

The Revivalist

F I N A L H O U R M I N I S T R I E S

(A M I N I S T R Y O F T H E R I V E R ' S E D G E C H U R C H)

THERE IS NOT
ROOM FOR
DEATH,
NOR ATOM THAT
HIS MIGHT COULD
RENDER VOID:
THOU - THOU ART
BEING AND
BREATH,
AND WHAT THOU
ART MAY NEVER
BE DESTROYED.

EMILY BRONTE

P A G A N I N F L U E N C E

NJB 1 Corinthians 9:22 To the weak, I made myself weak, to win the weak. I accommodated myself to people in all kinds of different situations, so that by all possible means I might bring some to salvation.

I have the tendency to believe that Saint Paul set the stage in this verse for things to come in the following centuries of Christianity, in particular the adaptation of pagan customs and events for use within the Church.

While his intent was only holy, the intent of the Church in later times may certainly be questioned. Nonetheless we adopted, and adapted and now we have our Easter

and our Christmas, among a host of other days on the Church calendar, but I am not really a critic these days, at least I try not to be. Unless the Lord rails against something, I hardly think I should waste my time railing against it. He criticizes plenty, so I think I can stay busy.

All this being said, forget about Easter pagan origins, if you are informed enough to even know about them at all, and concentrate on what we Christians have taken to heart. The customs of the pagans lay in obscurity, but the account of the resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth will be told and re-told by millions of ministers, and lay members alike in the coming days, and for this I can truly give thanks.

Remember that our heavenly Father so often takes the things that appear to be evil to us, and turns them around. After all, look at Saint Paul, who traveled to Damascus as Saul of Tarsus, with intent to do harm, only to become the greatest benefactor of Christianity.

Tony Dingess



The Garden Tomb in Jerusalem

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A T H A N K F U L H E A R T

Darlene and I would especially like to give thanks to those who have committed to this labor and everyone who attended our first public service on March the 9th.

Sister Marti has written a wonderful piece on our first unofficial service, which was simply a private gathering in a place that needed some tender care, so I will let that piece speak for all of us, but we do

want to offer thanks to the Father above for family and friends, and of course our family in Jesus Christ.

This work can only be built with "living stones," and only by our giving ear to the Architect of all creation. This is indeed our goal, that is to fashion a holy habitation for the Spirit of God, and this we can do, if men and women will listen to what God speaks to

the depths of their hearts.

Our prayer for the dear men, women and children who will come to this place is simply that they would abandon their own ambition, that God's desire may rule and reign in their lives. To Him be the glory through all ages.

Tony & Darlene Dingess

THE RIVER'S EDGE - A VOICE TO BE HEARD

The River's Edge Church had its first service on March 2nd, and it was wonderful. Our grateful hearts spent much of the morning giving thanks and praise to God. Standing in awe of what He **has** done and what He **is** going to do. I for one can't wait.

Acts 16 tells of Paul's call to Macedonia. It also tells us that after they arrived in that city, on the Sabbath they went out by a river side. They went out by the river's edge "where prayer was wont to be made".

The Vulgate Latin version states "where there seemed to be prayer". The Syriac version reads "for there was seen an house of prayer". The Arabic version states "we went out to a certain place, which was thought to be a place of prayer".

They were gathered outside the city in a place of prayer, a small congregation becoming the first converted in Macedonia.

Try to convince some churches today that prayer equals awakening. Dare I say it may even lead to revival.

Phoebe Palmer and her sister held women's prayer meetings every Tuesday afternoon. After nearly six years, word of these successful meetings inspired like meetings around the country. This brought many Christians of different denominations together to pray. Any idea what occurred next? That's right! Nationwide prayer meetings and approximately 25,000 people converted. Phoebe became known as mother of the

holiness movement.

Bertha Smith served the people of China for 40 years. She challenged her brothers and sisters in the states to long for the kind of

At the very heart of revival is the spirit of prayer.

Arthur Wallis

revival she had been experiencing in China. When Miss Bertha petitioned the throne of God in prayer, everyone could feel His magnificent presence. Mind you this only happens when you are on the river's edge or in the river itself.

Revelation 22:1-2 (KJV) And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

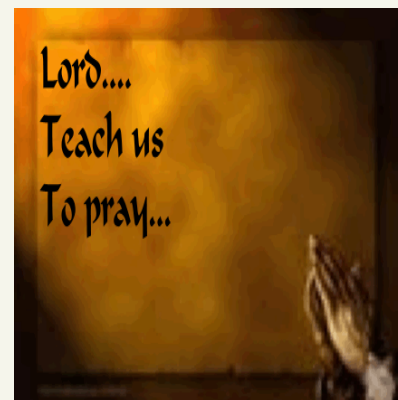
February 4, 2006 a tongue and interpretation was given while we

were gathered to pray. In part the Lord spoke: "Only place yourself. Only place yourself in the midst of that river that flows from My throne. In the midst of that river and allow yourself to be carried away with the current of my presence".

Almost exactly two years later we find ourselves at The River's Edge. We are only just beginning to get our feet wet, just starting to wade out into the water, listening to the Spirit of the Lord as to where and how to step.

Knowing that revival is coming, and that time is of the essence. So it is with prayerful and grateful hearts that it begins.....

Marti Dolin



HEAR THE BELLS RINGING!

I seldom think of Easter for very long before my mind hears the words penned by Keith Green in his song titled simply "Easter Song."

"Hear the bells ringing, they're singing, that you can be born again. Hear the bells ringing they're singing Christ is risen from the dead."

Keith's beautiful voice carried the message of the resurrection quite profoundly in this song and I can never listen without joy rising to the surface.

This is truly what the heart of Easter is all about: joy! Without the resurrection of Jesus Christ there is nothing in the world but despair and misery. It just can't be comprehended. Oh I know, you could have converted to Judaism and had some hope as a Gentile, hoping that you could observe the Law with enough rigor and devotion that you could possibly attain to the resurrection of the righteous, and yes the Jews are still hoping this, but any casual student of the Bible, both Old and New will realize that no Jew keeps the Law of Moses in this day and age.

It isn't anti-Semitic, it is simply the truth; observance of the Mosaic laws have been virtually impossible since the destruction of the Temple in 70 A.D. I am also aware that the rabbis have taught that it is still possible to be a faithful and devout Jew without the Temple, or without animal sacrifice, but this is exactly what Jesus condemned them for in His own day. He used the words of their own prophet Isaiah to rebuke them for teaching "in vain" the tra-

ditions of men, thus making the word of God to no effect.

How can anyone believe that they can keep the Law faithfully without a Temple, which the Law prescribed you had to travel to three times a year, or without sacrificing animals which just so

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happened to be a very central part of the whole Law.

Only when you see and understand how absolutely hopeless the situation was without the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus; well only then can you even think about experiencing true and substantial joy.

It may be mocked, it may be ridiculed as being the belief of infantile intellects, but the resurrection has reached out and transformed folks from every walk of life imaginable. From emperors to vagabonds, from wanton harlots to desperate mothers, there has been no boundary that has not been crossed. Arguably, many of the greatest minds (consider Milton, Pascal, Kierkegaard, Augustine and Aquinas) that ever expressed themselves have fallen prey to the joy of the resurrection, so hopeless is the



Keith Green's joyous faith in the resurrection of Christ influenced my life, though he had died a tragic death at the age of 28, 4 years before my own conversion in 1986.

man that tosses the doctrine on the doorstep of the ignorant.

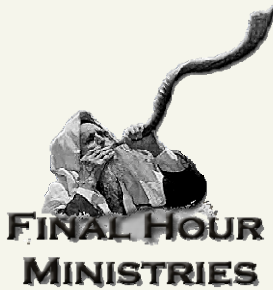
While I may find myself furious over stupid bunnies and trees decorated with eggs, the Father has enabled me to descend into that great well, so deep, so immense, and so wondrously full of joy that words can never tell the story.

You may question my emotional "happiness" when I don't smile, but I have news for everyone out there; this thing is far more transforming than a "frown turned upside down."

Joy to the world, He has risen, Hallelujah!

Tony Dingess

WE ARE ON THE WEB AT:
WWW.THE-REVIVALIST.COM



PO Box 238
Peach Creek, WV 25639

Phone:304-752-1361

Phone:304-752-0583

E-mail:

Marti: martidolin@hotmail.com

Dave: rotdog62@hotmail.com

Tony: tony@alaskahunts.net

Darlene: darlene@alaskahunts.net

Awake...and God shall give you light!

Final Hour Ministries is a revival focused ministry praying for the return of the presence of God to the Church in holiness and awesome majesty. We believe that this last day shall be more astonishing than the day of the Book of Acts, and we believe in praying until we experience it!

Final Hour Ministries is comprised of Tony and Darlene Dingess, Dave Hicks and Marti Dolin, and is an integral part of *The River's Edge Church*.

Please keep us in your prayers as we respond in obedience to the Spirit of God's instruction to raise up a church that will be focused on the forgotten mandate "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

ARE YOU A GOD SEEKER ?

This newsletter was sent to you because we heard you were a God seeker.

If you want more-it will be coming; that you can be sure of.

If you don't, just let us know.

Above all, know that we love you.

The River's Edge Church is located on State Rt. 10, 2.8 miles north of Giovanni's Restaurant in Chapmanville. The building was formerly the Stone Branch Church of God.

Services times are:

Sunday 10:30 AM, Church & Communion

Thursday 6:00 PM, Church

Saturday 11 AM, Prayer for Revival

Our Lord is coming!