



“The Del-Haven Vision”

“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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“I charge, therefore, before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is about to judge the living and the dead in accordance with His appearing and His Kingdom; (2) proclaim the word! Be ready in season, out of season; reprove, admonish, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching.” 2Tim.4:1-2

The greater context of this passage of scripture is that all too familiar portion that is found at the end of 2Timothy 3. Verses 16 and 17 from there declare the infallibility of the Word of God, and describe its profitability and overall purpose in the life and earthly experience of every true child of God. Right on the heels of this text comes the urgency of the *charge* which is being conveyed from 2Tim.4:1-2.

To *charge*, here, literally means to make a formal, solemn, earnest and all-pervasive demand for something to be done by the true believer. And, the emotional intensity of the *charge* that is being delivered is only enhanced by virtue of the fact that it is being delivered “before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who is about to judge the living and the dead in accordance with His appearing and kingdom”.

This being the Word of God, Himself, means that this is indeed a divine charge unto us. And, in addition, it is being declared right before the very face of God and the Lord Jesus Christ -- who is, right at this very moment, according to His eternal being, about to become the very source of divine judgment on, without exception, the entire age of the fallen human race. Of course, this judgment is precisely what will be, by God the Lord Jesus, carried out and completely fulfilled at, literally, the event of the glorious display of His eternal Kingdom.

It is up to when that magnificent manifestation of the eternal Son of God takes place that the *divine charge* is to be obediently performed. Verse 2 tells us that this *charge* to all of us is that we “*proclaim the Word*”...not just part of the time, but at every opportune -- and inopportune -- time! The old King James says it this way: “*Be instant in season, out of season*”. There is no question that we are not, here, being charged to be obnoxious to those around us, but bold. We are to be bold with the truth of the Word of God to -- “*reprove, admonish and exhort*”. That is to say, we are to, according to scripture, confute, forbid and implore the world around us.

The very presence of the Holy Spirit of Christ is made obvious in the proper and effective manner in which this boldness is performed. For it is done “*with all longsuffering and doctrine*”. These two terms describe the character of the thoroughly equipped by the Holy Spirit, true believer. The boldness of the child of God is demonstrated in conjunction with these two Godly traits. Even though the world does not like the gospel that we preach, we do it anyway, because we know that we are presently, and earnestly, “*charged*” “*before God and the Lord Jesus Christ*”.

For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter

Winter is Here, But Summer is Coming Soon!

The cloudy and cold days of winter are indeed upon us. The campground is currently laden with a soft layer of white frosty snow. It is quiet right now. But, it will not be all that long before, once again, the atmosphere will be filled with the noise and laughter of children. They will all be busy in the hustle and bustle business of their being Del-Haven campers. We hope that you are -- even now, four months before this 2008 camp season kicks off -- in earnest prayer for those children whom our Lord God will send to camp to hear the proclamation of His gospel.

God is in Control

This truly is a critical year for all of us, my dear friends. By the time 2008 comes to an end we will have witnessed the worldly change of governmental rule over our country. The evil one and those under his power and control are vying with a vehemence to lay claim to the highest seats of authority over our country. But we know the truth about it all, do we not? Just as Jesus told Pilate in Jn.19:11 in answer to his statement that, as politically the Governor over Him, he had the power to either crucify Him, or release Him; *“Jesus answered, You could have no power at all against me, except it were given you from above...”*. There we have it, dear ones. The Lord Jesus Christ is the head over all principality and power...Praise His Name! And, *“He is the same yesterday, today and forever!”* It is true, we are accountable for the personal freedoms and privileges that we have as citizens of this great country that we live in -- and, therefore, we are to be good stewards in doing what we know the Word of God enjoins us to do, in doing what is right, in the voting booth. And, we do what is right in warding off what we know is blatantly evil, all the while putting all our trust in the Lord. *“It is better to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man...or in princes.”* Ps.118:8-9 Let us all be in earnest prayer for those that have the rule over us.

Praises and Prayer Requests

This year is also especially important for the ministry of Del-Haven. The Lord has provided us with better-than-we-have-ever-had-before vehicles for transporting kids, and our prospects for exceptionally good staff to minister the gospel this summer look absolutely outstanding! Red Bridge Baptist Church in Grandview have expressed that they would like, by themselves, to provide staff and helpers for a whole week of camp. This is an offer that is unprecedented in our fifty plus years of ministry. It is always a constant fervent prayer on our part for the Lord to send us someone to serve with us on our staff, but this year, we have offers of help, not only for our camper staff, but also for the kitchen arena as well. Here, God willing, we have what may potentially become a traditional resource of staff help for many years to come. Please be in prayer with us about this.

Finally, please remember to pray for the work that remains to be done on our lake and water lines. The weather has prevented progress where these costly tasks are concerned, but good days are coming and the work will resume...and the bills still need to be paid. Life in this world goes on -- God is still in control -- and the grace of the gospel ever continues to transform lives and further the Kingdom of Christ.

“Counsel is mine, and sound wisdom...by me kings reign” Pr.8:14-15