms 95:1

Soulwinning

"THE GOVERNMENT RELEASED HUNDREDS OF DOCUMENTS SEIZED FROM OSAMA BIN LADEN'S COMPOUND. AMONG THE ITEMS IS A JOB APPLICATION FOR AL-QAIDA. IT'S LIKE A REGULAR JOB APPLICATION EXCEPT IT ASKS QUESTIONS LIKE, 'WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF EXPLODING IN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS?'"

Proverbs 31:13

RICOTTA

THE GRAPE JAM

2 pounds very ripe red-fleshed grapes

Pinch of granulated sugar, if needed

THE FRITTERS

2 quarts vegetable oil, for frying 1 1/5 cups all-purpose flour 1 tbsp baking powder

1 tsp kosher salt

4 eggs, lightly beaten 1/4 cup granulated sugar 2 tsp grated orange zest Seeds from 1 vanilla bean 2 cups ricotta Confectioners' sugar granulated sugar, for dusting

1. Make the jam: In a fine mesh strainer set over a bowl, pull open the skins of the grapes to expose the

- flesh. Holding the skins, press the flesh against the strainer to extract the juice, and allow it to drain into the bowl. Discard the skins and seeds. Use as is, or season the juice with a tiny pinch of sugar if needed. Refrigerate, covered, until ready to use, up to 1 day.
- 2. Make the fritters: In a wide medium stockpot, Dutch oven, or deep fryer, heat the oil until it registers 365°F on a deep fry thermometer.
- 3. Meanwhile, in a bow), whisk together the flour, baking powder, and kosher salt. In a separate bowl, whisk together the eggs, granulated sugar, orange zest, vanilla seeds, and ricotta. Whisk the dry ingredients into the wet just until incorporated. (The batter can be stored, covered, in the refrigerator for several hours or up to 1 day.)
- 4. Working in batches of about 8, gently drop 1-tablespoon balls of the batter into the hot oil, and fry, turning them occasionally, until golden all over, about 3 minutes per batch. Using a slotted spoon, transfer the fritters to paper towels to drain. (Allow the oil to come back to temperature between
- 5. Sprinkle the fritters with confectioners' sugar, or coat them with granulated sugar. Serve warm with the grape jam.

THIRD: HE WAS UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE CALL OF MERCY.

LUKE 2:16-17

"And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger... and... they made known..."

The shepherds came to the birth of Christ and discovered the King, the Messiah, the Christ, their Saviour. There is no record anywhere that reveals that the innkeeper ever came to Christ for salvation.

Conclusion: The wise men came from the east at great cost and distance to find, know, and worship the Lord Jesus Christ. The innkeeper saw the financial benefits of Christmas, but the wise men saw the mercy of God offered to sinful man. Reader, this could be your chance to find Christ as your Saviour. Will you receive him today? Make Jesus the reason for the season.

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)

A JUDGE ASKED A DEFENDANT, "WHY DID YOU THROW THE POT OF GERANIUMS AT THE PLAINTIFF?" "THE NEWSPAPER TOLD ME TO DO IT, YOUR HONOR," THE DEFENDANT REPLIED.

"ARE YOU SERIOUS?" THE JUDGE EXCLAIMED.

"YES. THE AD SAID, 'SAY IT WITH FLOWERS.' SO I DID."

Sheila Spencer's Awesome Slaw



1 small head cabbage 2–3 carrots 1 cup mayonnaise 1/2 cup sugar 1/4 cup apple cider vinegar

Shred cabbage and carrots on cheese grater into bowl.

Combine mayonnaise, sugar, and vinegar. Set aside until the sugar dissolves. Add more sugar or vinegar to taste if needed.

Poor dressing over slaw. Mix well. Salt and pepper to taste. For a little kick, mix in some horseradish.

Unsupervised Young People



Mrs. Francie Taylor

I told a story a while ago about some young people from our bus ministry who got into severe trouble due to immorality. The young man was in my husband's Sunday school class, and I had the young lady in my class. These two were able to have some time alone, and they were intimate during that unsupervised time. A child was born, but not without a great deal of harm to the couple and almost to the baby as well.

You may have read the story about a young woman who put her newborn baby in the garbage, as it was widely reported in the national news. The young man ended up being charged as a sex offender due to a four-year difference in their ages. Even though the girlfriend testified that their relationship was "consensual," the law stated otherwise, and

after being charged with such a serious crime, the young man lost his mind and took his own life. It was horrible. It was shocking. And it was unnecessary.

Please recognize the risks and hazards of having your young people in unsupervised situations. I don't care if they are in the church building! There may be other people around, but in a great big building that may not be enough. Think this through. Have you ever heard of the back stairway? It's still considered the best place to steal a kiss! Please don't leave your children without a chaperone. It doesn't matter if they are age eight or eighteen. Be available at home during after-school hours or provide an acceptable substitute, and when you aren't with your young people, know where they are and with whom. This is a part of being a wise home builder.

Something to 'CROW' about!

- 1. Heritage Baptist Church has had someone saved and baptized every week for the last nine (9) years in a row!
- 2. The buses are still rolling!



There's nothing like Christmas to put a little bounce in your checks.



No More Bacon and Eggs

Inmates will no longer be able to enjoy their morning bacon and eggs because the Obama Administration suddenly removed pork from federal prison menus. The Federal Bureau of Prisons imposed the ban saying it was in response to prisoners' food preferences. Supposedly pork just wasn't a popular menu item, but this is questioned by many. Seriously, who doesn't like bacon?

"We find it hard to believe that a survey would have found a majority of any population saying, 'No thanks, I don't want any bacon,' a spokesman for the National Pork Producers Council stated.

And there have been concerns from inmates families that the move had to do with the Muslim and Jewish dietary restrictions being effectively imposed on the rest of the inmates.

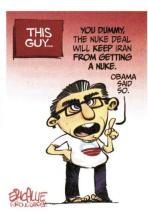
SOME PARENTS ARE BUYING THEIR CHILDREN BATTERIES FOR CHRISTMAS - WITH A SIGN SAYING "TOYS NOT INCLUDED."

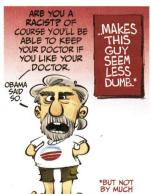


"SORRY, 007— AUSTERITY ALL AROUND."



"Can you think of anyone the victim may have had a falling out with?"





You are remembered for the rules you break.

DOUGLAS MACARTHUR

Life's tragedy is that we get old too soon and wise too late.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Freedom is a fragile thing and is never more than a generation from extinction. It is not ours by inheritance; it must be fought for and defended constantly by each generation, for it comes only once to a people. Those who have known freedom, and then lost it, have never known it again.

RONALD REAGAN

Only strength can cooperate. Weakness can only beg.

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

It is no use saying, "We are doing our best. You have got to succeed in doing what is necessary.

WINSTON CHURCHILL

Peace, above all things, is to be desired, but blood must sometimes be spilled to obtain it on equable and lasting terms.

ANDREW JACKSON

I must stand with anybody that stands right, and stand with him while he is right and part with him when he goes wrong.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

America is too great for small dreams.

RONALD REAGAN

Lest We Forget



"It felt like a blow torch was burning through my leg. Aug. 8,2012, was not a bad day; it was the worst day of my life."

Retired Army Capt. Florent Groberg, who received the Medal of Honor on Nov. 12 for his actions in Kunar province, Afghanistan. While providing a security detail for senior U.S. military leaders, he and his fellow soldiers were ambushed by two suicide bomb-

ers. Groberg rushed the first and was seriously injured when the bomb detonated. "My fibia was sticking out of my left leg, my skin was melting and there was blood everywhere," he recalls. Born in France, Groberg became a U.S. citizen in 2001. He is the 10th living recipient of the Medal of Honor for actions in Afghanistan.



"WE DON'T LIKE TO USE THE 'SPEAK' COMMAND. HE TENDS TO BE VERBOSE."

A boy excitedly told his parents, "I'm in the church's Christmas play!"
"Which part did you get?" his mother asked.
"I'm a wise guy!"



"HOW COME THE COW DIDN'T BURN UP ON RE-ENTRY?"



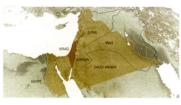
#1 Boy's Name in England

Mohammed has become the most popular name for newborn boys in Britain.

It shot up from third the previous year, overtaking Jack, which had topped the list for the past 14 years but was relegated to third spot.

A total of 7,549 newborns were given 12 variations of the Islamic prophet Mohammed's name last year, such as Muhammad and Mohammad.

THE PROMISED LAND



"In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed

have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates" (Genesis 15:18).

While never claimed by the children of Israel, the land promised to Abraham includes all of modern day Israel, Lebanon, and Jordan, and parts of Egypt, Iraq, Syria, and Saudi Arabia.



Leave It To The Bureaucrats

Social Security overpayments are hard to recover—

so hard, in fact, that the Social Security Administration overpaid, big time, to get a bunch of recent overpayments back.

The agency spent a whopping \$323 million to recover \$128.3 million in overpayments made between 2008 and 2013.

The Office of the Inspector General caught the mega-million dollar slip up in a recent audit. "SSA attempted to collect overpayments regardless of the amount. In some cases, the value of the overpayment was less than what SSA spent to collect the overpayment. Therefore, for some overpayments, collection was not always cost-beneficial," according to the OIG report.

"This resulted in SSA spending over \$213.6 million more than it collected."

Some food for thought....or.... Seed From The Silo!

A Nightmare In China

Feng's nightmare began on May 30, 2012. Government officials showed up at her home to enforce the country's "one-child" policy. They tried to convince Feng - seven months pregnant to have an abortion. When she refused... they wouldn't leave. After several hours, the frustrated Feng simply walked out and went to her aunt's house up the street.

Feng hid in a rear bedroom as 16 government officials organized six-man shifts to barricade the back door and monitor Feng around the clock. By the end of the second shift - the midnight shift - the guards were completely drunk. Feng saw her chance. At first light on May 31, Feng snuck out and hitchhiked to the end of the road... where she hid under some bushes until nightfall — 14 hours later.

Under the relative safety of darkness, Feng walked to a relative's farm where she could hide. Government officials systematically ransacked the residence of every friend and relative she had. On June 1 - after 70 hours as a pregnant fugitive — they found Feng under her relatives bed.

Feng was dragged from the house kicking and punching... her screams muffled by the pillowcase her captors shoved over her head.

At about this time, Feng's husband Deng Jiyuan was at his remote job in a Mongolian mine. He began to receive text messages from, government officials offering to accept bribes in exchange for his unborn child's life. The first demand was 100,000 yuan (about \$15,700) - a sum nearly impossible for a peasant miner to even comprehend. Deng's counteroffer of 30,000 yuan was initially accepted.

But on June 2, Deng received another text message. The government's final offer was the immediate payment of 40,000 yuan and "not a penny less." He didn't have it... and even if he did, it was still an impossible offer. Deng Was still at least a day away from his village.

So Feng's captors loaded her into a van and drove her to the hospital. Here's how she described what happened next to reporters:

They forcibly applied my fingerprint to the [abortion] consent form. I was unwilling They used a pillowcase to cover my head. There were two men, one grabbed my left side, the other my right, they forced me to sign my name with my right hand, and they forcibly applied the fingerprint with my other hand. The fingerprint on the document is a mess.

A cadre of thugs physically kept Feng's father -in-law from entering the building. Meanwhile, government officials held down Feng as doctors injected her womb with poison. No relatives were allowed in the room as Feng delivered her second daughter — a lifeless stillborn.

As was the custom in Feng's part of China, the hospital deposited the "aborted fetus in her mother's bed and left the family to "dispose" of the corpse. The infamous photo was taken by Feng's sister-in-law. The authorities had destroyed a video camera she had smuggled into the hospital, but she managed to snap a couple of photos with her cell phone without anyone noticing.

Feng's sister uploaded the images onto Sina Weibo - the Chinese social media site. The Chinese populace unleashed a torrent of outrage. The image was viewed millions of times. Tens of thousands of comments were posted on Sina Weibo. Some called it an "atrocity;" others said it was the same as murder. "What is wrong with society?" wrote Li Cheng-peng, a widely followed commentator. "A seven-month baby can think already. I want to ask the murderer, how do you face your own mother when you go home? If this evil policy is not stopped, this country will have no humanity."

What Kind Of Seed Are You Sowing?

"MY SMART PHONE COMMUNICATES WITH MY SMART WATCH AND SMART TV. I THINK THEY CALL ME STUPID BEHIND MY BACK."

CHURCH BULLETIN BLOOPERS

- "A WORM WELCOME TO ALL WHO HAVE COME TODAY."
- "THE COST FOR THE FASTING & PRAYER CONFERENCE INCLUDES MEALS."
- "PLACE YOUR DONATION IN THE ENVELOPE ALONG WITH THE DECEASED PERSON YOU WANT REMEMBERED."
 - "THE CHURCH WILL HOST AN EVENING OF FINE DINING, SUPERB ENTERTAINMENT AND GRACIOUS HOSTILITY."

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

Biblical Authority

- Autonomy of the Local Church
- Priesthood of ALL Believers
- T wo ordinances Baptism & Communion
- I mmersed Church Membership
- S oul-liberty
- Two 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 Providence, Rhode Island in 1638.
- John Clarke (1609-1676) was a Baptist preacher, medical doctor, and co-founder of the colony of Rhode Island. He was a driving force to get religious freedom into the charter of Rhode Island.
- **John Bunyan** (1628-1688), Baptist preacher who wrote *Pilgrim's Progress*
- 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

77 Saxe Road Mogadore Village, OH 44260 (330) 628-9559

Gerald B. Collingsworth, Pastor WWW.CHURCHINTHEBARN.COM



