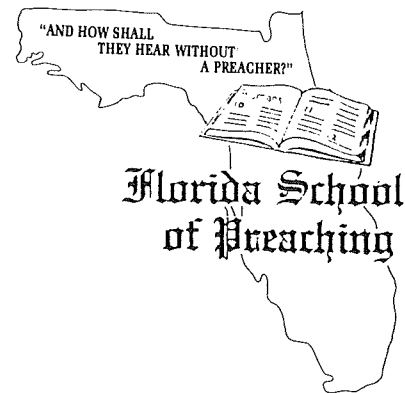


THE HARVESTERS



VOLUME XII

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B.C. Carr Retires As Director Of The Florida School of Preaching

By
B. C. Carr

After 23 years as Director of the Florida School of Preaching, B.C. Carr has asked the Board of Directors to replace him effective July 1, 1992. Carr has also served as the president of the Board for the same number of years. Although Carr is in good health he felt the need to be relieved of the stress that has been his for these many years.

The Board has selected **Jackie M. Stearsman** to become the **new Director** of the school. Stearsman has served as teacher for many years. He has been Associate Director for the last few years. He is familiar with the operation of the school, having worked closely with brother Carr. He is an outstanding Bible teacher. The Board expressed their enthusiastic confidence in Stearsman and will wholeheartedly support him.

Gordon Methvin, long-time Board member and an

elder at the Central Church in Clearwater, Florida, has been named as the **new president of the Board**. We have every confidence that he will do a great job in this position.

B.C. Carr will serve as Director Emeritus and will continue as a member of the Board of Directors. He will teach special classes from time-to-time as occasion demands. He will continue to be supportive of the school and will serve as a goodwill representative working to promote the school. He will still conduct some meetings, lectures and be available for preaching appointments.

To all friends and supporters who have shown a great loyalty for these years, Carr asks that you still stand by the school. We still need your help to continue to train faithful men to preach the Gospel. Please help brother Stearsman by sending special contributions for

the summer months when it is usually difficult to meet our budget.

Brother Carr will be spending time during the summer in Blue Ridge, Georgia. You may contact him at one of the following locations:

B.C. Carr
P.O. Box 333
Morganton, GA 30560
(404) 374-2506

or
B.C. Carr
7704 Old Polk City Road
Lakeland, FL 33809.
(813)853-4047.

[We appreciate all that brother Carr has done for the school and wish him well in retirement.

I appreciate the confidence you have placed in me. Preachers must be prepared. To this end I pledge my service. If you share this conviction please help us, Editor.]

*I am wiser than my enemies.
I have more understanding than all my teachers.
I understand more than the aged.*

By
Jackie M. Stearsman

These words are from David in Psalm 119:97-104. These truths, as are all God's words, are constructed for our studied meditation. They penetrate to the very soul of man. They are from the mind of God. May we ponder well the meditation of David in this passage.

Do We Love God's Word?

If we would enjoy the blessings cited in the title we must love the law (119:97). Not only love it but treasure it as the sweetest delicacy of life (119:104). When one does not love the truth he is headed for destruction (II Thess. 2:9-11). Truth is the sum of God's word (Psalm 119:160 ASV).

Is God's Will Our Perpetual Contemplation?

When our constant meditation is upon the word of God we have the potential to think as God thinks. When we do not seriously consider his word our thoughts will not be his thoughts and our ways will not be his ways (Isa. 55:8-9). When we walk in the light we are assured of his blessings; when we walk in the light we solve the fellowship question; when we walk in the light we

have sins removed (I John 1:6-7). We will not walk in the light unless we soberly and perpetually reflect upon, and delight in, his word (Psalm 1:1-2).

O how I love thy law!
It is my meditation all the day.
Thou through thy commandments hast made me
Wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.
I have more understanding than all my teachers:
For thy testimonies are my meditation.
I understand more than the ancients,
Because I keep thy precepts.
I have refrained my feet from every evil way,
That I might keep thy word.
I have not departed from thy judgments:
For thou hast taught me.
How sweet are thy words unto my taste!
Yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
Through thy precepts I get understanding:
Therefore I hate every false way.
Psalm 119:97-104

Are We Relentless In Our Obedience?

David was wiser than his enemies, had more understanding than all his teachers, and knew more than the aged because he was ever concerned with doing the will of his God. A key to it all is he kept God's precepts (119:100); he observed his word (119:101).

The Devil persuaded Eve to depreciate her love for God's ways and thoughts. When Eve disregarded God's word her disobedience was predictable.

Paul was concerned for Corinth lest they do as she did (II Cor. 11:2-3). To reach the state that David reached we must be willing to die for the word of God (Rev. 2:10).

Some have become involved in sin and as a result of their transgressions they have departed from the Lord. It was true of Judas, Demas, and multiplied thousands of others. David said he refrained his feet from every evil way that he might be faithful (119:101). David said he did not turn aside from the will of God because he was taught by God (119:102). Whenever we turn aside from God's word we relinquish our fellowship with him (II John 9-11).

Do We Hate Every False Way?

"Through thy precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way" (119:104).

The Harvesters

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TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

We can not have the same affection for the ways of God and the ways of disobedient men. "I hate them that are of a double mind; But thy law do I love" (119:113). "Depart from me, ye evildoers, That I may keep the commandments of my God" (119:115). Let us never forget: "They that forsake the law praise the wicked: but such as keep the law contend with them" (Prov 28:4). May we keep before us that "He that justifieth the wicked, and he that condemneth the just, even they both are abomination to the Lord" (Prov. 17:15).

The Bible abounds in examples of those who played with error and ended up receiving the wages of their sins.

Conclusion

When David complied with his meditations in Psalm 119:97-104 his life was a blessing to himself and all others. When he did not his actions took a heavy toll upon him, his family and his nation.

To be wiser than our enemies, to have more understanding than all our teachers and to understand more than the aged does not come easy. It is possible. It may be realized at the price of loving and meditating upon truth, relentless obedience and abhorring every false way.

Do we feel deficient before our enemies? What is the solution? Do we feel less than the teachers of the world? Is their not a answer? Do we think that those in the past are more advanced than those of our day?

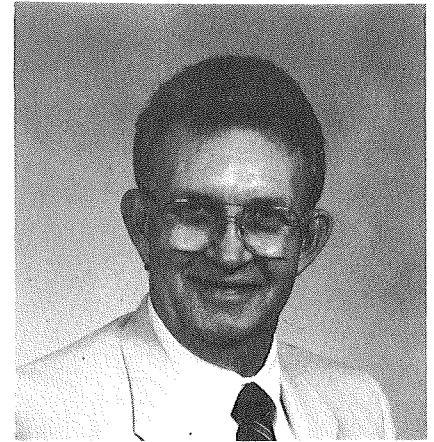
Why? God has made provision for us (II Tim. 3:14-17). He will not force it upon us. It will be ours only when we pay the price to procure it. "My son, if thou wilt **receive** my words, and **hide** my commandments with thee; So that thou **incline thine ear unto** wisdom, and **apply thine heart** to understanding; Yea, if thou **criest after** knowledge, and **lifest up thy voice for** understanding; If thou **seekest her as silver**, and **searchest for** her as for hid treasures; **Then** shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God" (Prov. 2:1-5).

Wiser than enemies, more understanding than your teachers, understanding more than the aged—do you? Editor.

May Graduates

[We have three men that have completed their requirements for graduation. Each in his own unique way will leave the *Florida School of Preaching* to serve in the Lord's Kingdom. We believe that they have studied well and that they are prepared to continue their studies as they serve the Master. We commend them to the brotherhood and will await the reports of the fruit of their labors, Editor.]

I wish to thank brother B.C. Carr and the faculty for their patience, help and love they have shown to me while attending the Florida School of Preaching. It has been a great spiritual blessing to me. It has not been easy returning to school and studying after being out of school so many years.



John Brackin

My wife Barbara and I are from Greenfield, Indiana. We are the parents of a son, Dale and a daughter, Janet. They have blessed us with four grandsons. Barbara and I are both retired from our jobs. I am retired from Ford Motor Company, Barbara is retired from AT&T. After graduation we plan to return to Indiana. Since we have some retirement income our desire is to work with a congregation who can support us partially but not fully. Lord willing we plan to return to Florida for some of the winter months depending on what work we may get. For all the friends we have made in Florida while I attended school we wish you Godspeed.

Ω

I, Kevin Joy, am deeply thankful for the all-knowing and all-wise God we serve. Since coming to Florida, leaving the hustle of Washington, D.C. behind, the "Son" has been shining brightly in our lives.

Goebel Music taught me the truth one long winter night in 1986. Those who helped us



Kevin Joy

to come to Christ we will always have a special place in our lives. By the providence of God and the help of the brethren at Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ I had the opportunity to attend the *Florida School of Preaching*.

I shall always be indebted to God for men like brothers Carr, Stearsman, Stilwell, Franklin and Davidson. The help provided by all makes my family better appreciate the joy of being a Christian.

Upon graduation I will be working full-time with the church in Interlachen, Florida. My family and I will be leaving here and by preaching the gospel we hope to be a blessing

to that church and community. I appreciate my wife standing by me while I have been in training for without the support of ones family you cannot succeed as a preacher.

We hope to have a student day for the *Florida School of Preaching* soon. Please pray for us and we will pray for you.

Ω



Joseph Sejour

I am brother Joseph Sejour. I came to Florida in 1984 with my wife Marie. We have five children: Rona, Leon-idad, Santa, Daniel and Andre. In the past I preached for the Assemblies of God and Nazarene Church for about 23 years. I worked as a pastor, general secretary and a teacher in a seminary in Haiti my native

country.

In February 1990 I learned the truth and brother Maurice Davis minister of the Sixth Street Church of Christ in Lakeland, Florida, baptized me. I enrolled at the *Florida School of Preaching* in September that year for further training.

I am very thankful for the *Florida School of Preaching* and what it stands for. This school has contributed a lot to my life. I can truly say that I have been taught what I must know and do to be effective as a minister of the gospel. The love and reverence the teachers show for the inspired word of God have impressed me very much. My prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless the faculty and those who support the school for it is a bastion for preacher training.

I am ready to go to the mission field to put into practice what I have learned. May the Lord keep open the doors of the *Florida School of Preaching* that future ministers of the gospel may have the same opportunity as me. It is important for us to have a secure place for training. I say thank you to all who supported me during this time. Ω

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