



Church of the Open Bible

(Church of God General Conference, Atlanta GA)

689 Adams St / Bedford Ohio 44146-3715

Email: rex Cain@gmail.com / Web Site: <http://openBible.homestead.com>

Pastor Rex F. Cain / 440.232.3970 / January 20, 2008

All Believers want peace but war is what the world gets. Our beloved late Dorothy Robertson sent this to me in 2006 and I've selected it today as a strong reminder that some day, there will be no enemies or war and that, in spite of everything, we are all brothers in the human race. One day soon, we will all live in peace together.

DESTINY IS CHARACTER

By JOHN McCAIN

This is an excerpt from John McCain's *Destiny is Character* where he shares a powerful experience that occurred During his 5-1/2 years as a POW during the Viet Nam Conflict.

There was one other occasion during my imprisonment that moved me greatly as evidence of Gods transcending love. During the time I was held in solitary, I was caught, not for the first time, communicating with my dear friend in the cell next to mine. For my transgression, I was kept overnight in a punishment cell tied very tightly in ropes.

On this particular night as I sat on the stool cursing my bad luck, and straining against the painfully tightened ropes, the door suddenly opened and a young gun guard I had occasionally seen wandering around the camp entered the room. He motioned to me to remain silent by placing his finger to his lips, and then, without smiling or even looking me in the eyes, proceeded to loosen the ropes that bound me. His kind action completed, he left without uttering a word to me. As dawn approached, he returned to tighten the ropes before he finished his watch and another guard might have discovered what he had done.

In the months that followed, I occasionally saw my Good Samaritan when I was moved from one part of the prison to another. He never allowed himself a glance in my direction, much less spoke to me, until one Christmas morning, when I was briefly allowed out of my cell to stand alone in the outdoors and look up at the clear, blue

sky. As I was looking at the heavens, I became aware of him as he walked near me and then, for a moment, stood very close to me. He did not speak or smile or look at me. He just stared at the ground in front of us, and then, very casually, he used his foot to draw a cross in the dirt. We both stood looking at his work for a minute until he rubbed it out and walked away.

For just that moment I forgot all my hatred for my enemies, and all the hatred most of them felt for me. I forgot about the Jerk, and the interrogators who persecuted my friends and me. I forgot about the war, and the terrible things that war does to you. I was just one Christian venerating the cross with a fellow Christian on Christmas morning.

I saw him again occasionally. But he never looked at me or attempted to speak to me. We never worshiped together again. But I have never forgotten him or the kindness he showed me as a testament to the faith we shared. That experience helped to form my lasting appreciation for my own religious faith, and it took the faith of an enemy to reveal it to me, the faith that unites and never divides, the faith that bridges unbridgeable divisions in humanity, the faith that we are all, sinners and saints alike, children of God. I became a better man, a stronger man, a more faithful man, who, for at least a moment, could love his enemies.

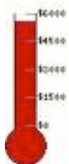
- Submitted by Dorothy Robertson, 2-24-06

Sunday School Staff & Teacher's Meeting Today

WE ARE ANTICIPATING ...

some guests today from Indiana: **Jennifer Koryta** and her mother, **Cheryl (Marsh) Koryta**. Jennifer has graciously volunteered to play her violin for us today with her mother accompanying her on the piano! Delighted to have you with us!

PAUL WEAVER, 51-year old brother of Steve Weaver, was involved in a serious motorcycle accident in Charleston SC Jan. 10th. He is in the hospital and will recover but it will be a long convalescence. He plans to spend some time with his parents near Dayton Ohio while he recuperates. Keep him in your prayers.



A THERMOMETER GRAPH on the entrance door (prepared for us by Kathy Kostyo) will keep us mindful of where we are in offsetting the new copier cost of \$1300 – an unexpected purchase not planned for in our budget. Any help you can provide

will be greatly appreciated. 689 Adams St / Bedford OH 44146. We've already had some donations come in by mail – thanks for thinking of us!

A NICE PINE TREE (30 feet tall?) couldn't take the wind and rain during the windstorm of Jan. 8th and it fell onto our neighbor's fence (no damage). Clyde came quickly the next morning and cut it up into short pieces and hauled it away. Thanks, Clyde! What would we do without you?

ANITA CAIN has provided us with another monthly book review (see below) from the book *Time Peace* by Ellen Vaughn. Thanks again, Anita, for making these available to us!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Feb. 21-24, 2008, will be a N.E. PROPHECY Conference (and Conf. business) at Brushcreek Church near Dayton with teachers: Anthony Buzzard, Bill Wachtel, Wally Winner and Arlen Rankin.

\$ SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT \$

Sociologist and evangelist Tony Campolo once spoke to a group and asked this question, "Is it a sin to own a BMW?" Then he added, "If Jesus had forty thousand dollars, would He buy a BMW or use that to feed or house the needy in the Third World?"

Wow, that's a tough one. That's the kind of question we would prefer not to even think about. One woman, however, was so struck by Campolo's talk that she wrote his ministry a check for the same amount that she paid for her new custom drapes. Her gift built *three houses in Haiti*.

PRAY FOR: Paul Weaver (motorcycle accident), Ruth Schuld (surgery), Darlene Dejak (surgery, by SMay), Anita Cain, Ken-Kathy Cramer, Jeff Stoneman (cancer, by Whaley), Terry James (cancer, by Roper), Evelyn Pennington, / Pastor Beder (cancer, Peru), Jack Hearp, Ruby Korode, Gene & Gloria Faehnrich, Edith Speer, Jacob Hinton*, Kathy Reed*, (*by Skip), W.C. & Craig Blankenship, **College students:** Andrew Weaver, Jackie Schuld, Dan & Rachel Cain (internship / teaching degree), **Shut-ins:** Evelyn Pennington **Military:** Rodger Schuld, **Those serving in other countries:** Lupe Badillo-Mexico, Tracy Zhykhovich-Russia, Beder Ucañay-Peru, Pastors in Malawi & Mozambique, Lesly Bertrand and the Pastors in Haiti. **Col-**

leges / Churches: RRCC, ABC, Golden Rule, Grace Brethren and for the peace of Jerusalem, Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6, 7

JANUARY 2008

20 Sunday School staff meeting

FEBRUARY 2008

11-15 Minister's Conference in GA / Pastor Cain plans to attend

21-24 NE Prophecy & Business Conference / Bruschreek Church near Dayton

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45A.M.

Musicians: Sharon and Mark Cain
Welcome / Announcements / Prayer

Worship Hymns: Mark Cain
413 Onward, Christian Soldiers
416 Faith Is the Victory

Prayer / Offering

Jennifer & Cheryl Koryta: Violin & Piano Duet,
"The Beautiful Garden of Prayer"

Message: Warring Within Ourselves

Key Texts: Jam 4:1-10; 2 Pet 2:13; Ex 20:3, 5, 23; 1 Jn 2:15;
Lk 15:17-19; Rom 7:21; Gen 4:7; Ps 6:6; Lk 15:19-24

Grace Greater Than Our Sin

*(See Insert in your bulletin / Violin accompaniment by
Jennifer Koryta / From Songs of Truth hymnal)*

Living Will (on the lite side)

Last night, my wife and I were sitting in the living room and I said to her, "I never want to live in a vegetative state, dependent on some machine and fluids from a bottle. If that ever happens, just pull the plug."

So she got up, unplugged the TV, and threw out my soda.

- From Doc's Daily Chuckle as seen in Omaha bulletin

BOOK REVIEW - FEBRUARY, 2008 by Anita Cain

TIME PEACE

By Ellen Vaughn

Ever wonder about things? Really wonder? About how big God is and how small we are, for instance, or about what time really is? Most of us are bound to time, feel its pressure keenly and are controlled by it. The lament that we don't have enough time is ubiquitous—yet God is timeless.

How can we, trapped in time, really connect with a God who transcends time? Moses in Psalm 90 contrasts God's eternal permanence with his own fleeting life-span. He pleads with God, "Teach me to count my days! Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may...be glad all our days!" In a culture so full of "hurry sickness" the author of this month's review book wants to know, how do we live our lives in gladness, peace and satisfaction?

Time Peace (Living Here and Now with a Timeless God) by Ellen Vaughn - Be forewarned if you read this book that you should not expect an ordinary book. You will have your mind bent, challenged, opened to new ways of looking at time by an author who writes extraordinarily well.

"Anxiety about time and schedules can shape our lives, narrow our relationships, and deaden our days." One of the most fundamental distinctions of real Christianity, she says, is peace. Peace should define us. If instead, we are defined by hurry and rush, maybe we should take a closer look at how we live our lives. Could it be, as A. W. Tozer has said, "Secularism, materialism, and the intrusive presence of things have put out the light in our souls and turned us into a generation of zombies?" To dull the pain of that deadening march of time, millions of people medicate themselves with whatever it takes—wine, work, food, sex, power, possessions, busyness, fame. But none of it works. The author suggests that since God is unhindered and unperplexed by time, we who believe in Him can be free to live in absolute peace in time. Since God gave us eternal life, our perspective of time can be radically different.

We do not have to live in an outwardly productive, but inwardly withering, obsession with time.