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Dr. Paul Todd
IMA Administrator

The Future Is Now

... now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, . . . (Joshua 1:1 KJV)

Have you made any New Year's resolutions? The New Year is usually a time for reflecting on the past and projecting to the future, as well as assessing the present. Right now it is difficult not to ring in with another "Hee Haw" chorus of *Gloom Despair and Agony on Me*. But lets leave that to the politicians and the news media. Let's focus on the future.

Using the backdrop of the text where Israel after some 40 years of wondering are now ready to participate in the future that was forecast to Moses from the burning bush (Ex. 3). For Moses and Israel this prophecy was the future. In the text the fulfillment of the promise is at hand, it is now. Strangely enough now is always the culmination of someone's future. So in essence the future is now.

In the text God seems to be emphatic in the assessment of the current situation. The promise made to your forefathers is ready to be fulfilled right before your eyes. The challenge is to embrace the future which has become the present. No need to wait any longer. Go for it!

Let me suggest some implications of this challenge by God to embrace the future now. It may be relative to the current global financial situation and particularly to the future direction of this association. At least from an administrative standpoint. Let me present the outline and you can enlarge on it with your own thoughts.

- 1. To get to the future the leadership, i.e. Moses, Aaron and Joshua, must resist the constant temptation to revert back to the past, i.e. Egypt.**
- 2. Joshua, the leadership, is now challenged to come out of the shadow of Moses, i.e. the past, and fulfill God's mandate to move on to the future.**
- 3. The leadership must begin, at some point, to "go over" the present obstacle, i.e. Jordan, and head to the future.**
- 4. The leadership must accept the premise that God is a God of fresh vision that is pertinent to the times and the circumstances.**
- 5. The leadership must have faith, that is supported by the past faithfulness of God, that God will complete what He promises.**

A Kindergarten Sunday School Class was learning about God's care in times of trouble. The teacher asked the class to draw pictures of things that make them afraid. Afterwards she went around the class and asked them to explain their picture. Five year old Scott had drawn a funnel cloud, a car with a man in it. He explained that there was a tornado coming and the man couldn't get the car started. The teacher commented, "that man really needs to pray." Scot replied without hesitation. "No! he needs to run."

Someone is always standing on the banks of tomorrow. But, the future for others will always be right now. Indeed, we need to pray. But, like the man in Scott's drawing God is admonishing us to go forward and take a whole group of people with us. The future Is now.

"Providing today's ministers the freedom they want and the fellowship



Dr. Tim Warner

Chairman's Corner

Set Your House In Order!

Everyone reading this article should tune in your spiritual ears to hear and make sure your heart is receptive to Holy Spirit. The word of the Lord came to Isaiah to tell his beloved king to set his house in order (Is 38:1). Because of times in which we are living we, too, must make sure our church or mission (or house) is in order. Documents need to articulate what we believe in our constitution, by-laws, or church handbook (if you don't have them; you need them). Most Christians do not realize how far America has strayed from her former faith. The reason for this mandate is that yesterday's methods simply are not relevant for today. Consider how our country has changed.

From Christianity to Pluralism

Whether or not you realize it, our country (is not going to, but) has already turned away from being a Christian nation into a *pluralist* society. *Pluralism*, according to Webster's New World Dictionary, is *the theory that reality is composed of a multiplicity of ultimate beings, principles, or substances c.f. DUALISM*; further, it is *the theory that ultimate reality [truth] has more than one explanation*. Think of it; our country has "sold the store" of our once-believed values taken an active stance against Christianity by defying biblical truth. Consider the events of the last forty years:

- 1963 Prayer and Bible removed from public schools**
- 1973 Approved of abortion on demand (Roe V. Wade)**
- 1983 Accepted the Humanist Manifesto**
- 1993 Removal of Christmas icons from public property**
- 2003 Removing the Ten Commandments from court houses**

2013 WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS GRAND DEPARTURE WILL BE?

Radical Homosexual Agenda

A militant agenda from homosexuals (sodomy) is now pressuring local, state, and national government to pass "hate crimes laws" to favor their antichristian special interests. If the USA continues to follow Europe and Canada, the Christian Church will soon be unable to legally preach, teach, or write the biblical truth as to God's view on the sin of sodomy. Jesus said, **"As it was in the days of Noah; ...Lot; ...thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed."** Jesus also mentions that society will be **"eating, drinking, buying, selling, planting, and building."** Derek Prince says this refers to "materialism." Wickedness, sodomy, and materialism are the signs of the time just prior to His return. (See Luke 17:26-30).

Clearly Articulate Your Ministry's Views and Perspectives

As I write this article, our church has commissioned another competent person and me to get our "house in order" by updating our church's constitution, by-laws, and handbook. These documents clearly state our principles for governing and biblical views regarding morality (including one-man/one-woman marriages). Our research revealed that churches and ministries that clearly stated their stance on marriage, abstinence (from sexuality amongst non-married, etc.) were exempt from the new governmental laws when implemented in Canada.

This is not Reactionary, but Responding Wisely

Prov. 15:15 states, **"the sensible man considers his steps"** (NASB). Other scriptures teach us to be properly prepared, armed and ready to face the challenges of our day and the foreseeable future.

This month I want to encourage you to "get your house in order" especially as it has to do with the constitution and by-laws for your church, school or ministry. Please be discerning and wise as to the cultural "slip" of our country. Have foresight; look ahead! I bid you Godspeed in the name of our Lord as you pursue your course of action!



IMA WORLD MISSIONS



Jonathon, Ruth & Rev. Julius Morar

Faith's Journey of Julius & Ruth Morar

It was in 1992 when God gave us the vision and a burden to “go” to a place where people were largely unreached by the Gospel. We went to a town of over a million people in north India called “Gorakhpur”. This town was not only unreached by the Gospel but a large number of people were illiterate and “untouchable”. “Untouchable” or “Dalits” are part of the ‘caste’ system of Indian or the Hindu society. More than 160 million people in India are considered "Untouchable"—people tainted by their birth into a caste system that deems them impure, less than human.

Pursuing the ‘vision’ we started working among these “untouchables”. It was quite a challenge for both us as we were Indians and we knew that associating with this caste would also put us in the same category but we took the challenge and opened up a school named “Peace Children’s Home High School”, to reach to the unprivileged children of these families. The Lord blessed our effort and the school grew from 25 to over 650 students at present. The school supplies each student, uniform, shoes, books etc. and a balanced meal. All of this is free to them and is

taken care of by the faithful supporters like you. The school is now a prominent part of the city and has changed lives and condition of not only the kids but their parents and other family members as well.

Hindus worship 365 millions gods and their way of worship is making idols and worshipping them. With the school growing, a number of students and their parents showed interest in knowing about our faith in God. We decided to start a church and very soon many of these people left all their other gods, accepted Jesus Christ as their One and Only savior. At present there are over 150 attending members of the Peace Tabernacle Church-Gorakhpur.

The saints saved thru this ministry began to go out to other unreached places and now we have 13 churches affiliated to this ministry.

To give a firm foundation and a personal experience with the Almighty we have established a Bible College, for the newly converted young men and women. We are earnestly praying that God would provide a permanent structure to the Peace Bible College.

We have our own printing press that prints all our gospel resources like tracts, posters, banners etc as well as the material for the school and the Bible College.



As I mentioned earlier that a large number of people in this area are illiterates who can not read and write at all so to reach them we have audio visual studio which produces gospel tapes,

cds and short films.

Never can I express the full extent of the thankfulness I feel toward all of you who are so solidly behind the work here in Gorakhpur with your giving, through which thousands of people of north India and Nepal have been reached and many of them have been saved to the Kingdom of Our Heavenly Father.



IN LOVING MEMORY



Rev. Laverne Yeazel, Denver, Colorado. November 25th, 2008, Sister Laverne Yeazel passed from this life into the arms of Jesus, surrounded by her family singing and praying her on her way. After a 6 year battle with cancer,

she has left her suffering behind and entered into her eternal rest and reward. She left a legacy of loving devotion and ministry to her 3 children and spouses, 10 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren. Sis. Yeazel was married for 51 years to Rev. Glenn Yeazel, who preceded her to heaven 12 years ago. He was a member of the IMA for 40 years, serving on the General Board and as Board Chairman. Sis. Yeazel was also a member of the IMA. They made many good friends and had wonderful memories of the IMA. They were active in ministry for nearly 50 years evangelizing, pastoring, and helping to plant 300 churches in the Phillipines. To know Laverne Yeazel was to love her and she will be greatly missed every day until we see her again in Glory. (Written by her daughter Mrs. Joyce Schafer)

Rev. Effie Williams, Springfield, Illinois, went home to be with the Lord on August 16, 2008. She was a member of the IMA for 24 years.

Rev. Gary Harper, Jackson, Tennessee, went home to be with the Lord on October, 28, 2008. He was a member of the IMA for 24 years. Bro. Harper was a regular writer for the *Herald* and the *Herald Newsletter* for many years



**THE IMA EXTENDS OUR THOUGHTS
AND PRAYERS TO THE FAMILIES**

BIG EVENT!

FLORIDA DISTRICT CONFERENCE

February 18-20

"RENEWED HOPE, TIME FOR CHANGE"

HIGHPOINT CHURCH OF BRANDON

Pastor Loran Mejean

2207 S. Lithia Pinecrest Rd.

Valrico, FL 813-685-4828

District Chairman: Rev. Eugene Colegrove 352-564-4112

COFFEE CUP CORNER

— From St. John the Beloved

A pastor of a full gospel church in suburbia had a meeting with his congregation and decided they needed to reach out to their inner city community. Subsequently, they sent some workers out to the "hood" to bring in unchurched children. Upon asking several of the kids to come to church, finally two mischievous looking brothers decided to take the offer and attend their new program. When the boys arrived, they were very nervous as they had never been into a church before.

When the Pastor, who was sort of a large austere man, saw the young boys, he excitedly thought to meet them and ask them a few questions. He introduced himself, then bent down and asked the elder brother, "Young man, do you know where God is?"

The terrified boy leaned over and whispered to his brother, "Come on Sammy, let's get out of here; they've lost God and they're trying to pin it on us!"



INTERNATIONAL MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

5201 W. Homosassa Trail
Lecanto, FL 34461-9117

Phone (352) 628-5198 ■ Fax (352) 628-5195
Email: imahdq@aol.com ■ Web: Interma.net

EDITOR

Rev. Paul Todd

The views expressed in the Herald Newsletters do not necessarily reflect the consensus of IMA members