



CONNECTED

July—September 2014

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THREE MONTHS OF BLESSINGS

It is a privilege to serve The Lord; He is not obligated to us. To have time, health and other resources is a blessing beyond description. In eternity I suspect we will wish we had used our resources more fully.

The last three months have been among the busiest of my life. The *History of Churches Seminar* at Midway Baptist in McKinney was a very eye-opening event. The roots of those attending were substantially deepened and strengthened. This seminar creates a great respect and appreciation for our heritage and that great host of men and women who suffered unbelievable scorn, persecution and death by the millions to get the glorious truths of the Bible to us. They've been here since Jesus Christ embracing what He and the Apostles taught and practiced. They went by many different names, but they were Baptists to the core; and they were not ashamed of their

identity. In spite of baggage here and there I am truly glad to be identified with this tremendous host of saints.

Easter Sunday at Salem Sayers Baptist Church at San Antonio gave me the opportunity to present the Passion of Christ with pictures I personally took during my 14 trips to Israel. To a great and attentive audience I was privileged to preach from Jesus' words on the cross, *It is Finished*. Praise God for the young man who came to Christ. God also privileged me to speak on *God's First Recorded Claim* in Genesis 1:1 at Calvary Baptist in Athens, Texas.

During these three months God has allowed me to represent the Christian Law Association in Anacoco, Louisiana; Westminster, Maryland; Medina, New York and Farmington, New York. He has also let me preach four times at my home church in Houston, [Northwest Baptist](#) and once at Memorial Baptist in Conroe. This church has called Bro. Joseph Allen as her new pastor. He starts on

June 1. I spent three days with [Grace Baptist](#) in Urbana, Ohio where I taught a *Children's Worker Training Seminar* and brought the Wednesday night sermon, was the guest speaker for the Lighthouse Baptist youth camp outside New Braunfels, conducted a wedding and taught a *Children's Worker Recertification* class at Northwest.

Along the way I had four surgical procedures on the veins in my legs. For a long time I've had increased swelling, burning in my feet, neuropathy and other problems. I also had a urological surgical procedure. Thanks to all who pray for me.

And yes, I added one more year to my odometer. Thankfully God has given me 73 and all except the first 13 when I was saved have been in the ministry. Yes sir, I am indeed a blessed man!

"Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official."

Theodore Roosevelt

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Northwest Baptist Church Houston
Will celebrate her 50th anniversary
Sunday, September 28



Ed & Debbie Neal

Great people! Bro. Neal is pastor of the Midway Baptist in McKinney, TX

Rodgers Baptist *MISSIONS CONFERENCE* - July 21-23, 2014

ANOTHER MILESTONE

Another May 1 has now come and gone. May 1 has special significance for me. Back in 1955 May 1 was a Sunday, and that's the day I walked the aisle at Fairview Baptist Church in the country outside Lufkin, Texas and publicly announced my call and surrender to the gospel ministry. That was 59 years ago this May 1.

I was saved on October 12, 1954. I was 13 years old and still 13 when I publicly surrendered to preach on May 1, 1955. Four months later a small church (Prairie Grove Baptist Church) near where I lived with my parents called me to be its pastor. I was just a 14 year-old kid, but God was using this to mold me. On January 12, 1958 my mother and father were in a deadly car wreck. Mom went to heaven in a split second and dad was horribly broken. He remained in a comma for 49 days with seven skull fractures and many other major injuries. It took him a year to get out of the hospital and for two more years my older brother was his court-appointed guardian. For me, it was a tough time. I had to give up the pastorate at Prairie Grove Baptist, but when I was 17 the church where I grew up (Fairview Baptist Church) called me as pastor. What a time of learning! Preaching three or four times a week while still in high school, visitation, weddings, funerals, steering and oversight of the church! My feet got wet in a hurry. Two and a half years later I went into Lufkin and organized the Berean Baptist Church out of Berean in Houston. That went pretty well until Margaret and I married and realized that two can't live on love or as cheap as one. I had been attending Stephen F. Austin University in Nacogdoches, Texas. In 1963 we moved to Houston in hopes of better employment and starting a new church in Houston. That didn't work out and between Christmas and the New Year of 1963 we moved to Gatesville, Texas. I served as Associate Pastor of Bridge Street Baptist Church and worked at North American Aviation in nearby McGregor. In October of that year the Lord brought me to Beaumont, Texas where I served as pastor for 12 years before moving to Houston as pastor of Berean Baptist Church. That was in June of 1976 and I served as Senior Pastor of Berean for 33 years.

With a deep desire to see Berean move forward with young leadership and belief that it would happen, I resigned from the Berean pulpit on the first Sunday of June, 2009. Since then I have served as a *National Field Representative* for the Christian Law Association. During this time I have been able to publish two large books: *Great Bible Truths Revisited* and *A History of Churches: the Survival of New Testament Christianity Against Overwhelming Odds*. At the same time I have been able to publish these and several of my older books as eBooks. They are available on both Amazon and Barnes and Noble. In February 2012 I became the Associate Pastor of Northwest Baptist Church in Houston where I now serve. I also preach revivals, conduct various seminars and help churches and young preachers in a variety of ways.

As I passed this 59th milestone Mrs. Hutson and I reminisced about how wonderful life in the ministry has been. We consider ourselves to be two of the most blessed people who have ever lived. Lord willing, on August 3 we will celebrate our 52nd wedding anniversary. The words of the Apostle Paul express my own sentiments. *"And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry,"* 1 Timothy 1:12.

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.

[Listen to Sermons](#)

STILL TRUE

- ✓ The Bible still has all the answers
- ✓ Prayer is still the most powerful thing on earth
- ✓ God still honors the praises of His people
- ✓ There is still God-anointed preaching
- ✓ Jesus still loves you
- ✓ Jesus will still save lost sinners who trust Him
- ✓ There's room at the cross for you

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"A Liberal Paradise would be a place where everybody has guaranteed employment, free comprehensive healthcare, free education, free food, free housing, free clothing, free utilities, and only law enforcement has guns.

And believe it or not, such a place does indeed exist - it's called prison."

Sheriff Joe Arpaio

THE MINISTRY FOR ME

The gospel ministry has been my life. I'm so grateful to God for choosing me to serve Him in this capacity. Easy? No! Always enjoyable? No! Would you do it again? Absolutely! I can't think of spending my life doing anything else. The peace, satisfaction and fulfillment I have known are beyond my ability to adequately describe. Back in 1955 the old folks were amused; they thought it was a childhood fantasy. (I was only 13 years old and a really backward, stuttering little country boy.) They were sure I'd get over it. I never have.

There have been endless heartbreaks and disappointments. It's been hard to avoid becoming cynical. (I despise church politics, cliques, blow-hards and loud-mouths, church bullies, conceit, arrogance, closed minds, wagging and barbed tongues, the church mentality of division and war, the glorification of ignorance, lack of scholarship, sloppiness in the name of God, the selfish and inconsiderate ways I have seen in far too many *Christians*, the ugly mean-spirited way of life and the *got-the-truth-cornered* mentality that characterize many churches and individual *fa-thers and mothers in the faith*.)

In spite of a host of disillusioning realities no privilege can match that of serving God in vocational gospel ministry. Imagine being chosen as a spokesman for the Lord of lords, the King of kings, the God of the Universe! How awesome to spend your entire life studying and preaching God's Word! Most men spend their lives in mortal pursuits. I've been able to spend my life doing things of eternal value: delivering God's messages, bringing people to eternal life, mentoring lives, engaged in the enterprise and eternal purposes of God. Oh the joy and deep fulfillment of seeing souls saved and broken lives turned around for the better, marriages saved and hope restored! I can't describe what it's like to see love and truth move in where hate and darkness once ruled. It has been my privilege to know and work with many well-known champions of the ages; people like Dr. Henry Morris, Dr. David Gibbs, Jr., Dr. Jerry Falwell, Bro. H. Frank Fort, Bro. Charles Thomas, Bro. Al Locke and Bro. Ralph Hudnall. It has also been my privilege to know and work shoulder to shoulder with a multitude of the finest, truest, greatest champions to ever grace this planet. The number is far too great for me to list their names here.

The blessings of a life in the ministry have FAR outweighed the problems. God is the great and final judge. I want to stand muster with Him. One day I will see Him and give account for my life. Oh how I want to hear Him say, "*Well done thou good and faithful servant!*" He's given me 59 years in His service. I'm hoping for a few more; however, I am not as interested in *how many* as I am in *making good use of* however many remain. I'd like to be sprinting when I cross the finish line.

***No matter the price, No matter how new
The best safety device in the car is you!***

A BOOK I HAVE RECENTLY
READ & HIGHLY RECOMMEND

What's Next?

Jerry D. Locke
Calvary Publishing
Lansing, Michigan
ISBN 978-1-61119-093-9

Short & to the point. Well written primarily for laymen & easy to read. Entertaining but sobering. Theologically sound, scholarly & well documented.

In 12 crisp chapters Jerry Locke presents a huge amount of somewhat complicated prophetic Bible information in easy-to-understand layman's terms. *What's Next* will be a great help to those who do not understand the Bible's teaching on prophecy and who may be intimidated or skeptical about prophetic claims. This is a great introductory book for those who would like to better understand world events and Bible teachings regarding them.

Dr. Locke exegetes many difficult passages such as Daniel, Matthew 24 and mystery Babylon as discussed in Revelation 17-18. The book is very practical and deals with America's future, the emergence of a new Europe, what's in store for Russia and the Islamic world and what to expect from China.

You will enjoy *What's Next*, but it will not make you comfortable. It is eye-opening and puts many current events into perspective. I highly recommend it.

"The rights of man come not from the generosity of the state but from the hand of God."

—John F. Kennedy

"Dad, I know what BIBLE means!" "Okay son, Tell me"

"That's easy, Dad. It stands for 'Basic Information Before Leaving Earth!'"

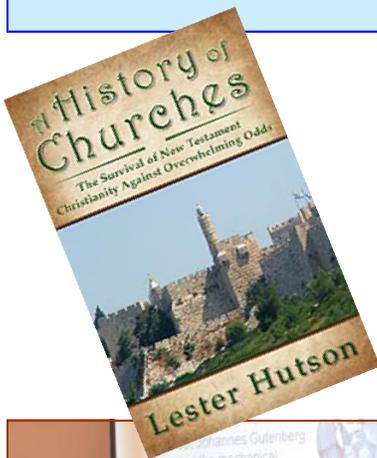
PRIORITIES

For me keeping priorities straight has been a lifelong effort. At best this trip called mortal life is pretty short.

I am convinced that God's ministry involves serious efforts to writing. Always I find so many good and pressing things to minimize the time I give to written materials. Good is always the biggest enemy of the best. I never want to feel good about doing good when good is not my best.

Thus I have again curtailed my schedule. I have no more open dates in 2014, but I do have a few in 2015. Lord willing, I will give more time & attention to the completing of at least three books that God has put on my heart.

"So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom," Ps. 90:12.



History of Churches Seminar
Midway Baptist Church
McKinney, Texas

BIG SUMMER SPECIAL

During July, August and September the *Survey of Bible History* series is on sale for \$1.00 per book. That's only \$3.00 plus postage and a mailer for the entire set.

Less than 400 copies of *The Patriarchs* remain. That's Vol. 3. Once these are gone there will be no more paper copies. There are no plans to reprint.

These and other books by Lester Hutson are available in eBook and paper formats from [Amazon](#) and through [Barnes and Noble](#). His selection is listed at www.lesterhutson.org.

To take advantage of this summer sale email lesterhutson@gmail.com.

*I love the U.S.A. & the liberty for
 which she stands.*

*I weep at what godless men are
 doing to her.*



Judy Walkman, a professional genealogy researcher in southern California, was doing some personal work on her own family tree. She discovered that Senator Harry Reid's great-great uncle, Remus Reid, was hanged for horse stealing and train robbery in Montana in 1889. Both Judy and Harry Reid share this common ancestor.

The only known photograph of Remus shows him standing on the gallows in Montana territory. On the back of the picture Judy obtained during her research is this inscription: 'Remus Reid, horse thief, sent to Montana Territorial Prison 1885, escaped 1887, robbed the Montana Flyer six times. Caught by Pinkerton detectives, convicted and hanged in 1889.'

So Judy recently e-mailed Senator Harry Reid for information about their great-great uncle. Believe it or not, Harry Reid's staff sent back the following biographical sketch for her genealogy research:

"Remus Reid was a famous cowboy in the Montana Territory. His business empire grew to include acquisition of valuable equestrian assets and intimate dealings with the Montana railroad. Beginning in 1883, he devoted several years of his life to government service, finally taking leave to resume his dealings with the railroad. In 1887, he was a key player in a vital investigation run by the renowned Pinkerton Detective Agency. In 1889, Remus passed away during an important civic function held in his honor when the platform upon which he was standing collapsed."

*"The tree of liberty must be refreshed
 from time to time with the blood of patriots
 and tyrants."*

Thomas Jefferson

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