



CONNECTED

July - September 2013

In this issue

Another Quarter in the Records of Heaven	1
An Outstanding Event	2
Our Prayer List	2
A Great Passage from Your Bible	2
My Website has been Updated	3
I am Unashamedly a Church Man	3
A Book I have Recently Read	3
I Hope You Enjoy this Beautiful Story	4
The Big Book Sale Continues with a Special Offer	4



THANKS

To each of you who have bought my books I express my sincere appreciation. Thanks for enabling my writing ministry!

ANOTHER QUARTER IN THE RECORDS OF HEAVEN

It is always sobering to contemplate how short life is. Every day we're depleting our allotted time. For the better or for the worse! *"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom"* (Psalm 90:12). Job spoke for all of us when he said, *"And now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high"* (Job 16:19). We would all do well to ask, *"What on earth am I doing for heaven's sake?"*

Since our last *Connected Newsletter* Mrs. Hutson and I have been blessed with good health and plenty to do. On two occasions we were blessed with long-time missionary friends as our house guests: the Hastings (Germany) and the Creeches (Panama). Missionary Cristobal Yanez was with the Creeches. We also hosted Nathan and Nancy Curtis guests from Lake Charles, Louisiana. Nathan hosts a daily 2-hour *Church and State* broadcast on KELB Radio. I was privileged to be his guest at 8:00 AM on May 9. In April I preached three expository sermons covering 2 Timothy 3 at my sponsoring church, Northwest Baptist in

Houston. The third sermon is posted on my [website](#). Pastor Dulany succumbed to a major bronchial infection which took him out of the pulpit for several services. It was my blessing to take care of the pulpit during his absence. It was bitter/sweet to give up four dear loved ones and conduct their memorial services. Praise God, they were all Christians.

On the first weekend in May, I was in Tennessee helping two churches reduce the risk of legal attacks. On the first weekend of June, I was doing the same in two churches in south Georgia. It's a rich blessing to represent the Christian Law Association and be of such substantial help to the Lord's churches. June 19-23 it was my privilege to assist the Emmanuel Baptist Church in Murray, Kentucky with the ordination of their new pastor, Bro. Clint McCoy. Former pastor, Bro. Terry Wilson became too ill to continue. Memorial Baptist Church in Conroe is now without a pastor; I have also helped them keep their

pulpit filled as they search for a new pastor. It has also been my privilege to teach two new *Basic Bible Truths* sets and watch God's Word reach souls.

Many of you are aware that my heart is in writing materials to help God's people. I've been able to complete two new policy statements for churches. One is a *Financial Policies and Procedures Statement*. The other is an *Employee Bonuses Policy*. These, along with other [free downloads](#) are available on the *Products* page of my website. Lord willing, I will be continually adding free downloads, both those that are practical in nature and studies that are spiritual in nature. I am most happy to say that considerable time and attention has been given to my *History of Churches* material. The editing process is fully in gear and good progress is being made. Completing that book(s) is a top priority. A couple of other writing projects are also in progress.

My odometer rolled around again and how thankful I am to still have good health and the privilege of serving the Lord at well past threescore and ten!

Work Hard, Do Your Best, Never Get Too Big For Your Britches & Trust In God!

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To schedule me for a CLA appointment, call Steve Kluth at 727-851-9000

AN OUTSTANDING EVENT



Pastor and Mrs. Clint McCoy

A week ago Mrs. Hutson and I were a part of a richly rewarding event in Murray, KY. At the invitation of Emmanuel Baptist Church, we were there to assist in the ordination of Clint McCoy their new pastor. I was also invited to preach at their 50th anniversary.

What a blessing to see this 21year old pastor account himself so well during an entire Thursday of ordination interrogation! Thank God for the unique liberty in America which still allows churches to certify their own ministers. This is not the case where there is a state church. The formal ordination service was Friday night.

Clint is bright, articulate and humble. Emmanuel Baptist is located just across the street from Murray State University.

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 3:14-18

"Of the four wars in my lifetime, none came about because the U.S. was too strong."
Ronald Reagan

Our Prayer List

- ✓ A fruitful summer
- ✓ Open doors to wins souls
- ✓ Effective time management
- ✓ To be used of God till death
- ✓ That we take nothing for granted

A nurse on the pediatric ward, before listening to the little ones' chests, would plug the stethoscope into their ears and let them listen to their own heart. Their eyes would always light up with awe, but she never got a response equal to four-year old David 's comment. Gently she tucked the stethoscope into his ears and placed the disk over his heart. 'Listen', she said ... 'What do you suppose that is?'

He drew his eyebrows together in a puzzled line and looked up as if lost in the mystery of the strange tap - tap - tapping deep in his chest. Then his face broke out in a wondrous grin and he asked, 'Is that Jesus knocking?'

The sermons on my website are changed approximately six times a year. I appreciate your visits to my site & want them to always be helpful & refreshing.
www.lesterhutson.org.

[Listen to Sermons](#)



Isn't she a beauty!

A very dirty little fellow came in from playing in the yard and asked his mother, "Who am I? "

Ready to play the game she said, "I don't know! Who are you?"

"WOW!" cried the child. "Mrs. Johnson was right! She said I was so dirty, my own mother wouldn't recognize me!"

**MORE THAN ANYBODY
GOD LOVES YOU**

MY WEBSITE HAS BEEN UPDATED

In recent days my website has been updated on several fronts. I am particularly happy to offer a growing number of [free downloads](#). I have added policy statements that could prove very beneficial to churches and pastors. Others are forthcoming. There are also documents to help churches with ordaining pastors.

I am most pleased to offer a couple of study documents. These are outlines with lots of Scriptures. They are systematic guides to deeper studies. Pastors and/or teachers could find them very useful in mapping direction for future studies. More of these studies will be forthcoming. Several new blogs have been added. I hope you will find these interesting; hopefully a bit provocative. Of course, new sermons are rotated onto the website approximately six times a year. At any given time you can go to the website and listen. The website also has a complete archive of all past *Connected Newsletters*. Of course, all of my available books are listed on the *Products* page of the website. Any time a new title becomes available, it will be listed there. Electronic books can be ordered directly from [Amazon](#) and [Barnes and Noble](#). Some of my paper books can also be ordered from Amazon and Barnes and Noble. Most paper copies are available only by ordering directly from me: 2315 Creekhickory Road, Houston, Texas 77068. You can email me at lesterhutson@gmail.com. A pricelist is included on the *Products* page of my website: www.lesterhutson.org. Postage and the cost of a mailer are charged with each order.

A BOOK I HAVE RECENTLY READ

Reclaiming Christianity

A.W. Tozer

Regal

ISBN 978-0-8307-4690-3

Highs and lows! Many good things, but some really weak areas! Dr. Tozer is great on separation and true godliness which should characterize saved people. He makes a strong case that the vast majority who profess Christ have probably never met Him. They have no evidence that says they are saved.

While Tozer makes many valid and strong points, he also states his universal church theology. He is blind to the Apostolic Ministry which skews his understanding of the current ministry of the Holy Spirit. He leans heavily on feelings and the book is weak on exegesis.

For the average person, this is not a good read.

I AM UNASHAMEDLY A CHURCH MAN

Jesus loved His church and I do too. I do what I do under the authority of Northwest Baptist Church in Houston. I am not a free-lancer. Some think I'm pretty old-fashioned. I consider that a compliment, particularly in this age when its hard to tell Christians from lost people & churches from entertainment centers. I still believe the Bible is divinely inspired & infallible. I am not ashamed to say that I still use a King James translation. I love old hymns that exalt Christ, speak of His shed blood & are not too breathy for me to understand what's being said. I'm a creationist, believe in the deity of Christ & that salvation comes by repentance toward God & faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. That's a change of thinking toward God, not merely a prayer, baptism or emotional trip to join a church. I preach the eternal security of the believer, believe in a literal hell & in the fallen nature of man. I think sin is sin & not just a disease. I am looking for the literal, soon-coming return of the Lord Jesus Christ. I'm a Baptist to the core & know the church is a local body of baptized believers who are covenanted together to keep the ordinances & carry out the Great Commission. I believe a real meeting with Christ will make a profound difference in how a person behaves & am mighty skeptical of those who say they're saved but act like they always did. First century Christianity is not in vogue but I want to act like Jesus acted. I'm not ashamed of Him or of being identified with His beliefs and behavior.



ROMAN CRUCIFIXION NAIL

While in Israel earlier this year, I took this picture of my friend Ido Keynan holding a Roman crucifixion nail from the time of Christ. The Romans drove these nails through the hands or feet then bent them over on the backside of the wood. Ido found this nail in one of his digs.



This is my home & sponsoring church in Houston: Northwest Baptist Church

"To him be glory in the church by Christ throughout all ages, world without end"

Eph. 3:21

I HOPE YOU ENJOY THIS BEAUTIFUL STORY

I was at the corner grocery store buying some early potatoes... I noticed a small boy, delicate of bone and feature, ragged but clean, hungrily appraising a basket of freshly picked green peas. I paid for my potatoes but was also drawn to the display of fresh green peas. I am a pushover for creamed peas and new potatoes. Pondering the peas, I couldn't help overhearing the conversation between Mr. Miller (the store owner) and the ragged boy next to me.

'Hello Barry, how are you today?' 'H'lo, Mr. Miller. Fine, thank ya. Jus' admirin' them peas. They sure look good.' 'They are good, Barry. How's your Ma?' 'Fine. Gittin' stronger alla' time.' 'Good. Anything I can help you with?' 'No, Sir. Jus' admirin' them peas.' 'Would you like to take some home?' asked Mr. Miller. 'No, Sir. Got nuthin' to pay for 'em with.' 'Well, what have you to trade me for some of those peas?' 'All I got's my prize marble here.' 'Is that right? Let me see it', said Miller. 'Here 'tis. She's a dandy.' 'I can see that. Hmm mmm, only thing is this one is blue and I sort of go for red. Do you have a red one like this at home?' the store owner asked. 'Not zackley but almost.' 'Tell you what... Take this sack of peas home with you and next trip this way let me look at that red marble'. Mr. Miller told the boy. 'Sure will. Thanks Mr. Miller.'

Mrs. Miller, who had been standing nearby, came over to help me. With a smile she said, 'There are two other boys like him in our community, all three are in very poor circumstances. Jim just loves to bargain with them for peas, apples, tomatoes, or whatever. When they come back with their red marbles, and they always do, he decides he doesn't like red after all and he sends them home with a bag of produce for a green marble or an orange one, when they come on their next trip to the store.' I left the store smiling to myself, impressed with this man. A short time later I moved to Colorado, but I never forgot the story of this man, the boys, and their bartering for marbles.

Several years went by, each more rapid than the previous one. Just recently I had occasion to visit some old friends in that Idaho community and while I was there learned that Mr. Miller had died. They were having his visitation that evening and knowing my friends wanted to go, I agreed to accompany them. Upon arrival at the mortuary we fell into line to meet the relatives of the deceased and to offer whatever words of comfort we could. Ahead of us in line were three young men. One was in an army uniform and the other two wore nice haircuts, dark suits and white shirts, all very professional looking. They approached Mrs. Miller, standing composed and smiling by her husband's casket. Each of the young men hugged her, kissed her on the cheek, spoke briefly with her and moved on to the casket. Her misty light blue eyes followed them as, one by one, each young man stopped briefly and placed his own warm hand over the cold pale hand in the casket. Each left the mortuary awkwardly, wiping his eyes.

Our turn came to meet Mrs. Miller. I told her who I was and reminded her of the story from those many years ago and what she had told me about her husband's bartering for marbles. With her eyes glistening, she took my hand and led me to the casket. 'Those three young men who just left were the boys I told you about. They just told me how they appreciated the things Jim 'traded' them. Now, at last, when Jim could not change his mind about color or size.....they came to pay their debt.' 'We've never had a great deal of the wealth of this world,' she confided, 'but right now, Jim would consider himself the richest man in Idaho.' With loving gentleness she lifted the lifeless fingers of her deceased husband. Resting underneath were three exquisitely shined red marbles.

We will not be remembered by our words, but by our kind deeds. Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath. It's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you lived!

THE BIG SALE CONTINUES WITH A SPECIAL OFFER

Since our last *Connected Newsletter* many of you have ordered my books. My desire is to make them so affordable that anyone wanting a copy may have it. At this time I am making a really special offer. My series on Genesis (*Survey of Bible History*) consist of three 13 lesson studies Genesis from a strict creationist viewpoint. Since Job was a contemporary of the Genesis era, this study includes a brief look at the Bible book of Job. The 39 lessons in this series is designed for teaching, complete with a lesson outline, a prose summary, 20 study questions and footnoting. Right now I am offering this set for \$1.00 per book (\$3.00 per set) in orders of 20 or more. There's a lot of good teaching material here at a very low price.

Please see my website under the *Products* page for a complete listing of all of my books including prices. Fifty dollars will buy a full set of my paper books.

"You cannot build character and courage by taking away people's initiative and independence."

Abraham Lincoln

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