



Barnabas Ministries
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The Paraklete

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Pause With Dawes

By Denny Dawes
Director, Barnabas Ministries

Sometimes we sing songs that are just not right doctrinally. One that comes to mind is "Pass Me Not." This song has nice lyrics and was written by Fanny J. Crosby – *Pass me not, O Gentle Savior, Here my humble cry. While on others Thou art calling, Do not pass me by.* This is calling on God, while in His searching for people to save, not to pass me by. My disagreement with this song is in light of Scripture. The apostle Peter writes in 2 Peter 3:9 – *The Lord is not slow in keeping his promises, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.*

Because God does not want anyone to perish, but everyone to repent, we can be assured that God is not going to overlook or pass by anyone who wants to be saved. We also can consider Revelation 22:17 – *The Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come!" Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.* When it comes to being saved, God's invitation is 'whosoever will' may come.

God invites all to come and He will not pass by anyone who wishes to take the free gift of the water of life. This is a song we do not really have to worry about. In reality, this is a song, we do not have to sing for we have it squarely in the Word of God that Jesus never passed by anyone who called to Him for help.

The question is not really about whether or not we can or we should sing this song. The question we really need to be considering today is, "Is Jesus my Savior?" "Do I know Jesus today?" "Do I have the assurance of salvation?" Arthur Burns was Chair of the Federal Reserve in the 1970's and he was a Jewish economist of great influence in Washington D.C. during the tenure of several Presidents. Burns was once asked to pray at a gathering of evangelical politicians. Stunning his hosts, he prayed: "Lord, I pray that Jews would come to know Jesus Christ. And I pray that Buddhists could come to know Jesus Christ. And I pray that Muslims would come to know Jesus Christ." And then, most stunning of all he said, "And Lord, I pray that Christians would come to know Jesus Christ."

Do you know Jesus Christ today? That is what life is really all about, isn't it?

Saddened, But Rejoicing

We are saddened by the death of our dear friend and brother in Christ, Kevin Yeager. Kevin was a very learned teacher/preacher of the Word. I know that personally in my relationship with Kevin, when I had a question about a Bible issue, he always had a very thorough, well-thought out answer. We know that Kevin loved the Lord Jesus and he loved His Word. He most recently was preaching for the Church of Christ at St. Paul, KY. We can rejoice because we know that Kevin is now in the presence of Jesus Christ. Join us in praying for Susan and their family along with the congregation at St. Paul.

–Denny Dawes



MUSIC ROAD
RESORT
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25
YEARS

February 8-11, 2027



Be sure to register early!



Tom's Thoughts

By Tom Logan
Trustee With Barnabas Ministries

Three Elements of Faith

The first element of faith is Knowledge. The apostles heard the words of Christ as He explained God's will. From this, they began beyond basic knowledge to internalizing what they had heard, thus making them more like Christ. Their knowledge was likely gained from their upbringing. However, their level of true knowledge of God had to grow. Knowledge, therefore, is the first element of faith. Much of what they thought they knew was misunderstood. As Jesus taught during the Sermon on the Mount, He would state *"You have heard it said ... but I say."* Even at the resurrection of Jesus, they still had misunderstandings. But they did have the basic knowledge to form a foundation on which they could grow.

The second element of faith is trust. Trust is often used as a synonym for faith but is really a part of faith. A key point about trust and its relationship to knowledge is that we generally do not trust in something about which we have no knowledge. The more we know of something, the more likely we are to trust it. Knowledge and trust create a positive cycle of spiritual growth in that the more we know, the more we trust.

The third element of faith is obedience. Just as our trust grows with more knowledge, so does our desire to obey. Obedience grows as we gain more knowledge and trust. We are generally reluctant to obey that which we do not trust. Obedience is a mark of spiritual maturity. We begin by accepting our Lord, realizing more about Him. We then progress to developing faith in Him as we gain deeper understanding and trust. Finally, through a lifetime of dedication, we grow to become more and more characterized as Christlike. We never fully complete that cycle in this life, but we grow in our faithfulness as we obey God's will.



Bye-Words From Bob

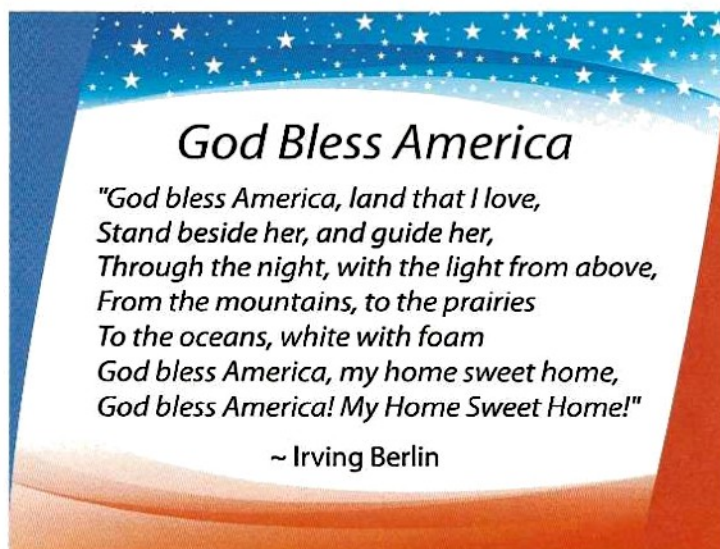
By Bob Huron
Trustee With Barnabas Ministries

The 4th of July has always been a very Christian celebration to me, not because this nation is better than any other nation, but because this celebration is an acknowledgement of God's involvement in the formation of our country. It is a reminder that *"blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."* It is a reminder of what Job 12:23 says about God: *He makes nations great and destroys them; he enlarges nations, and disperses them.* And God's involvement in the formation of the United States is very evident. The patriots who fought for freedom were very God focused and God dependent. They vocalized it. We read a similar story in the Old Testament. The descendants of Israel were challenged by Joshua to remember the Lord, and to decide for themselves: Joshua 24:14-15 – *"Now fear the LORD and serve Him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."*

Still, today, we are faced with the call. Ephesians 6:10-13 says – *Finally, be strong in the Lord and in His mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything to stand.*

The 4th of July is not so much a celebration of the United States as much as it is a celebration that there is a place on earth where the kingdom of heaven – where our true citizenship rests – is welcomed and encouraged to fulfill God's purpose on earth.

We have that freedom enshrined in our constitution and founding documents ... but if that freedom ... the place given by God to further His will, turns against His will, He will depose it. So listen: Freedom – the freedom we cherish – the freedom to practice our faith – is under attack. And we must take a stand on the Word – and stand on it. We must fight this battle, not with guns and bombs, but with the whole armor of God; with God's truth and God's love. Not man's definition of love, but God's. For God says in 2 Chronicles 7:14 – *If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.* The victory belongs to the Lord.



God Bless America

*"God bless America, land that I love,
Stand beside her, and guide her,
Through the night, with the light from above,
From the mountains, to the prairies
To the oceans, white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home,
God bless America! My Home Sweet Home!"*

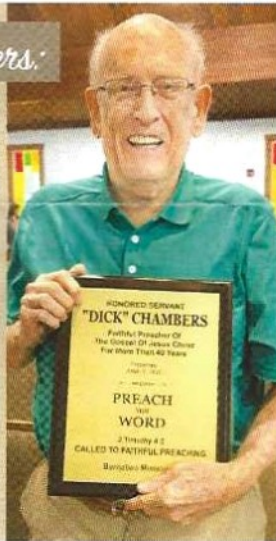
~ Irving Berlin



Recently we were pleased to present the **HONORED SERVANT AWARD** to "Dick" Chambers. We know him affectionately as 'Saint Dick'. Dick has been a faithful preacher of the gospel for more than 40 years. We are thankful to Dick for his service and commitment to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Dick has touched so many lives with his teaching and preaching. He is currently recovering from a fall that resulted in a broken hip. Continue to pray for his full recovery. The award was presented by Jason Cole, preacher at Lake Mount Church of Christ in New Waterford, OH.

Thank You From Dick Chambers:

Precious Brethren, I am overwhelmed and knocked out cold. If I could have been more taken or surprised, I really don't know how. When Jason Cole presented this magnificent gift to me last Sunday, in front of perhaps 300 brethren, I was speechless. I don't suffer from speechlessness very often, as you know. I am humbled beyond words. Thank you so much for thinking of me in this way. God speed. By God's Amazing Grace I am, Saint Dick.



Patriotism

"Patriotism means to stand by the country.

It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official, save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him insofar as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the exact extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country. In either event, it is unpatriotic not to tell the truth, whether about the president or anyone else."

~ Theodore Roosevelt

Denny Dawes ON THE ROAD...

MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT SEMINAR
July 18-19 • Cape Fear Christian Church, Wilmington, NC



Wisdom From Willie

By Willie Purdee
Trustee With Barnabas Ministries

Sometimes in life some of the examples of a biblical truth is seen in everyday mistakes other people make. Here is an example of that.

David Posman, 33, was arrested in Providence, R.I., after allegedly knocking out an armored car driver and stealing the closest four bags of money. It turned out those four bags contained \$800 in pennies. They weighed 30 pounds each and they slowed him to a stagger during his getaway. The police were able to catch up to him and easily jump him from behind.

David Posman is not the first person to make the mistake of trying to run while being weighed down. In fact, it happens spiritually all the time. The Hebrews writer talks about sin being a weight that keeps us from effectively running the Christian race. (Hebrews 12) During the time when the New Testament was written, it was not uncommon to have a runner run while dragging weights behind him. He would do this to practice, but when it came to race day, he would throw off those weights that would slow him down. We can get bogged down with things that pull us away from God. And, by the way, as with David Posman, those things that are weighing us down are not worth nearly as much as we thought they were when we grabbed hold of them. *Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us.* (Hebrews 12:1)

I want to encourage you to do what you can for God while we have time. We have all been blessed with 24 hours in each day to use the best we can. Live for God and let's love one another along the way.



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Barnabas Ministries is:
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A Ministry Standing on the
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A Ministry Equipping for
Service, Counseling and
Support, and Faith Building.

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With ever-increasing printing
and postage costs, we plan to
move *The Paraklete* to an
e-mailable publication.
Would you please send your
e-mail address to Denny Dawes at:
preacherman1971@twc.com

Barnabas Ministries



Doctrinal Statement

BIBLE:
the only inspired record of God's revelation to us
SIN:
the only thing standing between God and man
JESUS CHRIST:
The only perfect One who paid for sin
THE GOSPEL:
The only record of Jesus' life
SALVATION:
the only hope for sinful man
FAITH:
is only "saving faith: if it includes repentance,
confession of Jesus Christ as the Son of God
and being baptized as did every convert after
the resurrection of Jesus.



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Ministries financially. All gifts are used to
further the work of the kingdom and to
encourage the brethren.

What Barnabas Ministries Can Offer You

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 - Fellowship of Joy (A fun evening of clean comedy)
 - Encouragement Seminar **NEW**
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Connect with our team to
schedule any of these events