

**"A city that is set upon a hill cannot be hid."**

**Matthew 5:14**

*"In the front of the crowd sat one lady severely injured in her youth when she was run over by a truck. The Tsunami did more damage to her feet. With her leg and foot wrapped in rags, she explained how the doctors are telling her that she has to*

*have her leg amputated. She needs an artificial leg. She has no money. Many are the needs of the people. It was refreshing to see their faces as brother Sankar Dayalin taught them about the True and Living God. There was and is comfort in studying something eternally permanent in contrast to their current situations.*

***"God be praised for this beautiful day! By his grace, we trust that many congregations will spring up in this barren land over the course of the next few months. Don Iverson"***

On the 21st of February Don was back in Tamil Nadu and I had returned to the States. After less than a month in the States (on the 9th.) I decided to join him again in Tamil Nadu. That way he and I were able to overlap for five days before it was necessary for him to return to the US due to his business. During the time between March 9 and 13 we traveled with Tamil brothers nearly 200 miles along the coast meeting with other gospel preachers along the way and making plans to increase our efforts to reach the lost.

Eventually as the people begin to get back on their feet we will phase out the major portion of the relief work and concentrate on winning souls and training preachers. Already we have 29,000 Bibles on order and hope to order that many or more New Testaments.

Also we anticipate a larger number of enrollees in our sixteen preacher training schools as a result of the Tunami's impact on the minds of the saints. Due to the lowered value of the US dollar in the world market it now costs us \$60 a month to train a brother to preach. Again as I noted last month we have four weeks of bicycle campaigning coming up in May. Already more than four hundred have signed up to work in this evangelistic effort. We pay these brothers \$2.25 a day during this effort to offset their loss of daily wages.

My sincere thanks to all who have given to this effort either through the church in Banner Elk, NC, where Don is an elder or through the church at Crossville, which sponsors my work.

If you have questions you may write to the elders at Crossville or phone at 931-484-5297. Jim E. Waldron

# BULLETIN BRIEFS

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## TSUNAMI REPORT

Last month I gave an overall view of the work being undertaken in Tamil Nadu, South India to aid as many Tsunami victims as we can with temporary help while teaching them about Jesus and His kingdom. At this point in time we have opened up service centers in seven locations along the eastern coast of that most southern state of India. Besides the report of more than 10,500 being drowned, the government estimates that 144,000 families were displaced and/or lost their livelihood. In one place Don Iverson and I visited back on the 10th of March we saw where the flood of water had come onto the land for a distance of two kilometers (1.6 miles).

These centers are places where people affected by the flood are brought for teaching and for a refreshing noon-day meal. Afterwards they are given replacement things to use in their homes or in the places they have been allotted in the refugee camps. At times we also give them rice, beans and other cooking needs. When we asked if the government has helped with rice and such, many often reply, "one time." More than one hundred Tamil gospel preachers have actually been the ones to carry the load of this work and the teaching.

Through the grace of God and the generosity of American Christians such as you, more than 15,000 have been aided in this manner in seven locations. By the 10th of March better than 225 had obeyed the gospel in conjunction with the relief effort. Many of those were not Tsunami victims, but had observed what our brothers are doing. This figure along with the 667 that obeyed the gospel in our inland bicycle campaign n January 3-13 means almost nine hundred obeyed the gospel between January 3 and March 10th.

Six new congregations have been started. Seven gospel preachers have been located in four places and are holding Lord's day worship in the new places. One of these new congregations began on March 6th. Here is what brother Don reported about that meeting:

*"New congregation in Nagapatinam: The most devastated Tsunami area of India is in this place and I have just come from the first Sunday worship service of the church in this city. It was exhilarating to think about the songs, prayers, and spiritual teachings that were going up before God in this dark place. Sitting on the rooftop beneath a thatched cover, more than 75 people gathered. I could not help but think of Matthew 5:14, "...A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid."*

Continued overleaf

## WHY WAS THE HOUR OF TRIAL COMING ON THE WHOLE WORLD?

Jim E. Waldron

*(This is question number 102 of 575 questions from The Lamb/The Lion, a commentary on Revelation by Jim E. Waldron).*

In the text under consideration (Revelation 3:10) Christ shows the above-designated principle (whom the Lord loves he chastens and scourges every son whom He receives" - Heb. 12:7 ) is applicable to the whole human family; for He says, "the hour of trial" was to "come upon the whole world to test those who dwell on the earth." This makes it clear that calamities, sufferings, sorrows, illnesses and disasters, which come on the human family because this is a sin-cursed world, do not come because they are sent arbitrarily by God, but come to bring mankind to repentance.

All humanity needs to know that death, dying and disease (cancer, heart ailments, diabetes, etc.) are in this world not because God put it here. He made everything "very good" (Genesis 1:31). Death and all its attendant evils are in this world because Satan introduced sin into this realm where man dwells (Genesis 3:1-19).

The apostle Paul tells us "through one man (Adam) sin entered the world (through the instigation of Satan – Genesis 3:4), and death through sin (which brought the consequence of being put away from the tree of life, which meant physical death – Genesis 3:22), and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned" (Romans 5:12). That is, all sinned representatively in Adam so when he and our mother Eve were put away from the tree of life all of us were separated from that tree. In other words we were cut off (Romans 5:12) from that which could have given us the power of continuous life and health on earth.

Since we cannot eat of the tree of life on this planet and live forever (Genesis 3:22), God has "cursed the ground (because of sin being upon it) for (man's) sake" (Genesis 3:17). In spite of the fact that infidels may scoff at this principle, God, out of a heart of love, tolerates, allows and uses suffering to persuade men to give up things that are earthly, sensual and devilish for those things that are spiritual and eternal. As it is written: "The Lord is ... not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance" (II Peter 3:9).

**FREE OFFER**

Below I have listed books and tracts that we have on hand for distribution. You may order these for yourself or for a class.

1) *Is There a Universal Code of Ethics?* (Edited by Waldron) This book contains 21 chapters on such subjects as the gospel and culture, marriage and divorce as it relates to various countries, abortion, euthanasia (so called mercy killing), situation ethics, evolution and ethics, bribery, the Christian and government, capital punishment, the Biblical use of wine, etc. Ten of the writers have spent more than 150 years outside the US doing "cross culture evangelism" and their writings reflect this as it relates to the book's theme.

2) *Divorce Debate* (Olan Hicks VS Jim Waldron). This debate took place in February 1977, while I was serving as an instructor with the East Tennessee School of Preaching and Missions, which was and is conducted by the Karns church, Knoxville. The book has gone through five printings (14,000 total).

3) *Classical Pre-Millennialism* (Pickering VS Waldron). This book is on the question of the 1000 year earthly reign by Christ.

4) *Bible Wines*, by William Patton. This, next to the Bible, is perhaps the best tool available for stopping the mouths (See Titus 1:10-11) of church members who want to claim that the Bible justifies the drinking of alcoholic wine.

5) *Jeffery Johnson – Jim Waldron Debate* on the question as to how the Holy Spirit dwells and works in Christians. It was held February 19-20 and 22-23, 2001, This debate is not in print, but we do have some copies on CDs.

6) *Letters, Exchange on the Holy Spirit*, between Mac Deaver and Waldron. In January 2001 brother Mac Deaver wrote me and said that I could not prove what I was to affirm in the debate with Jeffery Johnson. He and I exchanged letters on the subject throughout 2001. These are bound.

7) *Packet on Mental Divorce*. . . The packet contains material on both sides of the question. A major number of the articles consist of letters exchanged between brother Terry Hightower and myself.

8) *The Book of Mormon*. A small book of 30+ pages exposing the errors and fraud of the Mormon doctrine by Jon Gary Williams.

9) *The Lamb/The Lion*. This is a commentary on the book of Revelation written by Jim E. Waldron. Previously this book was for sale, but now we are offering it for free. If you have ordered one in the past and have enjoyed it please feel free to order another one or enough for a classroom situation.

### ORDER FROM

**Randall Standefer, P. O. Box 123, Dunlap, TN 37327,**

**Phone: 423-949-2685.**

Order any one or all of the above. We are not selling them, so when you order do not send any money. After they arrive pay only the amount of the postage or make a donation to our printing fund. (JW)

## SPEAKING OF MODESTY

Jim E. Waldron

A Calcutta, India newspaper "The Statesman" reported (Dec. 23, 2004) that Britney Spears according to "Access Hollywood" topped the list of Hollywood stars for newspaper stories in 2004.

Such should come as no surprise to anyone. For Britney does the things Hollywood and the world likes. For clothing that girl wears as little on top as she can. Her real "trademark", however, is to wear jeans or pants about as low as possible and still keep them on. She glories in a fleshly display of the navel and the midriff in pants that leave little to the imagination.

But that is what the masses want for they walk "according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air (Satan) the spirit that now works in the sons of disobedience...in the lusts of (their) flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and mind..." (Eph. 2:2-3).

What is sad in the extreme is that some (not to say many) Christians follow the Hollywood standard of dress so as to promote "the lusts of (the) flesh, fulfilling the desire of the flesh and of the mind" (Eph. 2:3).

Not only can one observe young women putting on the "Britney Spears look" but also see that Christian parents are buying and condoning the wearing of such.

Well did the Spirit say "flee also youthful lusts" (II Tim. 2:22) and again "the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, lasciviousness..." (Gal. 5:19).

This last word describes what is sexually provocative and the world glories in sexually provocative jeans, flesh colored Capri pants, low cut dresses, beach and pool wear. The idea seems to be let as much show and/or hang out as long as one does not get arrested or the bit of cloth does not fall off.

### DANCING TOO

April and May are the season for dancing—Proms, etc. Yet dancing is a sexually provocative activity not to say sport. For a lovely 16 or 17 year old cannot bump and grind her way around the dance floor with a warm bloodied American boy and not promote sexual lust. It is a work of the flesh, *lasciviousness*, and those who practice such "shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:21).

Mama, you and Papa should plan an alternative for your high school junior or senior. You will never regret it.

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