

Summer 2009

The Winds of Change Are Blowing

A word from the President
by Alton Beal



When speaking to Nicodemus about the new birth in John 3, Jesus used the wind as an illustration. He said, "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh and whither it goeth." As we all know, you cannot see the wind, but you can feel it and see the effects of it. Some winds are welcome, and others are destructive. A light refreshing breeze brings relief while a tornado brings devastation.

I believe that even the most casual observation of the past twenty years of the fundamental Baptist movement reveals that the winds of change are blowing. It is important to understand that some changes have been necessary and helpful. With the help of modern technology, church secretaries print the bulletin rather than mimeograph them. Missionaries now use computerized presentations rather than the conventional slide

projector. Pastors and church members can now send emails around the world in a split second to communicate with missionaries instead of relying on "snail mail." These changes are good and wholesome. However, I would like to deal with the winds that are attacking the very foundation of our movement.

Several years ago, I was speaking with two evangelists who were preaching the spring opening revival at ABC. I asked both of them if there were any problems that they have observed while out on the evangelism trail. I was astonished by the manner of their answer. Without any prior collaboration, they both said simultaneously, "Reformed theology." This shift, sadly, is a result of years of sowing. When pastors and Christian colleges highly esteem the writings of R.C. Sproul, John Piper, and John MacArthur, it is only a matter of time before the younger generation embraces the reformed theology of these men. In light of the Bible and church history, this wind has no business blowing among fundamental Baptists. In his book *The Reformers and Their Stepchildren*, historian Leonard Verduin documents the persecution of our Anabaptist forefathers by the fathers

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AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE

REMOVE NOT
— THE —
ANCIENT
LANDMARK
CONFERENCE

JULY 13 - 17 2009

WWW.AMBASSADORS.EDU/LANDMARK

Itinerary for...

Please check our website for updates to the itinerary.
www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentsCorner/Beal

EVANGELIST ALTON BEAL

MAY - SEPTEMBER 2009

MAY				
16-30	ABC Bible Lands Tour	Ambassador Baptist College	Israel	
JUNE				
5	Baptist Youth Fellowship	Pastor Bryan Houck	Culpeper, VA	704-466-1232
7	Bible Baptist Church	Pastor Bruce Fincham	Culpeper, VA	540-825-9518
7	Heritage Baptist Church	Pastor Mike Edwards	Heritage, VA	703-680-6629
22-26	Servants Heart Teen Camp	Jim Fry	Elizabethtown, PA	717-367-6655
28	Bible Baptist Church	Pastor Tom Krampert Sr.	Kreamer, PA	570-837-1541
28	Cornerstone Baptist Church	Pastor Tom Graham	Enola, PA	717-732-3232
29-July 1	Servants Heart Family Camp	Jim Fry	Elizabethtown, PA	717-367-6655
JULY				
22	Lakes Pond Baptist Church	Pastor Doug Meader	Waterford, CT	860-442-0277
AUGUST				
16-21	Victory Baptist Church	Pastor James Herb	Kittany, PA	
23	Calvary Independent Baptist Church	Pastor Daniel Crisman	Quarryville, PA	717-786-3991
SEPTEMBER				
13-16	Pine Grove Baptist Church	Pastor Greg Howell	Stockbridge, GA	803-789-5106
18-20	First Baptist Church (Family Retreat)	Pastor Matt Barber	Woodridge, IL	630-964-022

a chosen generation,
a royal priesthood

CAMP BARNABAS 2009

WITH SPEAKER EVANGELIST
DAVE CAJIUAT

TO REQUEST A BROCHURE CALL:
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JULY 13th thru 17th

**AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE
SUMMER MINISTRY CAMP**

COMING EVENTS

SUMMER SCHOOL:
FIRST TERM
Monday, May 18 –
Friday, June 12

SUMMER SCHOOL:
SECOND TERM
Monday, June 15 –
Friday, July 10

SUMMER SCHOOL:
THIRD TERM
Monday, July 13 –
Friday, August 7

LANDMARK CONFERENCE
AND CAMP BARNABAS
Monday, July 13 –
Friday, July 17

STUDENT REGISTRATION
Monday, August 24

MEMORIAL G.I.F.T.S.

Mr. Walter McSherry in honor of
Pastor Frank Camp



FALL OPENING REVIVAL

Make plans to attend our Fall Opening Revival services from August 31 through September 4 here at Ambassador. Evangelist Glen Jaspers and Evangelist Dwight Smith will be preaching.

If you are unable to be in the area, you will be able to download all the sermons from our website. 📖

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of the Reformation. The wind of toleration for Calvinism has been blowing for quite a while. This growing tolerance for reformed theology will lead to a further embracing of Calvinism and forsaking of our Baptist principles and heritage.

Another prominent wind that is having a negative impact is the wind of relevance. Leaders in the church growth movement such as Rick Warren have stressed the importance of making the Bible relevant and having a proper worldview. The truth be told, the Bible is a relevant book with timeless truth. The world has always portrayed the Bible as a strange, out-dated book. The younger generation needs to be careful about employing worldly means to teach Bible truths in an effort to make the Bible "relevant." We would all do well to heed Paul's command to Timothy and "preach the word."

Through the years, God has gifted many men and women in the area of music. Many of us are accustomed to singing congregational songs by composers of years gone by such as Fanny Crosby, Frances Havergal, and P.P. Bliss. In recent years, the Lord has also blessed others to write songs that glorify God in both the music and lyrics. However, it appears that some fundamentalists, especially fundamental Baptists, have changed their minds about the morality of music. One group in particular that has been gaining traction in recent days is the Sovereign Grace music movement. While many of the words are supposedly rich in doctrine, the music is no different than soft rock or the contemporary Christian music (CCM) genre. Can the truths of God's Word rightly be transported in the vehicle of worldly music? I say not. This wind of change in music can only be resisted if the younger generation understands the importance of Christ-likeness in both lyrics and music. Sometimes, there is a great difference between doing that which is fashionable and that which is right.

In my next article, I will mention several other winds of change that are blowing among fundamental Baptists. Please join me in praying that these winds of change will never blow on the campus of Ambassador Baptist College and that our graduates will not be swayed by these winds.

PRAYER & PRAISE

In *everything* by
prayer and
supplication

The remaining \$40,000 to come in for the Auditorium Remodeling Project.

Safety, power, and souls saved as the Western and Southeastern summer traveling groups minister.

Provision for the ABC students as they prepare to return next semester.

Protection and refreshment for the Israel tour hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Comfort.

The graduating class of 2009 as they launch out into the service of the King of kings.

Wisdom, power, and guidance for Alton Beal, the new president of Ambassador Baptist College.

with *thanksgiving*

A fruitful, safe, and blessed spring Ensemble tour.

An astounding Spring Bible Conference. The preaching from our twenty-one graduates was powerful and extremely practical.

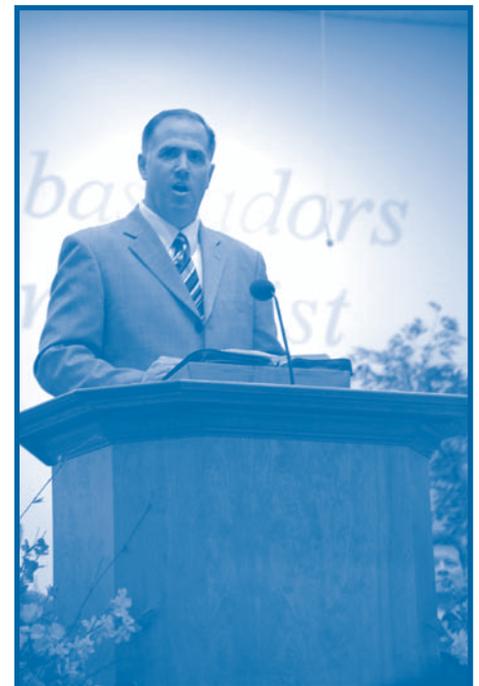
Souls saved and God's provision for our students during their spring break.

20 years of God's rich blessing upon ABC.

SPRING BIBLE CONFERENCE

There was an unusual excitement in the air on Monday morning! It was March 23, and it was the beginning of our 20th annual Spring Bible Conference. Alumni from across the country came to attend and participate in this historic event. Twenty-one of our graduates, serving in various ministries, provided a sumptuous feast from God's Word in both the morning and evening services! What a delight to have so many of our own back on campus! Reunions were held for the kitchen staff, the elementary education majors, the ABC ensemble, and the Alumni Association. In each evening service, a faculty member was recognized who has been at Ambassador since the first day, twenty years ago. On Thursday, the ABC Board unanimously voted Dr. Ron Comfort as Chancellor and Evangelist Alton Beal as the second president of Ambassador Baptist College, effective May 8, 2009. During the Friday evening service, Dr. and Mrs. Comfort were honored for their many years of obedience and sacrifice with words of commendation by preachers, special recognition by a local politician, and a generous gift from the ABC family. This week was a great blessing to all who had a part and will be remembered for many years to come!

All the messages are available for download on our website at www.ambassadors.edu/OnlineSermons



Please pray for the...

Please check our website for updates to the itinerary.
www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentsCorner/Comfort

RON COMFORT EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY

JUNE - SEPTEMBER 2009

JUNE				
7-12	Pastor Stephen Henderson	Harvest Baptist Church	Manhattan, KS	785-539-8174
14-19	Pastor Robert Eshleman	Harmony Baptist Church	Galesburg, IL	309-344-2144
21-26	Pastor Robert Shaw	Grace Baptist Church	Kettering, OH	937-293-7500
28	Pastor Ron Allen	Bible Baptist Church	Matthews, NC	704-535-1692
JULY				
5	Pastor Tracey Jones	Appalachian Baptist Church	Greeneville, TN	
12	Pastor Eddie Richardson	Sumter Baptist Temple	Sumter, SC	803-469-0288
19-22	Pastor Stephen Nulph	Perry Hill Road Baptist Church	Montgomery, AL	334-273-0405
26-30	Pastor Terry Hyman	Trinity Baptist Church	Centerville, GA	478-953-3600
AUGUST				
2	Pastor Tom Brookshire	Orangeburg Baptist Tabernacle	Orangeburg, SC	803-534-5032
23-28	Dr. Dan Deatrick	First Baptist Church of Wayland	Wayland, MO	660-754-6312
30	Pastor Gene Lasley	Buffalo Ridge Baptist Church	Gray, TN	423-239-6611
SEPTEMBER				
6-11	Pastor Volker Stoeckmann	Valleyview Baptist Church	Northampton, PA	610-837-5894
13	Pastor Mark Stevens	Calvary Baptist Church	Fort Walton Beach, FL	850-862-5369
20-25	Pastor Dave Canedy	Marquette Manor Baptist Church	Downers Grove, IL	630-964-5363
27-Oct2	Pastor Bud Steadman	Community Baptist Church	South Bend, IN	574-291-1884



**AMBASSADOR
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