

Preparing Souls To Serve The Lord

VOLUME XIII

NOVEMBER 1992

NUMBER 4

A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF SOME ASSERTIONS FROM "TRAUMATIC WINDS OF RENEWAL"

The quote above is the title of an article by Mike Cope in the August 1992 issue of *Wineskins*. The folks promoting this publication are determined to changing the present status of the Lord's people into a religious body that will accept most any and all religious confusion. When these folks arrive at the destination Mr. Cope is leading them it will be, in his words, unsafe and unsure. His concluding paragraph says: "Where is this leading us? I have to say, 'I'm not sure.' Then when they ask, 'Is it safe?' I have to respond, 'Probably not!'"

If the blind lead the blind can they be expected to know their way? No one can help the willful blind.

Denominationalism

In the article there is a quote that should disturb any thinking person. Mr. Cope asserts in all capital letters circled in the center of the

page, "WHEN RESTORATION GROUPS NARROW THEIR FOCUS TO BEGIN FIRING UPON DENOMINATIONS, THEY TEND TO BECOME EVEN MORE DENOMINATIONAL!" According to such assertions we should stop opposing any religious confusion. According to the blind faith of such misinformed persons we would be able to then claim the grand prize—"Unity In Diversity."

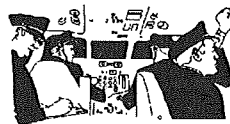
No person respecting the Bible can accept such nonsense. Little wonder Mr. Cope is unsure where he is going or of the safety of his fellow travelers. Jesus has no problem forecasting their destination

(Matt. 15:14).

Perverting Grace Will Not Save

These folks have confusing views on grace and salvation. Consider some assertions by Mr. Cope. "They [Mr. Cope's folks] place the emphasis of salvation on what God has already done, believing that we are saved in spite of our failures because of what God has accomplished at the cross. They believe that if he grants grace with moral imperfections, he'll surely offer grace for doctrinal imperfections as well. . . . We have all fallen short and are saved by God's faithfulness." Is Paul wrong? What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? (Rom. 6:1-2). Christ is become of no effect unto you, whosoever of you are justified by the law; ye are fallen from grace (Gal.

Where we going? Not sure.
Is it safe? Probably not!



5:4).

Questions

(1) If we are saved by what God has already done at the cross why will not all men be saved? (2) Did God only love some? (3) Did Christ die for all? (4) If God grants grace with moral imperfections will all immoral persons be saved? (5) If God grants grace with moral imperfections then why does God command all men every where to repent (Acts 17:30)? (6) If God grants grace with doctrinal imperfections then why did Jesus say that we have to be right about him (John 8:24)? (7) Should it be asserted that we must be right about some doctrinal items but not about others—Who decides which doctrinal items we have to be right about and which doctrinal items we do not have to be right about? (8) How may I know that those telling me some doctrine must be true and some may be false are telling me the truth? (9) Is the doctrine that “God grants grace with doctrinal imperfections” itself doctrinally imperfect? If not why is it different? (10) How may we know that a given teaching is doctrinally imperfect? (11) If we may know that a belief is doctrinally imperfect must we not at the same time know what is sound doctrine? (12) If we may know the difference between perfect doctrine and imperfect doctrine should we be satisfied with imperfect doctrine? (13) What did the Lord mean when he said, **If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed; And ye shall know the**

truth, and the truth shall make you free (John 8:31-32)? (14) Should we follow folks that are not sure where they are going? (15) Will the world be greatly blessed if we become a religious people who are not sure where we are going, and when we arrive at our destination it is probably not safe? (16) How is the doctrine championed by these folks different from the skeptical world? [Editor.]



10-92



Dear Jackie,

I just wanted to write and thank you for the support that we receive from the school. I'm sure I speak for Jeff as well when I say that we appreciate the help we receive and hope to be able to help other students some day. As I write other supporters I think of the school but never seem to put it on paper. So I just wanted to take a moment and say thank you. I hope to come down sometime in the spring. We are all anxious for Thanksgiving and Jeff being home! Thanks again and bye for now.

*In Christian love,
/s/ Cheryl [Booth]*



Oct. 10, 1992



Dear Bro. Stearsman,

The enclosed check is in response to your letter of

September 28. We hope it will help a little.

Thank you for sending your monthly bulletin. I don't expect you have heard that Larry suffered a stroke four years ago in July on his entire left side. After much therapy he is able to walk with a cane but no use of his left arm and hand.

We hope you are in good health and your school finances are replenished. How are your sons?

*In Christian love,
/s/ Geneva Best*



October 8, 1992



Dear Bro. Stearsman,

Indeed we are interested in the Florida School of Preaching. I have been sending to the African Christian Schools; for I did not know of the need there.

Will try to send \$50. each month for awhile. I do know that you stand soundly for the truth, and realize how much the world needs that type of training.

May God bless the school and faculty and students.

*In Christian concern,
/s/ Ted and Ruth Croson*



The Harvesters

Published Monthly by the Florida School of Preaching
1807 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33803
(813) 683-4043
Editor: Jackie M. Stearsman
Board of Directors

Gordon Methvin, President	George K. French
Paul Thomhill, Vice President	Wallace Maxwell
J. H. Blackman, Jr., Secretary	James Medlin
E. Robert McAnally, Treasurer	Dale Spung
B.C. Carr, Director Emeritus	Jackie M. Stearsman
Maurice Davis	Gene Stilwell
Kenneth W. Franklin	

TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

Florida School of Preaching

1807 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, Florida 33803

Eighteenth Annual Lectureship

January 18-21, 1993

Theme: "It Is Written In The Prophets
They Shall Be All Taught of God"

<p style="text-align: center;">Monday—January 18</p> <p>9:00 "The Position of The Prophet" Rex Turner, Sr., Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>9:45 "Practical Lessons From Job" V.P. Black, Chickasaw, Alabama</p> <p>10:45 "Prophets Could Believe A Lie" Cliff Martin, Jamaica</p> <p>11:30 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 "Lessons From Elijah" Winfred Clark, Athens, Alabama</p> <p>2:30 "The Teachings of Balaam" Bill Cantrell, Huntsville, Alabama</p> <p>3:30 "The Prophetic Message Corrupted by Max King" Dale Spung, Arcadia, Florida</p> <p>4:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 "Prophecies And The Inspiration of The Bible" Joseph Sejour, Orlando, Florida</p> <p>7:45 "The Courageous Prophets" B.C. Carr, Lakeland, Florida</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wednesday—January 20</p> <p>9:00 "The Position of The Prophet" Rex Turner, Sr., Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>9:45 "Practical Lessons From Abraham" V.P. Black, Chickasaw, Alabama</p> <p>10:45 "Lord, Give Us Preachers Like the Prophets #2" Wendell Winkler, Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>11:30 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 "Lessons From Elijah" Winfred Clark, Athens, Alabama</p> <p>2:30 "Lessons From Jeremiah" Roy Deaver, Austin, Texas</p> <p>3:30 "The Importance of Preaching" Wallace Maxwell, Jacksonville, Florida</p> <p>4:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 "False Prophets Then; False Teachers Now" Charles Austin, Mulberry, Florida</p> <p>7:45 "Lessons From Amos" Roy Deaver, Austin, Texas</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Tuesday—January 19</p> <p>9:00 "The Position of The Prophet" Rex Turner, Sr., Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>9:45 "Practical Lessons From Eli" V.P. Black, Chickasaw, Alabama</p> <p>10:45 "Jonah: A Prophet With A Problem" Lester Kamp, Madisonville, Kentucky</p> <p>11:30 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 "Lessons From Elijah" Winfred Clark, Athens, Alabama</p> <p>2:30 "The God Who Inspired The Prophets" Charles Wright, Kissimmee, Florida</p> <p>3:30 "The Christ The Prophets Foresaw" E. Robert McAnally, Lakeland, Florida</p> <p>4:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 "The Perseverance of The Prophets" Robert Lupo, Live Oak, Florida</p> <p>7:45 "Lord, Give Us Preachers Like The Prophets #1" Wendell Winkler, Montgomery, Alabama</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Thursday—January 21</p> <p>9:00 "The Position of The Prophet" Rex Turner, Sr., Montgomery, Alabama</p> <p>9:45 "The Prophetic Message Corrupted by Premillennialism" Buford Carroll, Pinellas Park, Florida</p> <p>10:45 "There Are False Prophets Today" Willie E. Bradshaw, Riverdale, Georgia</p> <p>11:30 Lunch</p> <p>1:30 "The Prophets Praise and Memorials" Maurice Davis, Lakeland, Florida</p> <p>2:30 "Lessons From Jeremiah" Roy Deaver, Austin, Texas</p> <p>3:30 "Why Christ Was Likened to The Prophets" J. H. Blackman, Jr., Lakeland, Florida</p> <p>4:30 Dinner</p> <p>7:00 "Prophetic Word Is Used To Expose False Prophets" Ted Wheeler, Venice, Florida</p> <p>7:45 "Encouragement From The Prophets" Winfred Clark, Athens, Alabama</p>

Lectureship Director—Jackie M. Stearsman (813) 683-4043

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING

1807 South Florida Avenue · Lakeland, Florida 33803
(813) 683-4043

September 28, 1992

A Crucial Appeal

Dear brethren,

We know that you are interested in the *Florida School of Preaching*. Without your loyal support we would be unable to do our best to train preachers. We want you to know how important you are to our labor in the Lord.

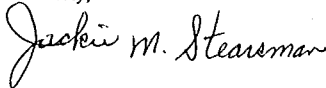
With the present enrollment we must raise \$5,000. each month for student support alone. No student is fully supported by the school. Each student must help himself by raising some of his support. We are using part-time staff in teaching. The only full-time staff are the director of the school and the secretary.

The *Florida School of Preaching* provides unique opportunities for those wishing to receive special training enabling them to be faithful servants of the Lord. (1) We have students that have earned four year college degrees but have decided to preach. With us they may gain a firm foundation that will enable them to preach and teach the gospel. (2) We have former students who have gone on to continue their education at Freed-Hardeman University and other schools of higher learning. They often write us thanking us for the foundation they received here and stating how it has helped them in their continued education. (3) We have men that have come from Denominationalism training and backgrounds, men who need to study in a concentrated way that they might understand more accurately the Word of God. Some of these would not be able to pay for the training in schools operated by our brethren. (4) We are meeting the needs of some that do not have the formal training to enter colleges and universities. However, they may study here and build on that foundation and perhaps later continue their formal education. (5) There are elders in our area who have attended the school and congregations have better leadership.

Preachers and elders are not born. They must be trained. If the church is to survive and take the message of the gospel to the world we must train preachers (II Tim. 2:2). **We must make an investment in encouraging and preparing men to teach and edify souls.** Men in training have a right to be assisted. What kind of armed forces would the country have if it were indifferent to seeking and training men to serve? **Please help us to recruit men and to provide them the basic training we all know they need.**

We know many are making plans for next year's budgets. Please make a place for men preparing to preach the gospel.

Sincerely,



Jackie M. Stearsman, Director

"Because that for his name's sake they went forth, taking nothing of the Gentiles. We therefore ought to receive such, that we might be fellowhelpers to the truth" (III John 7-8).

TRAINING PREACHERS SINCE 1969

Please Consider

1. Whom should we, as the people of God, expect to find or ferret out preachers: The public schools? State universities? The Denominational world? The world? The local congregations?
2. Who should train faithful preachers to understand and uphold the plan of salvation, the organization of the church, New Testament worship, Biblical morals: The public schools? State Universities? Denominational world? The local congregations?
3. Who should support the training of preachers? (Matt. 10:10-14; III John 8; Gal. 6:6).
4. Read carefully, as many have, our request printed here. We are convinced that we are doing the Lord's cause a crucial service. Help us!
5. Help us to get our appeal into the hands of those who will understand and appreciate the work we are doing together.

FLORIDA SCHOOL OF PREACHING

1807 SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE
LAKELAND, FLORIDA 33803-2653

DIRECTOR: Jackie M. Stearsman
Phone (813) 683-4043

Address Correction Requested