



Oct. 15 2006 (Vol. 6)

GOSPEL MEETING ALL THIS WEEK!

Our brother Ron Roberts has been invited to speak with us this week, October 15-20, 2006. We hope that you will take full advantage of this opportunity to be built up and strengthened in your inner man through the knowledge of God's word.

To our friends & visitors, we thank you for coming & invite you to ask any questions you may have. To our members here, we encourage everyone to plan to be here, as well as to invite everyone you can. We look forward to hearing the precious Word of Life spoken this week!

An Application

Greetings in Christ. I am searching for a congregation with which to work as a preacher and worship as a member. If you are seeking a man to locate with you, please consider my application.

EDUCATION: I did not attend any school or program run by brethren, but I did receive a very high level education under one of the most renowned of Jewish Rabbis. Being convinced of what I was taught, I zealously went along with violence, and later became a leader of those who opposed the body of Christ. I want you to be aware that, while I did those things in zealous ignorance and have long since repented; there may remain some who have difficulty seeing past those years of my life. As Christ said, when people see the mistakes of your youth, some never are able to see you as anything else (Mark 6:4).

EXPERIENCE: Since the time that I have

learned the Truth, I have labored among many different brethren - not staying long at any one place. I did stay three years in one city. There was a group of about 12 men who had learned some Truth, but were yet mistaken in some important things. I am glad to say that they meekly accepted the needed corrections and went on to serve the Lord faithfully there.

Along with these men, I went to the sectarian places of assembly, preaching in their buildings. Some, of course, did not appreciate this. They decided to speak evil of the Way to anyone who would listen, in order to undermine and discourage our efforts. In fact, there was at least one city wide riot due to my preaching against the beliefs of those around us. Part of the accusation was that my preaching was affecting the local businesses. The uproar was so bad, they almost declared martial law.

Even so, during this time we were able to preach the word in a region some 125 miles East to West, and some 150 miles North to South. I do not know how many were baptized or how many congregations were started during that time - I am not one who is concerned with just having a lot of warm bodies present, without genuine spiritual soundness in them. Even though these were times of great difficulty, they were still some of the best and most productive years I have spent preaching God's word.

Some time after I left there, I was able to pass back through a nearby town. I had a deadline and could not stay long, but I contacted the elders and asked them to come to meet me. When they came, I reminded them of the daily warnings of external danger and internal danger that I had given them. I know they had heard all this before, but I cannot cease caring for my brethren and their spiritual wellbeing. So, I reminded them again to beware of those who would rise up, even among the elders - in order to create factions by speaking perverse things. I know this makes people uncomfortable to think that brethren, even elders, can teach false doctrine - but it does happen at times. And we all need to be able to withstand error where ever it is.

I must admit that there were times that I was

tempted to shrink back for fear of how they would react to my plainness of speech. But I have persisted in declaring "the whole counsel of God" and "anything that is profitable" so that they may be establishing in the Truth, even when Truth was "out of season".

At times I have written other congregations with exhortation or rebuke. Some think this violates local autonomy. Also, I will not hide the fact that I "call names" when someone teaches error. In fact, some accuse me of having a personal vendetta against one brother, because I named him in two different letters.

I am also very doctrinal in my preaching. I emphasize the doctrines about salvation, the church, morality, fellowship, congregational discipline, etc. I am also very adamant in calling upon my brethren to not tolerate any message, teaching or religious organization other than what is revealed in Truth. Some call me "legalistic" for this, and in some ways I am. You really should know that I am quite narrow when it comes to Truth.

PERSONAL REFERENCES & INFORMATION

When you check with those with whom I have worked, you will find that there are some brethren who love and respect me, but also many who have no confidence in me at all. In all honesty, there are some that accuse me of preaching only for money, even saying I am a hypocrite. Some say I preach too long and put people to sleep. Some consider me rude and unloving. It seems that everywhere I go there are people of the community and the local congregation that see me as overly critical of their practices and beliefs.

Having been so disliked, I often end up in unusual situations. I have been arrested and kept a prison for 4 years now, even being brought to the supreme court of the land. Interestingly, though, it has provided me the opportunity to preach to some I never would have reached otherwise. I have also suffered beatings several times, and my physical appearance is not what it used to be. I am not well off financially, nor have I been able to purchase "professional" clothing. Also, I am not considered very "eloquent".

I do travel quite a bit, but I do not play golf. In fact, I would like to use my next "located work" as a base of operations, being gone in my labors at various times. But when I am at home, I will give 100%.

I have never been married, and do not anticipate doing so. Thus, I will not be bringing a "husband-wife" team. [Note: Some outside of Christ have thought I was a homosexual because I do not have a wife at this late age.] Obviously, I do not have any children either. But I consider those who do God's will my true family anyway.

Realizing that it is very important whom you choose to work with, please take all these things into consideration and let me hear from you. Since I will am due for release soon, I am eager to get things arranged and to continue my work for the Lord.

If any man does not love the Lord, let him be accused. Oh Lord, come quickly. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you, and my love be with you all in Christ Jesus.

Paul, formerly Saul of Tarsus
c/o Roman Prison System
Separate Quarters #1

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- **Men's & Ladies Classes** - Every 2nd Sun. @ 5pm.
- **Door to Door** - Every Tuesday @ 6pm.
- **Home Bible Study** - Sat., Oct. 14 & 28.
- **Business Meeting** - Sun. Oct. 29 @ 5pm.
- **GM in Knoxville** - Doug Hill, Nov. 17-19, 2006.
- **GM** - Jeff Smith, April 15-20, 2007.
- **GM** - R. McPherson, Oct.14-19, 2007.
- **GM** - TBA April 2008.
- **GM** - Lanny Smith, Oct.12-17, 2008.

PRAY FOR

Mag Bumbalough, Thelma Cunningham, Mary Cox, Monie Petty, Dave Poteet, Joshua & Misty Poteet, Rose Taylor, Dorris Williams, Robert England, Johanna Fletcher, Ed Williams, Joe Smith (cancer), Lydia Poe. Also **Jachie Tindle & Ann Hasty** (Both have cancer, relatives of Jo Miller & the Sims), **Quannie Garrett** (Lynn Regan's mother), **Holly Jernigan** (Joyce Gardner's niece), **John Ross Key** (Mary Cox's son), **Marci Miller** (Alisa Fletcher's mother), **Ocia Bell Jones** (Doris William's mother), **Ruth Williams** (Betty England's niece), **Pauline Hickey, Nanny Witaker, Dylan Roberts** (grandson of Marilyn's friend), **Debbie Gibbs** (relative of Thelma Klein).