



"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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"Pursue peace with all, and sanctification, apart from which no one shall see the Lord." "... flee youthful lusts, and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those that call on the Lord out of a pure heart." He.12:14 and 2Tim.2:22

It is interesting to note how the life and times of the true believer in this world is to be lived. The imagery that is depicted from these two texts of scripture is one of great haste. And, it is haste that is seen from two opposite perspectives. One is toward something and the other is away from something. One is haste in a chase and the other is haste in an escape. There is no accounting for any idleness at all.

There is more description given as far as what it is that is essential for us to be in pursuit of than what it is that we are to be fleeing from. Both words, "pursue" and "flee" are a divinely delivered imperatives -- which means that they are mandates of God that hold out no options for negotiation. As New Covenant commands they demand one thing and one thing only...immediate, active and ongoing obedience. In fact, especially where the activity of the pursuit is concerned, obedience is essential in order for us to be assured that we will "see" Jesus.

The comparison of these two texts teach us something of the very character of true and genuine sanctification in the true believer's life and walk. It directly involves an active obedience in pursuing *righteousness, faith, love and peace*. The first of these listed aspects of sanctification, *righteousness*, pertains to the righteousness of Christ, Himself. The righteousness of God that Ro.3:21 declares is revealed to us through His life -- "*apart from the law*". To pursue the righteousness of the law can only result in promoting a self-righteousness, which is not at all what true and genuine sanctification is about. The next three aspects of our pursuit emphasize the righteousness of Christ. For He, and He alone, is the real substance of the *faith* that we are to earnestly pursue; and *love* is the very center of influence of all the commandments of Christ Jesus; and *peace* points us to the peace that He is to us, and that He has given to us (Eph.2:14 and Jn.14:27). It is His "*peace*" that presides over our circumstances throughout our whole pursuit. Praise His Name!

There are a couple of final observations that can be made of the true believer's pursuit. First of all, it is easily seen that the pursuit is divinely intended to be a prayer-filled pursuit that is generated out from a pure heart. And, secondly, it is something that every true believer has in common with each other. These things can be clearly seen from the last phrase of 2Tim.2:22> "...with those that call on the Lord out of a pure heart."

In short, the pursuit of sanctification is, for us, the nearest that we will ever get, while in this world, to the holiness that we long to exude at all times, and that we will ultimately someday realize when we finally get to see our Lord face to face.

For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter

Fellow Laborers and Partners in Ministry

The 2006 Del-Haven camp season is under way. Thanks to the help and support that we have received from different individuals and church groups alike, we are ready to once again enter into the rigors of the labor of the Lord. In answer to our prayers we have had groups of volunteer workers from Cedar Ridge Evangelical Free Church of Harrisonville and New Summit Presbyterian Church of Lee's Summit show up to help us prep the place for the launching of camp. This is always a big, big help!

Sovereign Grace Baptist Church of Kansas City showered us with cases of corn, green beans and peas, which we will definitely be able to put to good use in feeding the campers this summer. Our heavenly Father does indeed know our needs before we ask Him.

Staff Training A Success

Our recent staff training retreat was a booming success. There were sixteen in total that attended, and it was a great time. Our concentrated time for Bible study was on the Gospel grace truth of Sanctification. We delved into the depths of the Word of God together on this most essential of subjects. On Sunday morning, Steve Carpenter delivered a wonderful lesson from the gospel of John. He journeyed through the whole gospel showing how the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ compares beautifully with the scriptural portrait of the temple. It was an inspiring and unforgettable lesson.

Prayer Requests

As we draw closer and closer to kicking off the camp season we earnestly need your prayers. The enemy is always trying to upset the agenda in some way or another. Now it is our swimming pool that is in need of special attention and help. We have been able to secure things for the time being -- and hopefully for this whole summer camp season -- but there are some major repairs that will need to be done if it is to be used in the future. We do not really know exactly which way to go at the present, or how much it will cost. We only know that we really cannot have camp without a swimming pool. Please remember this challenge with us in your prayers. We need guidance and help. The Lord will provide -- I am sure.

Glory of Christ Bible Conferences

We have our latest Bible conference messages available now on CD. Those of you who already have your order in will be receiving your set very soon. We apologize that it has taken so long to get this task accomplished. Those of you who would like to purchase a set -- the cost is only \$15.00. Just give us a call and let us know how many you would want and where you want us to send them...(816) 690-3497.

We are planning to hold another Glory of Christ Bible Conference September 14, 15 and 16. Red Bridge Baptist Church will host this one. Tom Wells, Jim Elliff and Steve Carpenter will be the speakers. The theme is slated to be "The Priority of Jesus Christ". You will be hearing more of this event in coming months. This will be our first attempt at putting together two conferences in one year. Please pray with us about this also.