

Taking up the mantle!



By Ron Coale

2 Kings 2:11-14... 11And it came to pass, as they still went on, and talked, that, behold, there appeared a chariot of fire, and horses of fire, and parted them both asunder; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12And Elisha saw it, and he cried, My father, my father, the chariot of Israel, and the horsemen thereof. And he saw him no more: and he took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two pieces. 13He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and went back, and stood by the bank of Jordan; 14And he took the mantle of Elijah that fell from him, and smote the waters, and said, Where is the LORD God of Elijah? and when he also had smitten the waters, they parted hither and thither: and Elisha went over.

Is sharing the gospel going out of style? Is there some other way we can effectively reach others for Christ? It seems as if millennial Christians have a fear of sharing the gospel with others. Even though they are active in their church, they have not come to terms with sharing their faith with others. Even though they agree that sharing their faith with others is a huge part of living for Christ, they are still reluctant to tell others about Jesus. Perhaps it is because they reason it is wrong to

share their beliefs with someone for fear of offending them. Perhaps the social media age, while removing all fear from behind the computer screen, provides no in-trepidity when it is removed from the equation.

Many of the younger Christians today solidly believe that sharing their faith with others is just plain wrong. They believe the practice is generational and thus shy away from it. It was a practice for Christians of old, but not for today. If there is a continuation of this policy, then Christianity is likely to decrease because, by their actions, they are teaching the generation following them, that it is completely unimportant. That generation will have no one to be their example for how to share their faith. A sad situation to say the least.

Why do they believe evangelism is wrong? The Millennial environment teaches them if someone disagrees with you, it means they're judging you. Therefore, they are reluctant to share the gospel because they reason people will think they are judging them. Their attempt to navigate societies multitude of new "differences" makes them gun-shy because they do not want anyone to say to them, "Why are you judging me?" They have to not

(Continued on page 7)



Dear Friends,

January, 2019

Another year has gone by and the Lord hasn't come back yet! Nope! I'm not discouraged or disheartened. It just gives us more time to serve the Lord.

Meetings

We finished up 2018 with the following statistics. In 2018 I preached 214 times in 46 different churches. I preached in: Ohio, Michigan, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Maryland, Montana, New York, Colorado, Iowa, Indiana, Connecticut, Kentucky, Illinois, Nebraska, Utah, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Idaho, Idaho, Idaho, Idaho, and Canada. Sometimes there were multiple meetings in the same state. With the addition of Nebraska I have finally preached in all 50 states.

This coming March, 7-10, 2019, we will be attending the 2019 Capitol Connection in Washington DC. I will be speaking at one of the evening services.

We had to put over \$7,000 into our truck this **past** summer to get it ready to tow this **coming** summer. That included a new transmission that finally gave up the ghost after I got the temperature up to 245 degrees and pretty well fried it. I am still seeking a 3/4 or 1 ton pickup to take over the towing duties to give the GMC a rest.

Ministry News!

The first Sunday of January, Pastor DeMichele stepped down from the presidency of Treasure Valley Baptist Bible Institute and asked me to take over. No, even though he has been fighting Leukemia for 18 years it is not because of his health. He's is doing fine. But, with a church of over 1,000 and a Christian School and all that those ministries demand he is just trying to shed a little pressure.

Treasure Valley Baptist Bible Institute was founded in the early 1980s and has graduates across the country and around the world in the ministry serving the Lord. I love to teach so I am really looking forward to the opportunity to



help train men for the ministry as well as better equip others to help their pastors and better serve the Lord. We are reformatting the curriculum with an emphasis on these goals.

If you are interested in any information about our classes feel free to contact the church at 208-888-4545 or google "Treasure Valley Baptist Bible Institute."

What About Evangelism?

I will still be traveling and taking meetings. For the last two years I have been preaching Sun.-Tue. meetings so I could get back her to teach on Thursday. Now I will shift to Fri.-Sun meetings so I can fly back on Monday to be here if needed. During the summers Kathy and I will be traveling one end of the country or the other having meetings.

The Lord has blessed our meetings and I have had numerous invitations to new churches. Kathy and I still **love** the traveling and we love fellowshiping with God's people in church.

Books

By the time you read this there will be two books "in the pipeline." *An Understandable History of the Bible* is going into it's 8th printing. In addition to this, I have a new book at the printer. The title is self-explanatory, *Why Do We Believe the King James Bible?* It will be a little, saddle-stapled book of about thirty pages that briefly covers the subject from one end to the other. Obviously it will not be an in-depth study but will be a good book to pass out to those who need that answer.

Many buy *The Answer Book* and pass it out for this purpose. *The Answer Book* costs about \$7.00. This new book should cost around \$3.00 so it will save folks money if they want to pass them out and it will directly address the issue. Check daystarpublishing.com and you'll know when both books are available.

There are several other books I'm working on but I'll tell you about them as they progress.

Our Health

Kathy and I both have some problems but they don't keep us from giving our all to the Lord. Kathy's eye gives her flashes of misery but the drops she uses help keep it in check. The only problem is that one of the drops causes cataracts and the other causes Glaucoma. But without them the fire burning inside the eye is unbearable.

I am still in need of a fourth surgery on my neck. This next one will fuse me from C3 to C7. Unfortunately I am simply not up for that right now. There are some pretty rough days but so far I accomplish everything I need to do. The only problem is that the neck is unstable and therefore a small traffic accident could turn into a **big** traffic accident in a hurry.

When we are in Meridian Kathy and I spend our Saturdays visiting for Pastor DeMichele. We really love doing it. Plus, it gives us an excuse to get a couple junk-food burgers! **Please pray for us!**

In Christ's Service,
Samuel C. Gipp



MISSIONARY TO THE PHILIPPINES



Church Construction Progress in Labney



Christmas Service in Labney



Medical Mission in Labney



New Children's Center in Paquillao tribal area

Dear Pastor and Friends,

Warm greetings from the Philippines.

We thank and praise God for the great things He is doing in our new mission work in Labney. We are witnessing how the Lord saves souls in this place. I visited a compound where the Iglesia ni Cristo Church was formerly located. The cult moved to another place because they got involved in a quarrel with the some women in that family. During that visit, I evangelize to four of their grand children. By God's grace they got saved. They are now regularly attending services. One of them is now joining the choir in singing for the Lord. Most men who are attending the church came from the cult Iglesia ni Cristo. They are inviting their friends and relatives from that group to attend to our church. They said that they will be coming when we will be having our Services at the new church building that is under construction. Please pray for this people so that they could fulfill their promise of coming to church. During Sundays we have visitors. The kids who are attending church are also inviting their friends to attend church.

We thank the Lord for the couple who were used by God to provide for the funds needed for the construction of the church building. The construction began last 12th of November 2018. On the 3rd of February, we will be having our first Sunday Service in that place. Preacher Greg and Sis Lourdes Ozment, the couple who gave the funds for the building, will be coming to visit us and to preach the Word of God. They will be joined by Preacher Morrison and company from North Carolina. Please pray for the other needs of the building. It still need to have a ceiling to block the heat specially during the summer season. Please also pray that God would provide for the room for the children. We have allotted a 4.5 x 7 square meter portion at the back for the said project. We are also putting up fence around the church property. We are doing this so we could avoid somebody falling from property to the national road below.

We had our medical mission in Labney last November 15th. 61 patients were given free reading eyeglasses. Others were given free medicines. A missionary doctor sponsored it. There was an evangelism done during the medical mission and people got save. Three ladies are now regularly attending the Sunday Services because of the medical mission. Some of the patients told us that they will be going to attend the services when we will transfer to the new church building. At present we are having our services beside the house of one of the members.

We praise God for the wisdom He has given to my daughter Gracelle. She got a general weighted average of 1.26 on her grade. She qualified for scholarship. Half of her tuition fee is free. 1.25 average would qualify for full scholarship. Please pray that God would continue to give her wisdom so that she could maintain her scholarship. Gracelle is inviting her classmates to attend Bible studies. She asked the assistance of a youth leader of a church in Manila to lead them. She has a burden to share the Gospel to her classmates. One of them who accepted the Lord is now attending the church. Phoebe will be graduating this March in Senior High School and will enter College this June. Please pray that God would continue to provide for the educational needs of my daughters.

Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We appreciate it.

For His Glory,

The Salazars

PRAYER REQUESTS

607.	Pastor	Souls saved in Shelton.
680.	Matt	Savings Account (Building fund) to reach —(\$10,000).
763.	Sally	Brother Nathan called to preach. Strength & direction.
849.	Sally	Jonny seeks God's will in making decisions for future.
973.	Dee	Protection for Stephanie working as a nurse.
1034.	Sally	Mr. Johnson recovery from stroke.
1040.	Pastor	Judy Carr's quick healing from back surgery.
1042.	Pastor	Michael, whom I witnessed to, mother would recover from stroke.
1043.	Pastor	2 Jehovah's Witness, whom I witnessed to would see the error of their "gospel" and get saved.
1044.	Pastor	God's will for his life.
1045.	Pastor	Thanks to God for taking 90 year old saint home.

(Continued from page 3)

only navigate around racism, but they must now deal with homosexuality, same sex marriages, a militant atheist movement, satanism, politics, secularism, sanctuary cities, communism, socialism and their very own government. These, and more, are all areas where one may offend another and be accused of judging or being judged. So, the millennial reasons, "I better keep to myself," and this transfers to sharing their faith as well.

While they see their churches failing, they are unlikely to do anything about sharing their faith. It is much safer to take up residence in the closet behind a Facebook account and convince yourself that the distraction of it is sufficient to keep the church thriving. While we see college students marching for their agenda, we see none of them as zealous about their relationship with Christ, their

love for Him and their appreciation for everlasting life. You cannot live a good enough life to go without sharing your faith. People will not magically come to know Jesus through your good actions and selfless character. Yet this style of evangelism seems to be accepted in a culture constantly looking for the easy road to a quick fix.

Like the homosexuals of old, millennials need to come out of their closets and actively organize evangelism activities. There is no shortage of ideas that can be easily and harmlessly implemented. What we lack in the churches of today is the commitment of young Christians to take up the mantle and carry the gospel from those of old. If we do not have committed replacements, then the church will not exist for the generation of young people being born right now. In 50 years, there will be little remembrance of the church. ~

