

# 2007 Proclaimer

*"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, .. to proclaim the favorable year of the Lord!" - Isa.61:1-2*  
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A teaching and exhortation medium by members of the Carmichael Church of Christ, meeting at 6044 Sutter Ave. Carmichael, CA 95608

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## **THE NAME OF JESUS**

*by Alan Smith*

Paul Harvey told about a 3-year-old boy who went to the grocery store with his mother. Before they entered the grocery store she said to him, "Now you're not going to get any chocolate chip cookies, so don't even ask."

She put him up in the cart and he sat in the little child's seat while she wheeled down the aisles. He was doing just fine until they came to the cookie section. He saw the chocolate chip cookies and he stood up in the seat and said, "Mom, can I have some chocolate chip cookies?" She said, "I told you not even to ask. You're not going to get any at all." So he sat back down.

They continued down the aisles, but in their search for certain items they ended up back in the cookie aisle. "Mom, can I please have some chocolate chip cookies?" She said, "I told you that you can't have any. Now sit down and be quiet."

Finally, they were approaching the checkout lane. The little boy sensed that this may be his last chance. So just before they got to the line, he stood up on the seat of the cart and shouted in his loudest voice, "*In the name of Jesus, may I have some chocolate chip cookies?*" And everybody around who heard

him got a big laugh about it. Some even applauded. And, according to Paul Harvey, due to the generosity of the other shoppers, the little boy and his mother left with 23 boxes of chocolate chip cookies.

The name of Jesus is powerful indeed! Many activities in the New Testament were carried out in the name of Jesus with powerful results:

In the name of Jesus, prayers were offered and God heard and answered (**John 16:23-24**).

In the name of Jesus, people were baptized and found forgiveness of sin (**Acts 2:38**).

In the name of Jesus, men were healed of their ailments and demons were cast out (**Acts 4:10; 16:18**).

Be careful not to make the mistake of thinking there's some kind of magical power in saying the word "Jesus". To do something "in the name of" someone is to do it by their authority and therein lies the power. When we do something by the authority of Jesus (or to put it another way, if we do something because Jesus told us to do it), the results will always be powerful. In fact, EVERYTHING we do and say should be done in the name of Jesus (**Col. 3:17**).

May our preaching, our teaching, and all that we say and do be done in the name of Jesus for, as Peter said:

*"Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."* (**Acts 4:12**)

--Alan Smith, Fayetteville, N.C.

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## **On Being a Pumpkin**

**Being a Christian is like being a pumpkin. God lifts you up, takes you in, and washes all the dirt off of you. He opens you up, touches you deep inside and scoops out all the yucky stuff-- including the seeds of doubt, hate, greed, etc. Then He carves you a new smiling face and puts His light inside you to shine for the entire world to see.**

## **ENCOURAGEMENT**

**From Stan Paher**

*One of the greatest changes we can make in our assemblies is to return to one of the primary purposes for the assembly in New Testament times. The early Christians came together in order to encourage one another.*

A few years ago, I ran in my first seven mile race. Actually, it was not a race for me in that I was not competing with anyone. My objectives were to stay alive, finish the race, and not choke to death on the other runners' trail dust. The biggest surprise of the entire event was finding some obstacles that were never present on my practice course hills.

Two miles into the race, my legs became spaghetti and my tongue kept getting in the way of my feet. If my brain hadn't been so tired, I'm sure my life would have been flashing before my eyes. As it was, my mind was in a freeze frame mode with the picture of that glass of water I had earlier poured

out on the ground. I was worse than Esau. I'd have sold my birthright for one cup of water.

Plodding around a bend in the road, I could see a table ahead. As I drew closer to the table, it seemed to be covered with cups of water-clear, cold water. Before me was a feast for a king. I grabbed one of the cups as I zoomed past at the speed of night and gulped the water down, paper cup and all. I was so refreshed and invigorated that I actually picked up the pace. Just when I was giving out again, another drink table was set up at the three-and-a-half-mile point. Then there was one at the five-and-a-half mile point, which gave me enough of a boost to finish the entire 6.2 miles. I would have never finished the race if those little cups of water hadn't been given at just the right time.

*Encouragement is like cups of water given at just the right times.* In the mad marathon of life, spirits get weak and souls become thirsty. Church is a serving table surrounded by people passing out cups of encouragement to all who come by. Just when you think you can't go another step, you come to a loving, giving person who dispenses the encouragement you need to help you stay in the race. This act gives a whole new meaning to Jesus' message in Mark 9:41. Even though Jesus was giving a warning to His disciples about not hindering good works, the passage always causes me to think of Ks and encouragement.

He said, ***"For whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because of your name as followers of Christ, truly I say to you, he shall not lose his reward."***

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## **THOSE NEEDING PRAYERS**

- Don Alexander
- Jason & Marie Anderson
- Frank & Tina Ayers
- Edith Ayers
- Jack & Dorothy Bailey
- Margie Buchanan
- Bill Cain
- Larry Cain
- Karen Daly
- Helen Gray
- Margaret Holcomb
- Chuck House
- Catherine Kay
- Dale Lovelady (Lucille's brother)
- Jean McCarty
- Jeffrey & Kaye Pennant
- Wendell & Irma Rapier
- Berniece Raven
- Rosie Reagan
- Glenn & LaurieAnn Reagan
- The Roadman family
- Caleb & Jacob Robertson
- Taylor Romine
- Ray Rude
- Bob & Vernell Sanderson (Brea)
- Bill & Rena Schultz
- Troy Shadman and family
- The Brad Shuck Family
- Ola Thornburg
- Nancy Valine
- Shirley Watkins
- Ellie Williams
- Kathy Wilson (Folsom)
- Gordon & Glenda Wilson

## **TRAVELING IN THEIR WORK**

- Karen Daly
- Aaron Robertson
- Gordon Wilson

## **IN THE MILITARY**

- Jason Anderson
- David Lovett
- Aaron Robertson
- Trent Walsh

## **BY WHAT AUTHORITY DOEST THOU THESE THINGS?**

**Matt 21:23-27**

### **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. The chief priests and elders of the people asked Jesus this question.
  - 1. Jesus made changes in the affairs of the temple, as noted in **Matt 21:12-13**
  - 2. They were also upset because he was changing rel. instructions ~ **Matt 5:38-45**
- B. Jesus had no ecclesiastical or civil authority as a Jew, so they claimed the right to know why He was resetting some rules without their authority.
  - 1. What Jesus Christ SAID and DID sprang from an authority higher than **ANY MAN!**  
**Matt 17:5; Matt 28:18; Heb 1:1-2.**

### **II. OUR QUESTION OF STUDY EMPHASIZES THE NEED FOR AUTHORITY**

- A. There can be no **harmony**, or **unity**, or **system** in life without having some authority.
  - 1. The BUSINESS community would be paralyzed without a monetary standard.
  - 2. OR, suppose each citizen should be allowed to determine his own traffic laws!
  - 3. OR, Imagine the disorder if EACH ONE determined his OWN WATCH the standard of time for everyone else.
- B. In religion, there division and confusion of every sort.
  - 1. WHY? Because all religionists have not all agreed upon being guided by a single STANDARD OF RELIGIOUS AUTHORITY!
  - 2. BEFORE SUCH CONFUSION CAN BE CLEARED UP, all religious people must agree on a single STANDARD OF AUTHORITY!

### **II. SHALL WE ACCEPT ORAL TRADITIONS AS AN AUTHORITY?**

- A. The Roman Catholic church answered "YES" ~ because that's what they're already doing!
  - 1. "...the Catholic traditions are to be received with same authority as OT and NT.
  - 2. Their say to not only listen to them, but that they are EQUAL with the Bible!
- B. The Roman church uses **Jno 21:25** as "proof text" for Christ's unrecorded messages.
  - 1. This refers to things Jesus DID, NOT as a pattern of commands that he said!
  - 2. If certain "traditions" were so important why did the H.S. leave them out?
- C. **DIVINE traditions** must be purer and the more certain the further back we go.
  - 1. For 100's of years the Roman Church knew **nothing** of the Bodily Assumption of Mary.
  - 2. Something that's NEW is not a "TRADITION," & Mary ascending to heaven is unproven!

### **III. IN THE CHURCH, MANY REGARD "FEELINGS" AS "DIVINE AUTHORITY"**

- A. Our feelings are affected by what we believe, whether it's right or wrong!
  - 1. Remember Jacob believing the false report that Joseph was dead, in **Gen 37:23-36.**
  - 2. His mourning couldn't have been any greater, even if it had been true!
- B. "Feelings" & "conscience" can be as diverse as the number of people involved.
  - 1. And remember, even "heathens" are conscientious and have feelings!
  - 2. Using "feelings" as authority doesn't change **wrong to right**, or **error to truth!**

### **IV. THE BIBLE (God's Word) IS OUR ONLY RELIABLE STANDARD OF AUTHORITY.**

- A. It will furnish us to every spiritual need. **2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Pet 1:3**
- B. It is our source of light ~ **Psa 119:105**
- C. Ultimately, we'll be judged by the Lord and His Word! **John 12:48; Rev 20:12**

### **IN SUMMARY:**

- A. God used His Son and His influence speak to us in these "last days". **Heb 1:1-2**
- B. We must heed these things in order to gain that reward He has offered: **eternal life!**
- C. **BY WHAT AUTHORITY ARE YOU SEEKING TO SERVE GOD?**