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BIM Informer
Bible Institute of Missouri Newsletter

BIM Contributors (2013)

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Highlandville Church of Christ, MO
Kansas Expressway Church of Christ, Springfield, MO
Mountain Grove Church of Christ, MO
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Individuals:
Barnes, Jimmie Heavin, Clyde and Robbie
Clouse, Harry and Donetta Loudermill, Carolyn
Dalton, Gary and Marilyn Sanders, Tiffany
Eakins, Kent and Angela

Note:
Churches and individuals who send monthly contributions to support faculty and students are not listed here due to a lack of space.

The Last 10 Years
Classes first started at the Bible Institute of Missouri in 2003. Over the last 10 years, there have been 27 men graduate from this two-year preacher training program. Of these men, about 75% are still faithfully preaching in 8 different states, including Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Pennsylvania. May God continue to bless this work for many more years to come!

Bible Institute of Missouri
A Work of the [Kansas Expressway Church of Christ](http://www.bibleinstituteofmissouri.com)
www.bibleinstituteofmissouri.com

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General Information:
* Free Tuition
* 2400 Classroom Hours
* Mission Opportunities
* Two-Year Program
* 40+ Courses
* Preacher Training

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Responsibility in the Kingdom

When one becomes a member of the church he or she takes on the responsibility of living according to the standard of Christ. If one does not want to or intend to be responsible to the cause, one should not become a member in the first place.

Becoming a member of the Lord's church has the added blessing of the care of the members. If one has a good attitude, one appreciates the care, exhortation, and admonition of interested brothers and sisters. If one does not have a good attitude, one may interpret this care as interference into one's personal affairs, meddling, or butting in.

Members of the church have a definite responsibility to others. Consider the following:

1. "This is my commandment that you love one another" (John 15:12).
2. "Be of the same mind one toward another" (Romans 12:16).
3. "Let no man seek his own, but another's good" (1 Corinthians 10:24).
4. "Bear ye one another's burdens" (Galatians 6:2).
5. We are to "exhort one another" (Hebrews 3:13).
6. "Consider one another to provoke unto love and good works" (Hebrews 10:24).
7. We are "not to lie to one another" (Colossians 3:9).
8. We are "not to speak evil one of another" (James 4:11).
9. "This is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous [burdensome]" (1 John 5:3).

There are many passages like James 5:19-20 that tell us what happens if we fulfill our responsibility toward an erring brother. Two specific things stand out. First, a soul will be saved from death (described as an eternal, spiritual death). It is described as a lake of fire or fire and brimstone (Revelation 20:14-15; 21:8), and it is described as outer darkness (Matthew 25:46). Second, a multitude of sins will be hidden. The word *hide* means to cover or put out of sight. Therefore, if the erring brother comes back his sins are covered or forgiven. The psalmist said, "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sins are covered" (Psalm 32:1). *No sin is really covered until it is forgiven!*

Some try to cover their sins in the wrong way (a cover-up). Adam tried to blame his on his wife (Genesis 3:12). Achan tried to bury his (Joshua 7:1). Others lie (Revelation 21:8). The scriptures teach: "He that covereth [conceals] his sins shall not prosper" (Proverbs 28:13). Sin is covered when it is forgiven. "Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of the people, thou hast covered all their sin" (Psalm 85:2).

Christians have the obligation to preach the gospel and to exhort, admonish, and encourage all people to do right, especially the Lord's people.
—Max Patterson

"And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also." 2 Timothy 2:2



Faculty Focus

In this issue and in upcoming issues of the *BIM Informer*, we will be highlighting different faculty members. Each instructor of the Bible Institute of Missouri is an important asset in the fulfillment of the school's mission. These men bring to the classroom their years of experience in preaching and teaching, both locally and abroad. They each are truly committed to teaching "faithful men who will be able to teach others also" (2 Timothy 2:2).



Max Patterson has been preaching for more than 63 years. He is a native of McNairy County, Tennessee. He began preaching in high school, and for the past forty years he has preached in Tennessee, Texas, and Missouri. He holds the A.A., B.A., M.A., and M.R.E. degrees, plus advanced study. He has written commentaries on all New Testament books, as well as nearly 20 other books, including commentaries on many Old Testament books. He has taught at Northwest Mississippi Junior College, Freed-Hardeman College, Bible School of the Ozarks, and Bible Institute of Missouri (BIM). At the BIM, he was the grammar teacher for both English and Greek, and he also taught various Bible classes. He has been involved with preacher training at the BIM since its start in 2003, and he continues to teach from time to time at the school. He currently lives in Bolivar, Missouri. His article entitled "Responsibility in the Kingdom" is on the front page of this newsletter.

BIM Classes

Our students will finish up their first quarter classes on October 23 and then begin their second quarter classes on October 28.

First Quarter:

Hebrew History I
Minor Prophets
John
General Bible Introduction
Preacher and His Work V
Greek I

Second Quarter:

Hebrew History II
Thessalonians and Hebrews
Acts
Isaiah
Preacher and His Work VI
Greek II

Evening School Schedule

Classes are being held each Monday evening at the BIM from 7:00-7:50 PM. If you cannot come in person, the classes are also being broadcasted live online. If you miss a class, they will also be archived online at www.bim-us.org. The schedule is also available there. Please take advantage of this important series of lessons entitled "Moral Issues Facing the Church." Classes will continue through December 16, 2013.

Student Showcase



Ethan Young was born in Memphis, Tennessee on December 28, 1992 and has lived in the Memphis area and Alabama most of his life. He graduated from Rogers High School in Florence, Alabama in 2011. Before coming to the Bible Institute of Missouri, he lived in Lexington, Alabama and was a member of the Lone Cedar Church of Christ. He has been a Christian for eight years now. After working with young people in his youth group and at Bible camp, he decided that becoming a preacher was what would enable him to better serve in the kingdom. Upon graduating in June 2014, he hopes to be involved in full-time ministry.

The Tickling of Ears Is Followed by the Wrath of God

Ethan Young
Jeremiah 23:23-40

In a world full of care-free attitudes concerning the words of God, there are many doctrines that men teach today that are not truly God's will. People want to please themselves or the crowd they are trying to entertain. This, of course, is nothing new if you are a student of the Bible. Many times in the Old Testament, prophets are seen speaking on behalf of themselves rather than on behalf of the Lord. The question is not, however, if people do this or not. Obviously, they do. The real question at hand is how does the Lord feel about such?

In Jeremiah 23:23-40, God spoke about the situation that was at hand. The false prophets were preaching to Judah what they wanted to hear rather than what God had said. If it can be understood how God felt about misrepresenting the truth at that time, then it can be applied today because God is unchanging and has felt the same about His commands since the beginning.

God first was angry with the prophets of the day because they were taking some of the truth but sprinkling in their own twists to make it more popular to the people of Judah. For today's application, there are many "evangelists" that preach several things that sound like truth (for indeed there is some truth when they speak), but they misrepresent it to make it fit their doctrine. For example, Ephesians 2:8-9 explains how one could never work his/her way to heaven because salvation is a gift by the grace of God. Some would misrepresent this and say that works are not required for salvation. That statement is not true. One cannot work his/her way to heaven because he/she could never do enough to earn his/her salvation. However, James 2:14-17 explains that faith without works is not true faith. So the simple conclusion is people cannot work in such a way where they will deserve heaven, but that does not mean that they are not responsible for doing the work of the Lord (Ephesians 2:10). So the truth can most certainly be misrepresented.

God also was angry at the prophets of the day because they were just flat lying about what the word of the Lord was. Many today do this also. Just to point out one example, many of the false prophets ("forth-tellers") of today would lead you to believe that there is no hell. God is a loving God that would never make such a place to send people. This is certainly not the case. The Bible speaks several times about hell and the torments of it (Matthew 8:12; Revelation 20:14-15). People will obviously tell lies to promote themselves and their doctrine.

Finally, God was angry at these prophets because they were leading people astray with their false doctrine. Of course, the Lord is angered when someone is not doing the Lord's will, but to lead people astray with false doctrine is a different matter altogether. So many people today are being led away by false teachers such as Joel Osteen, Oral

Roberts, etc., and people are losing their souls because these prophets are tickling the ears of men. This of course makes the Lord angry.

So as a result of their false doctrine, the Lord would be a burden upon the prophets (verse 34) and would cast them out of Jerusalem (verse 39), and they would be eternally shamed (verse 40). The Lord is incredibly serious about how the prophets of the day were representing His word. As a result, the Lord did justly as He evoked punishment upon those prophets who were speaking lies and conjuring up false visions that supposedly "came from the Lord." In like manner, the Lord will judge the false prophets of today. In Matthew 7:21-23, not everyone that does their work in "the name of the Lord" will enter into the kingdom of heaven. In the day of judgment, they will even argue with the Lord about all of the wonderful things they did in the Lord's name, but the Lord will say to them, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:23). Why will they be punished so harshly? Matthew 7:21 reveals it was because they were doing and speaking their own will and not the will of the Lord.

Christians today (especially the ones that are in speaking positions) need to be mindful of how serious of a matter this is. As seen in the days of old, the prophets of Jeremiah's day were speaking half-truths and flat out lies; they were then punished according to those actions. Today, Christians can expect the same result. If Christians decide that the tickling of the ears of men is more important than the unwavering truth that is the power unto salvation (Romans 1:16), then they too will one day face the judgment and the severity of God their Creator.

God Needs You!

We are looking for men who are interested in enrolling in our next intake in August 2014. If you or someone you know is interested in training to be a preacher, check out our website at www.bim-us.org. You could be the next faithful preacher or missionary so desperately needed in the church today!