

Evangelism Update 03-05-06

This newsletter has been formatted for HTML capable email clients (like Outlook Express, Thunderbird, or Hotmail). If you're using a text-only email client, I suggest reading the Evangelism Update at the online archive: www.fool4given.com/evangelismupdate.htm

Note from Jim:

KLOVE (the national Christian radio network) has approved our ministry's post on their Events page! Look under Oregon - Grants Pass.

<http://www.klove.com/Interact/Events.aspx>

I spoke to the Regional Manager and he said the best thing was to post it for eight weeks at a time (since the Basic Training Course runs eight weeks if we get people interested). I plan to just resubmit each time it comes up. Also, as he suggested, this allows me to change the post which catches more attention than the same static announcement running months at a time.

Scripture of the Week:

"Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son." (John 3:18, NIV)

Quote of the Week:

"Would that God would make hell so real to us that we cannot rest; heaven so real that we must have men there." (J. Hudson Taylor)

Evangelism Resource:

The best way to answer the question, "How should we evangelize?" is to find the answer to another question ... "What Did Jesus Do?"

[Click here](#) for a free download of the book entitled **What Did Jesus Do?**

Three chapters of this book are devoted to Jesus and His use of the Ten Commandments to reach the lost. Two chapters are devoted to Paul's evangelistic use of the Law. Paul imitated Jesus. So did Stephen, James, Peter, John the Baptist, and Jude. So did Spurgeon, Wesley, Whitefield, and others down through the ages. Each of these men of God did what Jesus did: they used the Law to reach the lost.



Requires free [Adobe Reader](#).

Questions & Objections:

O. My God is not a God of judgment. Jesus taught about love and mercy. He'd never send anyone to hell.

A. In our van at Reignite, we got to talking about those of us that had been false converts and what were some things that someone might have said to shake us up or break through our self-delusions.

I'd commented that one issue I had was seeing Jesus as love-love-love. God of the Old Testament was perhaps the harsh judge that brought plagues, killed the first born and did other heavy-handed things. However, that all changed with Jesus coming in the New Testament, and now it was all about His love and just lovin' the way He loves us. I didn't rectify the two. Even though I acknowledged the Trinity, in my own mind I'd created graven images that pulled them into two separate beings (not sure where I had put the Holy Spirit in all of this) and further I had Jesus supersede or replace the God of the Old Testament.

My world was rocked when I read this scripture:

Then everyone -- the kings of the earth, the rulers, the generals, the wealthy, the powerful, and every slave and free person -- all hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains. And they cried to the mountains and the rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of the one who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb. For the great day of their wrath has come, and who is able to survive?" (Revelation 6:15-17, NLT)

This is a powerful passage to pull out when someone just waves off God's judgment and mistakenly gambles that He'll just be loving, forgiving and kind. Even more so when they push it to Jesus being all-loving. When they insist that Jesus wouldn't judge, that He's understanding and forgiving, ask them who the Lamb is and then show them this verse (have them read it out loud themselves if you're able).

The very Lamb that was sacrificed on the cross will Himself be sitting on the Judgment Seat on that Day of Wrath (see Romans 2:5 and Acts 17:31). What excuse will you offer Him then? That His sacrifice wasn't good enough? That your good deeds outweigh your bad? You just figured you could explain? It's an eye opener.

By the way, the simple answer to the objection above is "You're right. Your god wouldn't send anyone to hell, because he can't. He doesn't exist. He's a figment of your imagination. You've created a god in your own mind that you're more comfortable with. You may call it 'your own beliefs', but it's called idolatry and it's the oldest sin in the book."

Weekly "Fishing" Update:

It was a gloomy, windy day on Saturday which meant fewer people were out. I was still able to give out over 100 tracts ([Million Dollar Bills](#) and [Curved Illusion](#)). No one really wanted to stop or talk, so I didn't get in on any one-2-ones. However, what I want to share from yesterday is something else that happened.

I'd stopped to sit on a bench. I'll admit I was a little discouraged. Greg had to work, so I was on my own. I sat looking at the quasi-empty streets, watching the handful of people milling about. I was pretty much praying for God to keep me going ... to further open me in compassion and grow my a heart for the lost. Shortly after that my mobile phone rang. It was a former friend that I hadn't really talked to in almost two years. She and her husband had told us (with expletives) to get out of their lives after Kelly and I came to Christ. She was in tears. I couldn't really talk to her through the sobs, but I learned she had just called to tell me her mother (Nancy) died that day. Kelly and I had remained friends with her mother and step-dad, and she felt I should know.

It left me in a daze. This was honestly the first person I knew that had died since I'd come to Christ. Nancy and Bob were friends of ours that had carried over from my drug and occult days. They were accepting of me being a Christian, and I'd taken the opportunity to witness to them on different occasions. I'd talked with her one-2-one.

At different times, I'd given her tracts and a [Greatest Gamble](#) DVD. Nancy even took a Bible from me at one point and said she was reading it. However, judging by the continued fruit in her life, I sadly can't say that Nancy ever came to Christ: heavy marijuana use, her pagan ties and circle of friends, she'd also started studying with Mormons. Now, I hadn't heard from her in a few weeks and I've told myself the usual platitudes: I can't know her heart or what really happened before she died. However, I have my natural concerns that she died in her sins.

I have a heavy heart. It's one thing to be open air preaching or talking one-2-one with someone about the reality of eternity and the judgment. It's quite another to now experience the death of a friend and know they've quite possibly passed into Hell. I pray this inspires you and impresses upon you the sober task we've been called to in the Great Commission. I don't want to waste this experience and I pray God uses it to foster even further compassion in me for the lost. May he make me ever more aware of the fleeting time each person has here on earth and that I may never have that second chance to talk with someone and share with them the Gospel of Salvation.

Prayer Points:

- The flu is present in our home. Kelly has lingering effects from it and I've got stomach pains and other flu symptoms. Please pray it's lifted and God will lay His healing hand on us.
 - "The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields." (Matthew 9:37-38, NLT)
 - I'm working with another GNN Local Leader to organize a two day mini-EBC here in Southern Oregon in July. Please pray, if it is God's will, that we'll find blessing and favor in coordinating this event.
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Calendar:

- **Mini-EBC - Southern Oregon**
Grants Pass, OR / July 21-23
[Click here](#) for the event flyer.
- **Downtown Fishing Hole** (Recurring)
Street witnessing each Saturday (3 pm to 5:30 pm) downtown along 6th Street. Meet in the Budget Internet parking lot (4th St & F St).
- **DMV O/A** (Recurring)
Open Air preaching Wednesdays at 8:40 am to the people waiting for the DMV doors to open.

If you would like to join us, [click here](#) to send us your contact info.

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May Jesus receive the glory He is due!

'til the nets are full...