

## “Back To The Bible”



### JUNE 2026

FROM THE DESK OF:

GERALD B. COLLINGSWORTH, PASTOR



**Pastor and  
Mrs. C**



### Characteristics of Real Heroes



*1 Samuel 23:8-39*

**INTRODUCTION:** This is one of the most exciting portions of Scripture, for it is here that we find some of the greatest heroes in all the Bible! Many of the greatest warriors who ever lived were found in this listing of "David's mighty men" who had become legends in their own time! Notice some of the many qualities that belonged to these men who were used and blessed of God to be the most reliable soldiers and friends that David ever had.

#### **FIRST: THEY WERE WILLING TO FIGHT INCREDIBLE ODDS. II SAMUEL 23:8**

Adino was a man who had gotten involved in a battle. And the single grand achievement that is recorded by God is that he willing to take on 800 enemy soldiers as one time--and he won! This is somewhat reminiscent of what Elijah would one day do on Mt. Carmel, when he look on a total of 850 false prophets! Perhaps he found his boldness in the well-known exploits of David's mighty men!

God has commanded us to live the Christian life and yet, this life is impossible without God's divine help through the indwelling Holy Spirit!

It is impossible to become like Jesus Christ through sheer willpower! But with God, all things are possible. And therefore, as we are yielded to the Holy Spirit, we then have the capability of being transformed into the image of Christ

#### **SECOND: THEY REFUSED TO QUIT.**

**II SAMUEL 23:9-10**

Eleazar was a man who found himself overwhelmed and outnumbered in a battle against the Philistines. And his claim to fame was that he had become so engrossed in the battle that, when it was all over, his hand was frozen to the sword! This simply shows the intensity and aggressiveness that he had when engaged in combat, as well as his attitude that he would die, but never give up!

This ought to be the attitude of every Christian as we approach the Lord through prayer!

For every time we drop to our knees in prayer, we are engaged in a spiritual battle and have no business quitting!

#### **THIRD: THEY WERE WILLING TO STAND THEIR GROUND.**

**II SAMUEL 23:11-12**

Shammah was abandoned by his many "fair-weather friends" as soon as they saw the enemy racing towards them!

But Shammah refused to leave and was willing to die if need be fighting for a small pea patch!

And what was so significant about this pea-patch?

It had been given to him as a duty! And he accepted that duty as from the Lord!

Sunday School teachers, bus workers, ushers, choir members and everyone else in the church who has been granted some type of ministry would do well to remember and Shammah's claim to fame was that he was willing to stay put-even in an area that didn't look like much to anybody else!

#### **FOURTH: THEY WERE WILLING TO SACRIFICE FOR WHAT THEY LOVED. II SAMUEL 23:15-16**

These three men were willing to risk their lives for something that certainly didn't seem like it was worth dying for!

David had voiced his desire to have a drink of water from where he grew up. As soon as these men

*Continued*



Dr. Jack  
Hyles

**NOW**  
**II Corinthians 6:2**

The happiest person in this town is not the fellow who went out and wiggled last night at the disco; he is sore all over today. The happiest person in town is not the fellow who went out last night and got drunk from the Air Force base or the Naval base; he is having a hangover today. He has problems. The happiest person in this town is not the fellow who went out last night to the whore house and got some venereal disease and went home with a guilty conscience. The happiest person in this town today is that one who can sing, "Gone, gone, gone, gone! Yes, my sins are gone!"  
The happiest person in this town today is the one who can say, Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost...

Someone may say, "Preacher, I want to have fun." Then get saved! You are all cattywampus. Get saved; then you will have fun, buster.

"I want to live it up and have all the fun in life I want to have. Someday when I get old and can't have any more fun, then I'll get saved."

In the first place, God will not take you then.

A fellow wants to get married. Suppose he said, "Darling, I love you, and I want you to be mine. Would you marry me?"

She said, "I love you, but not right now."

He comes back when he is twenty-five and says, "I love you. I've loved you for five years. Would you marry me?"

She said, "I love you too, but I'm having too much fun. I want to wait for now. There's George and Bill and Pete and Jim and Harry and Mohammed and all the others that I like; so not yet."

He comes back at thirty-five and says, "I've loved you for fifteen years. Would you marry me?"

"I love you. One of these days I'm going to marry you but not now. I'm having too much fun."

He comes back when he is sixty-five and says, "Would you marry me?"

She says, "Well, one of these days I want to get around to it."

If he had any sense, he would not do that. After a few times, he should realize there are other fish in the water besides her. He should just bait for some other fish.

God is not going to hang around and wait until you live your life in sin and waste it. What about the dying thief? He had never heard the Gospel before. God is not going to let you get by with living your life in sin and putting it off. Come to Jesus now while you are young. It is Jesus Who brings the joy. Salvation brings the happiness. Peace with God gives you delight and a happy life. Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost...

A new decalogue has been adopted by the neo-Christians of our day, the first word of which reads, "Thou shalt not disagree," and a new set of beatitudes, too, which begins, "Blessed are they which tolerate everything, for they shall not be made accountable for anything."

*A.W. Tozer*

We must never compromise with those who have apostatized from the truth if we are to be worthy sons and daughters of Christian ancestors who sealed their faith with their blood.

*Billy Sunday*

Let him who would move and convince others be first moved and convinced himself. *Theodore Euylar*

If God were not willing to forgive sin, Heaven would be empty.

*D.L. Moody*

The future success of America is not in the Constitution, but in the laws of God upon which this Constitution is founded.

*James Madison*



Dr. Greg

**Everyone Has A Story**

**Luke 8:1-2, "... And certain women, which had been healed of evil spirits..., Mary called Magdalene, out of whom went seven devils..."**

I would imagine that when a Christian reads the account of the Crucifixion, it is hard to keep emotions in check. To think about the agony and suffering Jesus endured to pay our sin debt is overwhelming. It should bother us to hear somebody take the Lord's name in vain. It should bother us to hear somebody blaspheme the name of Jesus Christ. To think of sinful men clenching their fists and striking our Saviour should bother us.

Just imagine Mary Magdalene standing near the Cross having been witness to the Son of God's suffering. Tears were probably streaming from her eyes. Perhaps she was hunched over as the grief caused her to ache physically. She had watched the One she loved being tortured. She knew what this Man had done for her. She knew He was the Son of God. Mary Magdalene was not just someone who came to be a spectator at a public execution. She was not there because she had nothing better to do than to follow the crowd to the place where "criminals" were to be crucified. No, Mary had a story. There was a story behind the tears that flowed down her cheeks that day. There was a story behind the life that was represented as she stood near the Cross. There was a reason she was there with Mary the mother of Jesus, the other Mary, and John. There was a reason she was a follower of Christ. There was a story behind the name Mary Magdalene, just as there is a story behind every Christian who lives today. As we picture Mary near the Cross, we must not forget that there is a story behind every individual we pass at church or in public.

knew who it was that would please their leader, they risked their lives to get it for him!

Notice, they didn't risk their lives for the water! They risked their lives for David!

Sacrifice is usually associated with money and yet, here we find that it is not a financial term but an emotional one dealing primarily with love.

**FIFTH: THEY WERE WILLING TO BE LOYAL.**

**II SAMUEL 23-18.**

It's interesting to see that Joab had two brothers who had become part of David's mighty men, Abishai and Asahel.

Throughout his life, David was hindered by the attitude of Joab!

Years later, Joab would made a terrible choice in taking a position against Solomon. And he would die for that choice!

But his brothers were to be remembered as being loyal, not to their brother. but to David!

It's a shame that many of our churches can't get their loyalties to line up according to Biblical principles as well as this outstanding example.

Unfortunately, if a problem develops between the pastor and a church member, 99.9% of the time, the relatives will take the side of the church member and leave the church-because they aren't loyal!

Joab was a snake in the grass who would do whatever it took to help himself. And yet his brothers were willing to stick with authority!

**SIXTH: THEY WERE WILLING TO OVERCOME.**

**II SAMUEL 23:34**

Eliam was forced to endure a terrible heartache and embarrassment.

His father was Ahithophel who had been David's most trusted counselor and advisor. But his father had chosen to become a traitor when he joined the forces of Absalom.

As if it weren't bad enough to have a father who was a Benedict Arnold, Eliam further suffered from the fact that his father also committed suicide!

What difficult circumstances this man had to overcome but he did!

There are many who must overcome growing up in a home where there are drugs, booze or constant immorality!

But like George Whitefield, who was raised in a tavern owned and operated by his father, if a person is willing to overcome-God is willing to use them!

**SEVENTH: THEY WERE WILLING TO SERVE.**

**I SAMUEL 23:37**

Nahari was somewhat of a nobody, in that he was only the personal attendant to Joab!

Joab was the general—Nahari was the man who cleaned the weapons of the general!

Joab was one of the most famous generals in Israel's history-Nahari was the man who cleaned up after him!

But when David was looking for a man of character, he chose NOT the famous Joab, but the man who faithfully and quietly served him.

**CONCLUSION:** One of the bravest decisions that you will ever make is to place your faith in the Lord Jesus Christ regardless of what anyone else says or does. Make the decision today.

**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)*

**Forgiveness Does Not Bring Back the Wasted Days and Years**

I see Jacob praying at Jabbok. He is right with God! His name is changed to Israel, which means "a Prince of God." The entire nation of Israel will be named after him, but that does not bring back those twenty years when he was outside the will of God. It does not bring back the wasted years.

Naomi was down in Moab for ten years with her husband and two sons. She came back alone. She was forgiven and right with God, but the forgiveness did not bring back those ten wasted years.

My mama, Mary Elizabeth Gray, made sure I had no wasted years while under her roof. I thank God for my mama! Young people, when you go out and sow your wild oats and then decide to come back when you been far better to never have gone into the world in the first place. Yes, you can come back, but you will have wasted years that you cannot relive or reclaim.

All of us need to remind ourselves that God collected His day during that seventy-year captivity of Israel. When you waste days, you will have to pay in this life for those days. The pastor's job is to warn and to salvage but he cannot replace the wasted days when he helps put your life back together.



*Dr. Bob Gray*

# Something to “CROW” about!

1. Heritage Baptist Church had someone saved every week for 36 years.
2. Heritage Baptist Church has not closed our Sunday School, Sunday Morning, Sunday Night, or mid-week service in 36 years—including two years of COVID.
3. Heritage Baptist Church will be hosting the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual “Old-Time Religion” Conference on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, and 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026.



## 4. Scheduled Meetings in 2026.



Dr. Greg Neal



Dr. Don Chitty



Joseph Collingsworth



August 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Dr. Bob Gray

June 21-23, 2026



**Hear Ye! Hear Ye!**  
Heritage Baptist  
Academy  
Commencement for  
Sarah Baker  
Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>,  
7:00 PM



### From our Pastor’s Wife ... Mrs. Vida Collingsworth Father’s Day Memories

It has been many years since my parents have passed away, but there is not a day that I don’t think about them. Even when I see my children and grandchildren I often catch glimpses of expressions or actions that remind me of them.

People will often ask me about my dad. My father served in the Marine Corps during WW II and Korea. One of my favorite pictures of him was a military picture. He was so very handsome.

My dad truly was a strong, quiet man. He wasn’t overly talkative, so when he spoke I took notice and paid attention. He would come home from work, walk through the door, crouch down with his arms wide open and I would run to get my “Big Daddy Hug”.

There are two moments in time that immediately come to mind when I think of dad’s influence in my life.

He taught me to be determined and not quit. I asked for a new bike, but he said not until I learned to ride without training wheels. My physical handicap hindered me a bit, but after days of bumps and bruises I succeeded in this task. The next day he walked through the door with a brand new bike! He taught me to be determined and not quit.

My father also taught me the importance of budgeting your money. At the age of 12 or 13, I asked if I could have a weekly allowance of \$5.00. (\$5.00 went so much farther in the 1960’s!)

He questioned me as to what I would do with this money. So I sat down and wrote out a budget and submitted to him. Upon his careful review his consent for my allowance was granted.

These two life lessons seem small, yet they had a great impact on my life.

I now am in my senior years, yet his impressions in my life feel as fresh as though it was just yesterday. Thank you, Dad. I love you.

## The Love Of The Spirit

*Romans 15:30*



John R. Rice

The Holy Spirit is the personal representative of God and of Christ on earth. He is called many times *"the Spirit of God"* (*Matt. 3:16; Gen. 1:2*), and God many times speaks of *"my Spirit"* (*Gen. 6:3; Isa. 44:3; Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17, 18*). He is also called, *"the Spirit of Christ"* (*Rom. 8:9*).

In *John 14:16-26* the Saviour told His sorrowing disciples that through the Holy Spirit both He and the Father would manifest Themselves to the disciples and would come and make Their abode with Christians.

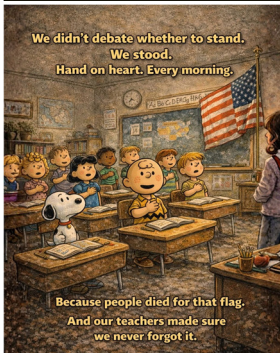
The Holy Spirit is God's executive officer in dealing with mankind.

The Holy Spirit dictated the Bible. *"Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* (*II Pet. 1:21*). We are told that the things that God has prepared for us are not known by eye, nor ear, nor heart of man; *"But God hath revealed them unto us by his*

*Spirit"* (*I Cor. 2:10*). And even the very words of divine revelation are given by the Holy Spirit. *"Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual"* (*I Cor. 2:13*). The Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible. So the Word of God is fittingly called, *"the sword of the Spirit"* (*Eph. 6:17*).

But as wonderful as is the fact that the Holy Spirit is the author of the Bible, here is a fact even more wonderful—the entire ministry of Jesus on earth was wrought in the power and wisdom of the Holy Spirit!

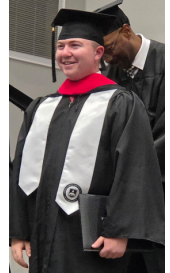
It was by the Holy Spirit that Christ was conceived in the womb of a virgin girl (*Matt. 1:20; Luke 1:35*). Joseph was told, *"That which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost"*; and the angel Gabriel explained to Mary, *"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."*



## Hats Off To Our Graduates!



Christina Kline



Nathan Collingsworth

*I JUST GOT A PHOTO FROM A SPEEDING CAMERA IN THE MAIL. I IMMEDIATELY SENT IT BACK-WAY TOO EXPENSIVE AND REALLY POOR QUALITY.*

*I JUST ASKED MY HUSBAND IF HE REMEMBERS WHAT TODAY IS. ... SCARING MEN IS SO EASY.*

## Lest We Forget

### Lewis Albanese



For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. Pfc. Albanese's platoon, while advancing through densely covered terrain to establish a blocking position, received intense automatic-weapons fire from close range. As other members maneuvered to assault the enemy position, Pfc. Albanese was ordered to provide security for the left flank of the platoon. Suddenly, the left flank received fire from enemy located in a well-concealed ditch. Realizing the imminent danger to his comrades from this fire, Pfc. Albanese fixed his bayonet and moved aggressively into the ditch. His action silenced the sniper fire, enabling the platoon to resume movement toward the main enemy position. As the platoon continued to advance, the sound of heavy firing emanated from the left flank from a pitched battle that ensued in the ditch which Pfc. Albanese had entered. The ditch was actually a well-organized complex of enemy defenses designed to bring devastating flanking fire on the forces attacking the main position. Pfc. Albanese, disregarding the danger to himself, advanced

100 meters along the trench and killed six of the snipers, who were armed with automatic weapons. Having exhausted his ammunition, Pfc. Albanese was mortally wounded when he engaged and killed two more enemy soldiers in fierce hand-to-hand combat. His unparalleled actions saved the lives of many members of his platoon who otherwise would have fallen to the sniper fire from the ditch, and enabled his platoon to successfully advance against an enemy force of overwhelming numerical superiority. Pfc. Albanese's extraordinary heroism and supreme dedication to his comrades earned him the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Some food for thought ...or...

# Seed From The Silo!

## CITY THINKS CHRISTIANITY IS A MENTAL ILLNESS

When Eric Bateman asked for a religious accommodation from mandatory LGBTQ "Pride" initiatives, the city of Los Angeles told him to get counseling, effectively declaring his Christian beliefs to be a mental illness....

For 24 years, he served Los Angeles County as a civil engineer. He helped protect communities from flooding. He supervised vital public infrastructure. He earned promotions, responsibility and trust. By every measure, he was a model public servant.

## CHINA HACKED U.S. VOTER DATABASES IN 2020 TO FRAUDULENTLY OBTAIN MAIL-IN BALLOTS

A startling new report surfaced (mid-March) revealing that China's communist regime hacked into U.S. voter registration databases in 2020 and planned to use the information to produce thousands of fake American driver's licenses in order to obtain mail-in ballots, with the purpose of casting fraudulent votes for former President Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election.

Just the News reported (March 16) on the recent reemergence of a highly redacted formerly classified memo produced by the National Intelligence Council in April 2020, which stated, "[Redacted] Chinese intelligence officials analyzed multiple U.S. states' [Redacted] election voter registration data, [Redacted] to conduct public opinion analysis on the 2020 U.S. general election."

*Dan Hart, Washington Stand*

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH AGENCY SUPPORTS LEGALIZING SEX-CHANGE SURGERIES FOR KIDS

An agency of the United Methodist Church has expressed support for federal legislation that would eliminate bans on cosmetic sex change surgeries for trans-identified minors.

Bishop Julius C. Trimble, general secretary of the United Methodist Church's General Board of Church and Society, published an article on (March 23) denouncing discrimination against trans-identified people....

Trimble condemned lawmakers who have "enacted anti-transgender legislation" that "restrict access to gender-affirming care, sports, bathrooms and facilities, or the use of gender-affirming pronouns in schools."

"As United Methodists, we are called to stand with transgender people"... he continued....

*Michael Gryboski, Christian Post*

What Kind Of Seed Are **You** Sowing?



## Cucumber Salad

Slice 2 cucumbers about 1/4 inch thick, and place in a medium bowl. Toss with 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt and 1/2 tsp. black pepper; cover with 16 oz. apple cider vinegar. Cover and chill at least 2 hours. Drain before serving. Add more pepper and flaky sea salt to taste.



*Nathan Collingsworth*

## Renew The Vision

**Introduction:** My pastor came to me not too long ago and asked me to consider having a soul-winning marathon and connect it to Friend Day. I said, "Pastor, if that's what you want, then I will get right on it."

After the marathon, Pastor asked me to give the statistics so people could see the results of much prayer, much soul winning, and much service.

Here are a few of the statistics:

7,247 tracts passed out, 342.5 hours of soul winning, 64 salvations, and 79 visitors in the church that Sunday morning. (by the way, the choir had to remain in the choir loft because there was nowhere to sit in the auditorium.)



To top it off, Pastor gave me the opportunity to preach that Sunday night.

# 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, 1 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 premillennial return.

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4, 1 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 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 in England
- **John Franklyn Norris** (1877-1952), founder of World Baptist Fellowship
- **Jack Frasure Hyles** (1926-2001), 10,000 baptisms per year and might be the greatest Baptist pastor

### Heritage Baptist Church

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

Gerald B. Collingsworth, Pastor  
WWW.CHURCHINTHEBARN.COM

