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IT'S TIME

By Pastor Dan Hernandez, Water of Life Ministries, Rockford, Illinois

There is a most popular scene in the New Testament of the grand entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem, where the people filled with the hope of physical freedom from their oppressors fulfilled the Psalmist words (Ps 118:26), crying out “Hosanna to God in the highest!”

There is something to be said of lifting your voice to proclaim what you believe. Let us not be outdone by a stone. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so! For he who comes in the name of the Lord is worthy to be proclaimed! May I add as a solemn warning: There is a silence that is not golden; the silence of unbelief, and worse, the silence of apathy or indifference.

Oh how I pray that our silence is touched by the fire of Truth. That fiery Truth that the prophet spoke of when he said “it is like fire shut up in my bones” he could not keep silent. Paul said it this way “I am constrained by it, a prisoner of it, a slave for it.”

There is a truth that will not remain silent: A truth about God and life and man himself—the truth that Christ is King. “O Lord, open thou my lips, and my mouth shall show forth thy praise” (Ps. 51: 15).”

When men are in darkness their greatest need is light. When men are blinded by lies their lone need is truth. God forbid that the indictment laid upon the Pharisees, “those religious folks”, be laid upon us. They were the blind leading the blind. Here in the midst of these “Hosannas”, where the street is carpeted as for a king, lined with a throng of people whose desire, although good, fell far short of that which Jesus had come to deliver.

“If thou had known”! Surely there had been enough revelation, patriarchs and poets, prophets and priests. Surely there had been the privilege of mercy and judgments enough, blessings and consequences that had proclaimed this their hour.

The hour strikes and the soul stands before God. “Even thou, at least in this thy day...” the only bit of time that is ours, is this fleeting shadow on the dial, where past and future meet.

I believe that for this day you were called. This day filled with all that it now holds. It is in this environment that you have a God given destiny. Will we miss the power, plan and divine purpose for fear, unbelief or simply because we don’t understand.

The time to stand is now, the time to lift your voice and proclaim truth is now; the time to work is now. It’s time.



Pastor Dan & Patricia Hernandez



“Providing today’s ministers the freedom they want and the fellowship they need.”



Dr. Tim Warner

CHAIRMAN'S Corner



Connecting Your Spouse with the IMA

A certain woman of the wives of the sons of the prophets cried out to Elisha, saying, “Your servant my husband is dead, and you know that your servant feared the Lord.” (2 Kings 4:1)

In traveling to various meetings of IMA brethren, I have been asked about the relevance of spouses becoming members of our beloved Association. In some cases, when a minister passes on to be with the Lord, the spouse is left to carry on the ministry. Often this happens when that same spouse has no ministerial connection or credentials with a ministerial fellowship (in our case with the IMA). This is similar to the lady mentioned in the aforementioned scripture of Elisha’s prophets (who were the ministers) of the Lord at that time.



In many cases, not just the minister himself is called to serve the Lord in (what is commonly referred to as the five-fold) ministry, but also the spouse. While not always the case, there is husband/wife team ministries mentioned in the Bible. In the Old Testament couples such as Abraham and Sarah were called to serve God together. Remember, God changed both of their names and inserted His very own name “AH” into their former names (cf. Abram – Abraham; Sarai – Sarah). Great significance is found when reading the actual narrative of the name change. God’s nature, calling, and His covenant were personally imparted to each of them (Gen. 17:1-27). They were truly a team ministry!

In the New Testament, we find that winsome couple named Aquila and Pricilla, who ministered along side the Apostle Paul for much of his ministry. In fact, Pricilla’s



name is often mentioned first. This has great significance and many scholars believe she may have had the stronger ministerial gift. Dr. David Paul Yonggi Cho, for example, says that in the Eastern Culture the name that is mentioned first often speaks of the leading gift. Be that as it may, the point is that they were called to serve with the chief Apostle as a team. No doubt, both would have carried ministerial credentials

had the IMA or other such fellowship been in place at the time.

Another very pertinent reason to have a minister’s spouse to be licensed with the IMA is that of tax deductions. For instance, if a minister wants to deduct traveling expenses for himself and his spouse, federal laws (and most states) require that the spouse also be a licensed minister. In the IMA, the Exhorter’s license (or beyond) fulfills this requirement. Check with your tax accountant or attorney for further verification. I took this tip from a National Board member a few years ago and my wife applied for a license and became a member of the IMA. We count it a privilege indeed to both serve as members in this Association and we receive the full benefit of legal tax deduction for ministerial purposes besides.



Finally, having an IMA credential for both minister and spouse can open doors of ministry. Licensing of this nature quickly settles questions about qualifications for speaking engagements or performing certain “sacerdotal” (as the IMA constitution mentions) duties together or separately. Further licensing and/or ordination are matters that you will need to discuss among yourselves, with district officers, amongst National Board members, or check with our Home Office.

This is yet another great attribute of the IMA in offering meaningful service to our beloved constituents and other ministers in general. Over the past few years we have diligently endeavored to increase our resources and are glad to serve in this way. Our objective is to equip and empower all ministers, spouses, and staff people who may benefit by serving the Lord as IMA members in active Christian ministry. Licenses, ordinations, church covering, active districts, advice, networking in ministry and more... are all provided. Simply stated, we’re HERE TO HELP!



THE HOME OFFICE

Dr. Paul W. Todd, Administrator
CHURCH TAX SEMINARS

One of the last thing some people want to read about is the IRS or the Federal Government. IMA Exhorter Mrs. Angie Childers does most of the writing in *The Herald* on this subject because she is so well versed. But I think you'll appreciate this article.

Recently, I received a call from one of our pastors. He sounded real nervous on the voice mail, so I called him back as soon as I got free. He will remain nameless because it could be any of a number of pastors who call me. When I called him back he was right in the middle of a church tax seminar. It was only around noon but he had already heard enough to be concerned about the church he was pastoring and tax compliance.

Some people are surprised to hear that, before becoming the administrator of the IMA, I was a pastor for many years. That's one of the reasons I believe that I can be of help to IMA members. As they say, "been there, done that."

When I talked to this pastor I remembered with amazing clarity the first church tax seminar I attended. The advertising, as I remember, had a picture of a clergyman being hauled off to jail for breaking the tax laws. That got my attention. I got on the phone right away and signed up for the seminar. I'm not going to comment on the whole seminar. All you need to know is that I spent hundreds of dollars and took home more books and tapes than I would ever read, listen to or need.

I did receive a lot of very helpful information from the seminar and the material presented. We did change the ways we did some things and tried to be compliant with the tax laws. As Christians we certainly want to "render therefore unto Caesar." But we don't want to be scared and upset through fear mongering.

After that seminar I was pastor for another 20 years or so. In all probability I did not do everything correctly, even though we tried. There was never even a threat of going to jail. There was no need for me to get all "worked up". My consensus is that we need to learn all we can and to be diligent in trying to comply. Pastors are called to preach the gospel and minister to people. They must not be burdened unnecessarily with worrying about going to jail.

As a final statement to help ease the troubled mind is a statement from the introduction on the inside front cover of IRS Publication 1820 called *tax guide for Churches and Religious Organizations*. Paragraph 2 line 10 reads, "The resolution of any particular issue may depend on the specific facts and circumstances of a given taxpayer." So take heart

IN LOVING MEMORY

Rev. J. Andrew Freeborn, San Antonio, Texas, went home to be with the Lord on Sunday, March 20, 2011. He was born July 24, 1931. He is survived by his wife Geraldine. He was a preacher, teacher, musician, singer and evangelist. Rev. Freeborn is well know for his tenure as faculty member of International Bible College, San Antonio. We send our deepest condolences to his wife and family.

NEW ENGLAND DISTRICT
Spring Conference
MAY 20-21



Church of Life & Praise, Ellsworth, Maine
Pastor & District Chairman: Rev. James Heard

INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

(207) 667-4308 Cell: (207) 461-5601
Email: pastor@churchoflifeandpraise.com

Guest Speaker: Dr. Steven Gough
New Brunswick, Canada

MID-CENTRAL DISTRICT CONFERENCE

JUNE 20-22

Dallas Pentecostal Church
Pastor & District Chairman:
Rev. Joseph Campbell

INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

(972)-617-3373 (214) 398-7659

Guest Speaker: Pastor Rick VanHoose
Bible Center Cathedral
Evansville, Indiana

MID-SOUTH DISTRICT CONFERENCE

JULY 13-15

New Life Christian Center
Dora, Alabama
Host Pastor James Aycox



District Chairman Wayne Mays

INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS

(205) 435-0310 (205) 913-0314

Guest Speaker: Pastor David Cook
International Bible Center
San Antonio, Texas

Welcome New Members



NAME	CITY	STATE	DISTRICT
Rev. Pierre B. Burden	Albuquerque	New Mexico	Mid-Central
Mrs. Angela B. Childers	Newburgh	Indiana	Central
Mr. Sean Dudley	Alexander	Arkansas	Mid-South
Rev. Lester S. Eaton	Sedgwick	Maine	New England
Rev. Thomas W. Elliott	Edwardsville	Illinois	Central
Rev. Thomas Douglas Elliott	Troy	Illinois	Central
Bishop Daniel Evans	Fishers	Indiana	Central
Mr. Michael S. Evans	Vincennes	Indiana	Central
Mr. Daniel Feller	Evansville	Indiana	Central
Mr. Marquis C. Fleming	San Antonio	Texas	Mid-Central
Mr. Matthew D. Frankic	Evansville	Indiana	Central
Rev. Adrienne R. Hernandez	Rockford	Illinois	Central
Rev. Jarrod Holiman	Yuma	Arizona	Western
Rev. David Morris Latham	Tuscaloosa	Alabama	Mid-South
Rev. Jeffrey S. Marton	Perryopolis	Pennsylvania	New England
Rev. Lawrence Raymond Murray	Sterling	Alaska	Mountain
Mr. Philip Jason Nottingham	Rockwell	Texas	Mid-Central
Rev. Alston Dana Roland Oliver	Old Town	Maine	New England
Rev. Philip V. Palser	Eau Claire	Wisconsin	North Central
Rev. Victorine M. Palser	Eau Claire	Wisconsin	North Central
Mr. Luis Fernando Rios	San Jacinto	California	Western
Rev. David A. Spurlock	Niles	Michigan	East Central
Ms. Jennifer S. Warner	Hayward	Wisconsin	North Central

Merry Medicine from **Pastor David Slinger, Crystal River, Florida**



A young boy called the pastor of a local "corner" church to ask the pastor to come by to pray for his mother who had been very ill with the flu. The pastor knew the family and was aware they had been attending another church down the road.

So the pastor asked, "Shouldn't you be asking Brother Simon down the road to come by to pray with your mom?"

The young boy replied, "Yeah, but we didn't want to take the chance that he might catch whatever this is that Mom has."

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EDITOR

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