

BULLETIN BRIEFS

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“YOU DON’T HAVE TO GO OVERSEAS TO PREACH IN ORDER TO GO TO HEAVEN.”

By Scott Richards

This is a statement I have heard from brothers and sisters over the years. Generally I have either not responded or have in some way signaled some level of agreement. However, it may be that the statement is a way for us to avoid our evangelistic responsibility, and if that is the case we need to stop and think about it for a minute. While it is true that not everyone can go or needs to go, it is just as true that some evangelists better go and the rest of us better be sending. For it is written,

“Whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.” How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach unless they are sent? As it is written: *“How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, Who bring glad tidings of good things!”* (Romans 10:13-15).

The whole world is still the harvest field, thus it is urgent that we take a moment and consider what the scriptures say, and what the title above says. ***“Go ye therefore, and teach all nations,*** baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen” (Matthew 28:19-20).

“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned” (Mark 16:15-16). The apostles after being put in prison for preaching the gospel were released from prison by an angel and told to, ***“Go, stand and speak*** in the temple to the people all the words of this life” (Acts 5:20). Philip was told to ***“Go near,*** and join thyself to this chariot” (Acts 8:29). When Ananias expressed misgivings about meeting with Saul of Tarsus he was told to ***“Go thy way;*** for he is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles and kings and the children of Israel” (Acts 9:15). Finally, in Acts 8:4 we see that when the disciples were scattered, ***“they went every where preaching the word.”*** The apostles had clearly taught them to ***“Go”*** just as Jesus had commanded them. This by no means exhausts the evangelistic passages of the New Testament, but they establish God’s mandate to His children to ***“Go.”***

When we say ***“You don’t have to go”*** it is the direct opposite of what the Lord said. If we all took the attitude that is expressed in the title of this article no one would ever ***“Go,”*** and we would be violating what James by inspiration of the Spirit stated, *“Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin.”* (Jas. 4:17). Some among us have the talent to do the work, but will not leave the comforts of home or the opulence of America to take the precious gospel to the precious souls lost in the rest of the world. In the Northeast of India, we struggle to find teachers to come just for one month a year to teach in the Bible School in Guwahati.

The Northeast Bible Institute in Assam is the one Bible training school among twenty in which we use English as the medium of instruction. American teachers who come to aid in teaching often have difficulty raising funds to make the trip. Many more need to come, and those who cannot go need to be sending; as we again note, for “how shall they believe on Him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher and how shall they preach except they be sent? (Rom. 10:14-15).

India has 1.2 billion people, most are groping in darkness. There is a desperate need for trained gospel preachers to take the gospel to this vast number in this diverse nation. The work of training tent making preachers is an immensely effective way of getting more soldiers into the trenches. For those who working with us as teachers and supporters we are eternally grateful that God has blessed us that we can work together in this important work. If you are not a part of the work now, will you consider becoming a part of the work in the coming year? If nothing else please pray for the success of the work we are doing in India.

Scott Richards, the brother, who wrote the above article, is an invaluable worker with the Northeast Bible Institute (NBI) in Guwahati, Assam, India. There are presently 47 enrolled in the two-year program (9 young women and 38 young men). As I often say we are not training these young sisters to be preachers, but to be good Christian wives and mothers; and to teach women and children.

Scott presently works fulltime with the school and serves as the director. He is 57 years old and was born in Arizona. He graduated from Harding College in 1976 with a degree in missions and has been active in doing the work of an evangelist since that time. The most recent local work in the U.S. was with the Lord’s church in Tara, GA from 1991 until 2000, which was followed with five year’s service with the church in Hapeville, Ga.

His first work in India took place back in 1991 in the state of Andhra Pradesh. In 1999 while at Tara and later at Hapeville he made frequent trips to Nepal and later Northeast India to teach for us in schools of preaching for a month each time. About three years ago he decided to give himself full time to the work of training native Christians in India to reach their own with the gospel. Not only does he have a fulltime teaching schedule in NBI, but he frequently leads students and graduates in campaign work on weekends.

As you may perceive from his article we need more who will come over and help us at least for a month each year or to work fulltime with us. Presently he is in the States seeking more support for his work fund. As he noted some must go and some must send (Rom. 10:13-15); and as Isaiah said, “here am I, send me” (Isa. 6:8). If you would like to come over to teach for a month or your congregation can help with his support, please phone him at 678-602-6260, Jonesboro, GA.

BOOKS, TRACTS, CDs FOR CHURCHES AND INDIVIDUALS

Note: The books, tracts and CDs listed below are distributed freely in order to spread the gospel of our Lord. Please see below concerning participation in this mission effort and the ordering of multiple copies.

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2. **DIVORCE DEBATE** (Olan Hicks vs. Jim Waldron). This debate was sponsored by the elders of the Karns church near Knoxville and was held for four nights in February 1977 and has been reprinted five times; very timely.
3. **CLASSICAL PRE-MILLENNIALISM DEBATE** (Pickering vs. Waldron). This debate, held in Australia, was on the 1000 Year Reign. A good tool to deal with the errors of the "Left Behind Series" or other foolishness which claims that Jesus, millennialists and fleshly Israel will rule the earth for 1000 years.
4. **BIBLE WINES**, by William Patton. America's number one drug problem is booze (beer, wine, gin, vodka, whisky, et.al.); yet some members and at times even elders and deacons are not only as weak as dishwater in dealing with it, but must have their own minds polluted with alcoholic fumes. This small book has been reprinted in enlarged format and is a classic weapon to use in writing or teaching on the devil's brew; it is a great tool for stopping the mouths of those who seek to justify so-called, social drinking etc.
5. **JEFFREY JOHNSON VS JIM WALDRON DEBATE** Does the Holy Spirit dwell literally in the Christian? Brother Johnson affirmed that He does! The question is asked and answered: just how does He live and work in the saint? This and other questions are dealt with in this debate. It is not in print, but you may order a DVD.
6. **LETTERS, EXCHANGE ON THE HOLY SPIRIT**, Brother Mac Deaver affirms that the Holy Spirit lives supernaturally in the saint. This he and Jim Waldron discussed in this exchange of letters. Order one, a dozen or more and use them in your class discussions.
7. **THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**, by Howard Winters. This is a 222 page book that is a classic on the question as to the manner the Holy Spirit lives in the Christian. Write your copy.
8. **PACKET ON MENTAL DIVORCE**, This includes an exchange of letters on a novel approach to the waiting game between brother Terry Hightower and J. Waldron.
9. **THE BOOK OF MORMON, A BOOK OF ERROR AND FRAUD** by Jon Gary Williams. Joseph Smith, who in 1830 founded the "Church of the Latter Day Saints (LDS)," had dozens of wives. Yet, the LDS church today advertises itself as family oriented on TV and with boyish elders going door to door. Bible school teachers would do well to use this to arm the members of the church against the dangers of this cult.
10. **THE OTHER SIDE OF EVOLUTION**, Jon Gary Williams. This little book needs to be studied in every classroom (6th grade through adult) in order to arm the saints to refute the pagan-like theory called organic evolution.
11. **A BASIC GUIDE TO BIBLE STUDY**, By Jon Gary Williams. This small book is an extremely effective and popular tool for home or classroom study.
12. **INTRODUCTION TO FAITH BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE**, J. Waldron. This comes as a master copy of 10 lessons. You make copies as needed and mail them to your contacts.
13. **THE LAMB/THE LION**. A commentary by Waldron based on 576 questions on the Revelation, e.g., on the Lamb with seven horns, the first and second beasts of chapter 13, 666, the three unclean spirits like frogs of chapter 16; the battle of Armageddon, etc.) Order one or enough for a class. (Available August 1, 2011).
14. **VITAL FUNDAMENTALS** by Jerry Frazier. A great tool on fundamentals of the faith by a brother who obeyed the gospel in prison. A great tool for classrooms from 6th grade and up, and prison work. One prisoner was heard to say, "I can relate to this man."
15. **SHOULD WE PRAY TO JESUS?** by Jason Hilburn. This is a response to Wayne Jackson's Article, May A Christian address Christ in Praise and Prayer?
16. **WHO IS SAVED?** (Vol. I, II & III) By Fred Bogle of Orlando, FL. Lessons in booklet form that are great for classroom study or as an aid in teaching non-members; for prison work etc. Volume III has recently been printed. Order a copy or a dozen.
17. **TRACTS** by Waldron available in multiple copies if desired. ***MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE**, this tract deals with eight human doctrines on MDR. ***THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**, showing that the Spirit lives and acts in Christians as God and Christ do. ***JESUS SAID**, an excellent study for your denominational friends. ***IS THE DOCTRINE OF SAINTS ONLY IN BENEVOLENCE TRUE?** ***BEWARE OF FORBIDDING BRETHREN**. ***THE JOY OF GIVING**. This illustrates that the Christian's giving is free will and therefore exceeds the efforts of scribes and Pharisees. ***DOES THE BIBLE SANCTION THE USE OF BEVERAGE ALCOHOL IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ACCORDING TO LOCAL CUSTOM?**

As indicated this is a free service as an evangelistic outreach. Our books go to mission points in many places. We spend much each year on literature for the many Christians in India and tracts for believers; yet, they are not just for mission fields. They are designed to strengthen the fiber of the body, both in the U.S. and abroad. If you order multiple copies please include a letter as to how they will be used. You may help as you are willing and able. Contributions for our printing needs are truly appreciated. Send gifts to the address below. We encourage all who receive a book or tract to read it and/or pass it on. Feel free to order for yourself, another or a class. Please caution others. Books are not to be sold

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