



Let my people go!
Ministry of Cpt. Gordon Nelson
The Old Ship of Zion
Only believers are
"content with such things as ye have"
(Heb. 13:58)
A Christian-Zionist Publication

MESSAGE 6 - 2005

"ART THOU HE THAT TROUBLETH ISRAEL?"

By Captain Gordon F. Nelson

"And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth (disturbs or afflicts) Israel?" (1 Ki. 18:17)

The northern kingdom of Israel, given to Jeroboam by Solomon, had a succession of wicked kings, chief of whom was Ahab's father, Omri. *"But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all (the wicked kings) that were before him."* (1 Ki. 16:25)

"And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him....(Ahab) took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him" (1 Ki. 16:30-33), which included his father, Omri.

Wickedness provokes God to send a prophet

It is in this kind of environment, created by a series of wicked kings over Israel, with the wickedest of them all, King Ahab, that God sends a prophet. Ahab then popped the question to Elijah, *"Are thou he that troubleth Israel?"*

Tom and Bebe Patten sell our church

I'm sure the staff of Patten University in Oakland would accuse me of being a troublemaker also. At my final attendance at our church, held at the City Club Hotel, Tom Patten, alias the Kingfish, came to me in the balcony section of the church and tried to get me to go to the altar and repent. At this same meeting, Dr. Bebe Patten called me Judas, publicly, as having put my hand in the sop by going to the District Attorney over the sale of our church to the Moose Lodge, netting the Patten's \$250,000 profit above the original purchase price. In 1945, that was a lot of money. I didn't believe anyone should have the authority to sell God's house without the knowledge of anyone in the church but the Patten's. I was receiving a real education.

I answered Tom Patten, just as you'll hear Elijah's response to King Ahab's question, *"Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"* I told the Kingfish that he was the one that needed to go to the altar and repent. I wasn't the one that sold the church he promised would never be sold. In fact, he said he had it fixed to where he couldn't sell the church, and the hinges would rust off the doors first, before he ever sold it! To top it off, Brother Patten added insult to injury after the Oakland Tribune published the sale of the City Club Hotel to the Moose Lodge. From the platform, Patten accused the Oakland Tribune of lying! "The

news media is persecuting the Christians!” he said. We all believed him. I told him to his face, “You’re the one that needs to go to the altar!”

After that, Patten was explaining to the twin Hunter brothers how I had “buncoed” on him. I had never heard the word “buncoed” until a Pentecostal preacher used the word in describing my visit to the District Attorney’s office. “When I was in the world I’d have shot a man for less than what Gordon has done to me!” he ranted to the Hunter twins. I could hear him as I was sitting in the balcony as he screamed, “Gordon’s buncoed on me!”

“Thou hast followed Baalim”

Similarly, the wicked King Ahab is upset with Elijah. Elijah’s response in self-defense is, *“I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.”* (1 Ki. 18:18)

There are only two gods! You are either serving “the mammon god,” Baal, or the God of the Spirit (touched only by faith). Jesus said, *“No servant can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.”* (Lk. 16:13) This is the meaning of the scripture, *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”* (Lk. 12:34) The televangelists tell you you can have them both. They are calling Jesus a liar! They say Jesus wants you prospering and getting rich *“above all things.”* (3 Jn. 1:2)

Oral Roberts, the father of the Baal prosperity movement

Oral Roberts is the father of the modern day, so-called Prosperity Gospel. He had found the scripture, 3 John 1:2, *“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”* I’ve heard Oral Roberts tell the story several times how he and his wife, Evelyn, were in a coffee shop drinking coffee. Oral looked out the window and his eyes fell on a beautiful late model automobile across the street from the coffee shop. “Evelyn, look out the window,” he said excitedly. “Do you see that beautiful car across the street?” Evelyn, the obedient wife that she is, looked at the car and agreed it was a beauty. “Now, Evelyn, look at our old car on this side of the street. Do you think it is pleasing to God that I drive this old hack of a car? In the light of this scripture, 3 John 1:2, I’m never driving an old car again.” And he never did! With the publication of his book on “seed-faith giving,” the Prosperity Gospel was birthed.

Kenneth Copeland, the apostle of “health and wealth” gospel

Kenneth Copeland, a former student of Oral Roberts University, and the personal pilot for Oral Roberts, jumped on this bandwagon and became its chief spokesman. As apostle of the “Health and Wealth Gospel,” Copeland took Oral Roberts’ eye opening doctrine one-step further into the “gab it and grab it” and “name it and claim it” arena of Positive Confession. From this base, Kenneth Copeland and Kenneth Hagin became the apostles of creating “little gods” by promoting the works of Everett W. Kenyon. His voluminous sets of books represent the Bible for you to attain to “little god” status. Benny Hinn’s associates were the “little god” fraternity of preachers whose captain was Kenneth Copeland,

prior to Hinn joining the Assemblies of God. “Why everyone is doing it!” was Benny Hinn’s response to Christian Research Institute’s Hank Hanegraaff when asked why he was a “little god.”

Summarizes 2,000 years of church history in one sentence

“In an recent issue of the Watchman’s Ministries International newsletter published by Lars Enarson in Jerusalem, he said that someone had pointedly summarized two thousand years of Church history in one sentence: ‘The church began as a Jewish movement in Jerusalem, became a philosophy in Greece, an institution in Rome, a culture in Europe, and a business in America.’

Recently, the number one televangelist in America came to Dallas to speak at the city’s largest arena. He charged \$25 a person to attend! When interviewed on local TV, he was asked the secret of his popularity. He responded, ‘It all has to do with the fact I preach an uplifting positive message. I try to make people feel good about themselves.’

This man is not a true biblical preacher. He is a positive-thinking motivational speaker. He is unwilling to tell people that they are miserable sinners who desperately need redemption and that they can find that redemption only by surrendering their petty egos to the Lordship of Jesus Christ.

The good news is not that we can feel good about ourselves through the power of positive thinking. Rather, the good news, the true Gospel, is that Jesus died for our sins, making it possible through the grace of God for us to be reconciled to our Maker.” ¹

Pentecostalism reduced to a business through these family-owned incorporations

The Pentecostal religion has been reduced to a business through the tremendous cost involved for airtime to appear on television. I am confident that none of the twelve apostles possessed the talent, or the entertainment qualification, to captivate a consistent base of “partners” to be a televangelist in America today. Everyone seems to understand this, hence realize we can’t go by the script and reach the world. The end justifies the means! Whatever it takes! Join in, and become a member of whatever to accomplish the task. *“And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a WITNESS unto all nations; and then shall the end come.”* (Matt. 24:14)

In the parable of the five wise and five foolish virgins, the foolish were instructed to go and see the entrepreneurs of the gospel, those selling their wares to buy television time. I really believe the church has not grasped the full meaning of this parable. The wise virgins may have benefited from those that “sell and buy,” but they were ready because they had returned to the scriptural sheepfold, the local church with a brotherhood as overseers.

You need to support your local body of believers. We preach against owning credit cards, but how about covenants. Swearing oaths is condemned in the Bible by Jesus, *“Swear not at all.”* (Matt. 5:34)

The Virgin Mary of the “Seller’s and Buyer’s Electronic Church of the Air”

Tammy Faye learns she’s more than ‘just eyelashes’

LANCASTER, S.C. • Former televangelist **Tammy Faye Messner** says losing her trademark eyelashes during her struggle with cancer was a liberating experience.

¹ Lamplighter – May/June 2005

"I realized I wasn't just eyelashes," said Messner, adding that she glued on false ones.

Messner was diagnosed with colon cancer nearly a decade ago and last year announced that the disease has spread to her lungs. Messner said she cannot say she's cancer-free and has scans every three months.

Messner was a celebrity judge for a beauty pageant where men dressed as women Thursday at Lancaster High School the event raised money for the American Cancer Society.



Witnesses are called into a court of law. The Bible says, *"And if a man also strive for masteries (Paul Crouch's vision for worldwide Christian television), yet is he not crowned, except he strive lawfully."* (2 Tim. 2:5) As witnesses, we will see the end of the matter.

Christians built Yale, Harvard and most of the universities that exist in America. Any of you who saw the movie, Hawaii, know the story of the first missionaries who went to Hawaii to preach the gospel. They were ordained by the Harvard University, sent out, and financially assisted to establish the church in Hawaii. Today, these same schools are schools of infidelity and home for fraternal organizations like the Freemasons and Skull and Bones.

Is this "worldwide Christian television" another Harvard, paid for by Christians? In reality, are Christians paying for the red carpet that will allow the Antichrist to walk on into the hearts of believers? Is this the only god you pay homage to? Are you "in covenant" with some televangelist? Do you pay homage to "the god of the boob tube"?

"Swear not at all!" (Matt. 5:34)

This is Old Testament teaching of "forswearing thyself," or swearing by oaths or covenants. *"That which is gone out of thy lips thou shalt keep and perform; even a freewill offering, according as thou hast vowed unto the LORD thy God, which thou hast promised with thy mouth."* (Deu. 23:23) Jesus said, "STOP IT!" Don't do it! *"Neither shalt thou swear by thy head, because thou canst not make one hair white or black."* (Matt. 5:36)

Once you make "another covenant," it becomes the leaven that obligates you to do the whole law. (Jas. 2:10) It brings one under condemnation because, *"a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump."* (Gal. 5:9)

"Enter in at the strait gate"

The Bible teaches us, *"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."* (Matt. 7:13-14)

"Because strait is the gate." This is referring to the captain of the ship being straight! *"Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch."* (Matt. 15:14)

Dr. Jay Grimstead, founder of Coalition on Revival (COR), with close ties to the Shepherding Movement, has pastors make a "Solemn Covenant" with God to establish a theocracy in place of a

democracy. This is unconstitutional according to our own Constitution, which doesn't recognize these Patriot pastors to bind themselves to each other to live by its terms until death, natural or martyred. Then, too, they use "the covenant" as a means to indoctrinate new believers with COR's brand of Christianity.

Has your "gate" signed the "Manifesto-Covenant" and made a "Solemn Covenant" to live by the terms of the Manifesto until death, natural or martyred, or are you like an ostrich sticking his head in the sand hoping it will all go away?

My Lord delayeth His coming

These are folks that have been deceived by the Darby-Scofield school of theology. They have become confused as to when He is coming and have said in their heart, *"My lord delayeth his coming."* (Lk. 12:45) We must take things into our own hands and save ourselves by use of violence, if necessary, through "Dominion Now." Did Jay Grimstead, COR founder, learn his Dominion Now theology taught at Fuller Theological Seminary to establish a theonomic political state?

"For they have sown the wind (John Darby seed), and they shall reap the whirlwind: it hath no stalk: the bud shall yield no meal: if so be it yield, the strangers shall swallow it up." (Hos. 8:7) The strangers are the Dominion Now crowd, and they are leading the youth to be political activists on the right. According to Dominion Now, Jesus cannot come until we deliver the kingdoms of this earth over to Jesus Christ. Lamplighter, a publication of the "Lamb & Lion Ministries," is of this persuasion. Dr. David R. Reagan is a "post-trib" preacher, a kissing cousin of Dominion Now.

If you'll carefully read Revelation 11:15-19 in context, you'll see that they have distorted the truth. First of all, please note the entire scene is in heaven. COR political activists are here on earth. COR preachers have been permitted to preach at Jerry Falwell's Liberty University. Falwell never signed any pledge, but he has also not opened his mouth in defiance. Why? Dominion Now theology represents the money on the right, just as George Soros and Howard Dean represent money for the left wing political agenda on the left.

"Lift up your heads, O ye gates"

"Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in." (Ps. 24:7) Jesus said He was a door! *"I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture (spiritual sustenance in time of a famine)."* (Jn. 10:9) If Jesus can be a door, why can't the captain be a gate?

"Who is this King of glory? The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah." (Ps. 24:8-10)

After these scriptures, perhaps Psalm 100 may have a new meaning for you. *"Enter into HIS GATES (where the elders rule – 1 Tim. 5:17) with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name."* (Ps. 100:4) Put away this idolatrous worship of E.W. Kenyon's "little god" theology. It is divisive because all must bow to a "god," the pastor who owns the church, lock, stock and

barrel and collection plate. The King of glory will no longer come in through a single gate. It takes two to make a proper gate.

“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter (Petros, a pebble stone), and upon this rock (governing body of 13) I will build my church; and THE GATES of hell shall not prevail against it.” (Matt. 16:18) Do you know now who the “gates of hell” are? They are the false prophets and teachers that surround us now. There are no gates to hell that you have to worry about after you’re dead. The demon spirits that come to get you upon death know how to take you directly to that place of torment.

Dominion Now theology the same as Nimrod’s Tower

The Dominion Now theology is a fulfillment of Bible prophecy. *“And as it was in the days of Noe, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man.”* (Lk. 17:26) The Bible plainly teaches us, *“For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ.”* (1 Thes. 5:9) This is where the element of faith in God’s Word comes in. You must believe, *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.”* (Eph. 2:8) It is a faith in which those who *“endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.”* (Matt. 24:13)

Dominion Now is exactly like Nimrod who was fearful that God would send another flood the next time He became angry with earthlings. It was Nimrod’s unbelief that built the Tower of Babel. The movie, The Bible, depicts this scene beautifully. Man’s effort to save himself from an angry God is what the Tower of Babel represented. Dominion Now represents fear of what God is permitting man to go through. Man must take matters into his own hands because *“The Lord delayeth his coming!”* (Lk. 12:45)

Do you know who are the first people listed to go into the lake of fire? It is “the fearful and unbelieving” (Christians). (Rev. 21:8) Unbelievers are incapable of any kind of faith. They have none.

Elijah, the prophet of “no recourse,” a Tishbite

Elijah appears on the scene unexpectedly. I am sure Ahab wasn’t expecting any strange visitor that morning. All we know from scripture about Elijah is that he was a Tishbite (meaning recourse) from a province in Gilead. “Without recourse” is a legal term. It really means when you run into an Elijah-type ministry, there is no recourse. Ananias and Sapphira, his wife, held back some money they vowed to give to the church upon the sale of their property. (Acts. 5:1-11) Peter said they lied to the Holy Ghost. There was no recourse!

Can you imagine this “no recourse” Elijah stepping to the plate and speaking in King Ahab’s face, *“As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, BUT ACCORDING TO MY WORD.”* (1 Ki. 17:1) The heavens will be shut down as far as any more rain, until he gives the word.

Do you think one of your gurus of the Positive Confession movement can “work the faith” to equal Elijah’s confession? God even got concerned about the audacity of Elijah—You better go hide out! I know what this hiding out is all about after you take a bold stand for God. The Ahab’s will seek your

life. God told Elijah to get out of here! *“Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.”* (1 Ki. 17:3)

Captain hides for his life

After “buncoeing” on the Kingfish by visiting the D.A.’s office, I had to hide for my life. Tom Patten would come to my father every other day pleading with him. “Please get that son of yours to back off. I have a brother, “Rooster,” from the Tennessee hills with scars all over his body from knife fights. I don’t know what Rooster will do to your son, Gordon.”

It is times like this you know what you have to do, your life is at stake, and you’d better know that “still small voice.” God told Elijah to hide out at the brook Cherith. Don’t worry about the food. *“And the ravens brought him bread and flesh in the morning, and bread and flesh in the evening; and he drank of the brook.”* (1 Ki. 17:6) *“My God shall supply all your need”* (Phil. 4:19), not your wants.

Apostle Paul glories in tribulation, not applause

This is the type of thing Apostle Paul gloried in. *“Are they Hebrews? so am I. Are they Israelites? so am I. Are they the seed of Abraham? so am I. Are they ministers of Christ? (I speak as a fool) I am more; in labours more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequent, in deaths oft.”* (2 Cor. 11:22-23)

Have you ever been beaten with rods? Paul remembered the number of times—thrice! Have you been accused of being an arsonist, burning down the Patten’s home? I talked to the woman next door and she saw the man who burnt the house. She described him to me and the description fit Jerry Cage, who always wore a gray suit. I told the Kingfish this to his face. Jerry Cage was like Tom’s shadow.

Twice I had sugar put in the gas tank of my car. I had to move to Sutter Creek, Calif. after the second shot of sugar. Your motor turns black, and everything stops!

Sure enough, Tom Patten’s warnings came alive. A hit and run driver came from nowhere when the Patten trial was pending at the Grand Jury level. It came right at me as I was carrying my young son. If a car wasn’t coming from the opposite direction at that very minute, Rooster would have got me and my son. I leaped to where I had a car in front of me and Rooster, Patten’s brother, behind me. It so happened I leaped so I had cars missing me by a half inch coming from the opposite directions. Rooster knew he’d be involved in a head on collision from which he couldn’t escape by killing me on East 14th Street in Oakland, Calif. These are my stripes! *“Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one.”* (2 Cor. 11:24)

My wife wasn’t quite as fortunate. Walking behind me, she was hit by Rooster’s car. The sound was like a cannon, and I saw my wife making complete somersaults in the air before she landed on earth again, 62 feet from the crosswalk. Rooster later died in a head on collision, driving his bike. *“If I must needs glory, I will glory of the things which concern mine infirmities* (afflictions on my own body that I suffered and carry with me).” (2 Cor. 11:30)

Have you had the student body president call a special prayer meeting for God to kill you? I once proposed marriage to Lynda Galovich, and now she is calling fire down out of heaven for God to kill me because she believes the Patten report that I'm an arsonist. Who knows, she thought, he may burn our school down next? To think I once proposed marriage to this woman and she accepted. I announced our engagement over Patten's morning radio broadcast. Dr. Patten almost ran her car off the road after hearing that announcement. I'm deeply indebted to Dr. Patten for saving my life by her interference, sparing one of her darlings from marrying me.

"I bear in my body the marks of the Lord"

Have you ever had a rock with a rose tied around it thrown through your living room window at the stroke of midnight? We first received a phone call to make sure we were awake. This is what Paul means when he says, *"From henceforth let no man trouble me (unless you've been beaten with rods thrice, etc., etc.): for I bear IN MY BODY THE MARKS of the Lord Jesus."* (Gal. 6:17)

The church never forgets THE MARKS in Jesus Christ's body, but can't believe in anyone else having "marks." Jesus could have escaped those marks had He not messed with the gold of the temple. *"And he found in the temple those that sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the changers of money sitting: and when he had made a scourge of small cords (the Roman whip), he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured (spilled) out the changer's money, and overthrew the tables; and said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father's house an house of merchandise."* (Jn. 2:14-16)

"Whether is greater, the gold, or the temple?"

It was from that hour, *"the chief priests and the scribes, and the chief of the people sought to destroy him (put marks on his body)."* (Lk. 19:47) It is when you interrupt the merchandizing in the house of prayer that you'll meet the pontiff who owns the gold.

"Woe unto you, ye blind guides, which say, Whosoever shall swear by the temple, it is nothing; but whosoever shall swear by the gold of the temple, he is a debtor (obligated to pay your vow you swore to pay when you raised your hand while Kingfish was taking an offering)! Ye fools and blind; for whether is greater, the gold, or the temple that sanctifieth the gold?" (Matt. 23:16-17)

To the Patten's, it was the gold. To renege on a pledge was like committing the unpardonable sin. My father made a conditional pledge, conditioned on a sale of land in Idaho. That was totally unacceptable to the Patten's. Apostle Peter even waited on Ananias and Sapphira to sell their land; but not the Patten's! The gold of the temple cannot wait: it is holy. *"Yea, and all who live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution. But evil men and seducers (imposter, wizards, muttering spell – Strong's #1114) shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived."* (2 Tim. 3:12-13)

"How long halt ye between two opinions?"

I leave you with Elijah's question to King Ahab. *"How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him (Elijah) not a word."* (1 Ki. 18:21)

It is the utter silence of people that is stunning! Are you getting accustomed to the Christian bashing so prevalent today? The Bible says, *“Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.”* (Matt. 5:12)

Christian-Bashing



Bill Maher

neurological disorder.”

Bill Maher, host of HBO's *Real Time with Bill Maher*, recently said that all Christians are crazy and unenlightened. He made his comments on MSNBC's program, *Scarborough Country*.

Maher said: “We are a nation that is unenlightened because of religion . . . I think that religion stops people from thinking. I think it justifies crazies. I think that flying planes into a building is a faith-based initiative. I think religion is a

In his rambling diatribe, Maher asserted that the European nations and Canada are much more enlightened than the United States because they are more oriented toward science and rationality. He mocked the Bible, arguing that it is “a book of fairy tales.” He called religion “a crutch for weak-minded people.”

If Maher had said such things on television about homosexuals or Jews or Blacks, he would have been immediately fired. But because he was speaking about Christians, his bigotry was acceptable to HBO, owned by Time Warner Inc.

We're one generation from being a Communist Socialist State!

My own son has this same mentality: the book of Revelation is a fairy tale, and I am crazy. What can you expect from a Fabian Socialist Thomas Dewey curriculum from the public schools?

The Democrats base the success of their party upon the next graduating class. If not this one, then the next, or the next! Like Ford cars from Detroit, they keep coming out of our public schools. The really sad part about all this is that the disciples of COR brand of Christianity, Dominion Now, will prove Bill Maher ² is right. These are coming from your Christian universities!

The plight of the hireling

This incident could well apply to many Assemblies of God churches. Why? Because Eudorus Bell, an ex-Baptist, the founder, adopted his inherited Baptist “hireling system” (democracy).

I have a question for you. How many times does Rev. Chan Chandler have to be hired and fired before he gets the *“evil thought,”* (Ezk. 38:10), “I’ve had it, the next church I pastor I will own via the Secretary of State’s non-profit religious incorporation.”

Pastor resigns after politics causes rift

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WAYNESVILLE, NC • A Baptist preacher accused of running out nine congregants who disagreed with his Republican politics resigned Tuesday, two days after calling the issue “a great misunderstanding.”

Speaking from the pulpit during a meeting at East Waynesville Baptist Church, the Rev. Chan Chandler told church members that it would “cause more hurt for me and my family” if he stayed.

“I am resigning with gratitude in my heart for all of you, particularly those of you who love me and my family,” Chandler said, adding that the dispute was rooted in his strong feelings about abortion.

Chandler's attorney, John Pavey Jr., said the pastor has not apologized for anything he said and would continue to speak out against abortion. He said the dispute inside the church had nothing to do with politics, a contention echoed Tuesday by Chandler's supporters.

“I don't believe he preached politics,” church member Rhonda Trantham said. “I don't believe anyone should tell a preacher not to preach what's in the Bible.”

But some congregants of the 100-member church in western North Carolina have said Chandler endorsed President Bush from the pulpit during last year's presidential campaign and said that anyone who planned to vote for Democratic nominee Sen. John Kerry needed to “repent or resign.”

² Lamplighter – May-June 2005