

# Jesus is our Praise

Volume II, Number 6

July/August 1989

*Letter*

## Praise ye the Lord!

Dear Saints,

Bless you in the name of the Lord!

This Brief comes two months after the last one and a lot of ground has been covered since then.

Personally, I have been to Guatemala and Nicaragua (I'll share some about that trip in the next issue). As a church we have had several visiting ministries, we've covered a teaching series on praise, the body has put out the University Christian, and we are now in the middle of an outreach to the University.

In the midst of all of this activity, the teaching on praise continues to stir in all of our hearts. This period of teaching has been more than an exercise in listening. God has been making us true worshippers. Understanding that the phrase "Praise ye the Lord" is an imperative and not a suggestion has been very helpful.

The response of the body to what the Lord has been teaching is encouraging. Ron Schwartz shared with me that praise has been alive to him in a new way. Rick Starns recently submitted a teaching on praise that I believe will bless you as you read it in this issue. Brud McGuire shared with me over the phone about how God was revealing new things to him as he studied further on raising his hands in praise to God. Person after person has shared testimony about how worshipping God has brought them into a new realm with God.

But, we are not finished. There is so much more to learn as we press on in to learn about worshipping a worthy Father Creator. We originally set aside six months to learn about praise. In the midst of all our other activity, we will continue to keep the praisers out in front of the battle so that the Lord might get His Own Victory.

We need to especially praise the Lord for victory in the outreach on campus. Please pay special attention to the articles on page 2 which update you on the Campus Evangelism Team.

Praise ye the Lord,

Billy

### In this issue:

Singles issues Pg. 2  
Campus outreach  
University Christian  
Use your home for  
hospitality evangelism

Building the vision Pg. 3  
Mexico  
Outreach to Mexico  
Pedro's letter  
Book table news

Teaching Pgs. 4-5  
Jesus is our praise

Church Family Pg. 6-7  
Imparting wisdom  
to our children  
Letter

Calendar Pg. 8

#### *Pastor's Brief*

*This newsletter is produced by Billy Henderson for members and friends of LCF. It is intended to clarify the vision of this church, as well as encourage and instruct.*

Hospitality:

## Use your home to help reach UK

You can be a part of this outreach by opening your home to college students.

We are looking for families who will open their homes on Friday or Saturday nights to provide a place for students to gather.

During these evenings, we want to provide both a place for these new people to just be together with some other singles and families.

If you would like to provide that type of ministry, here is what you would be expected to do.

First, you would open your house up on a weekend evening. During that evening you would have a video for everyone to watch together. Following the video, we would want you to have refreshments or outright food. As the time of fellowship develops around the food, we could just talk about the video and how it applied to life, or just hang around together.

Basically, we need older people to lay down their lives to father and mother new additions to the body.

To get involved, call Billy at the office.

## Preaching on Campus

Come join us as we publicly declare the Kingdom of God in the UK free speech area every Wednesday from 11:45-1:15.

*Campus outreach*

## Happenning right now

It is happening right now. This is the month that students are hitting campus and making decisions about who their friends will be and Who they are going to serve. In the midst this conglomeration of seekers, men and women from Lexington Christian Fellowship are pouring their lives out to find those marked for the Kingdom.

Jimmy and John are working north campus with Laura and Cathy. Curt and Rick are working the south campus men's dorms while Kyra and Dawn are doing both south campus women and sororities. Beth is living in the international housing apartments and is interested in reaching internationals.

There is a great expectancy as we move into this year. At the same time, there is an awareness that we need to break through in the spiritual realm through prayer and praise. The Campus Evangelism Team has one request--Please pray!

Also, as you see students come on Sunday nights, reach out to them. Take them for ice cream, take them home with you, love them. As the CET does its part to bring them in, the rest of us must do our part to keep them.

*University Christian*

## Pray for 8,000 people

If a man went from person to person sharing with individuals, spending 15 minutes with each person, he could talk to less than 8,000 people in one year. This is using a 40 hour work week, and not counting the time it would take to get from person to person.

During this first two weeks of school, we will be distributing over 8,000 copies of the University Christian. A portion of those will be read by more than one person. This means that right now, someone is probably reading the article that caught their eye in the paper.

With this intensity of reaching so many people in two weeks, it means a lot of spiritual activity is going on. I am asking everyone to spend five minutes praying for the ministry of the paper over these next four weeks.

Pray:

1. That none of the papers will be wasted.
2. That people will be open and touched by the spirit as they read.
3. That we will be able to find those God is dealing with through this time (either through them calling or us reaching them on campus).

4. That people will be saved and added into the church.

We have already received a number of calls from sincerely interested people.

This issue seems to be especially annointed and tuned into what the Lord wants to do on campus.

We are especially happy about the personal testimonies that so many wrote for the paper. Pray for those who wrote them as they use the paper as an avenue to meet and reach out to people.

# MEXICO

## Outreach update:

To date, about fifteen people have decided to be a part of the team going to Tepango and Ayutla this winter.

We were especially blessed to see a mason from Covenant Church join the team to head up the building project. His father is also a mason and has built for missionaries overseas in the past. Glory to God, his father is going too!

Already, a group is beginning to pull together to work in evangelism and several are taking Spanish classes.

In addition to the construction and evangelism team, we are also working on a cultural exchange team. A lot of people have wondered why we would waste our time with a cultural exchange team. Those people who know the way we evangelize didn't have to ask.

We desire to build relationships with the leaders of the city so that we might have open doors of ministry in the city. Also, we feel this will give Pedro a good forum to get to know them better.

The Lord is truly providing all that we need for the trip. As the time draws nearer to departure, December 27, please pray that preparations go smoothly. Also, pray that the spiritual realm will be prepared for us to have an effectual door of ministry.

## Letter from Pedro:

Dear Brother,

All of us greet you all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We thank the Lord for each one of you. It is a privilege to walk along with you in the path. You are one with us in the task and in the spirit. And we hope you will be able to come in the close future here to meet your new brothers, or spiritual sons and daughters.

Sebastain and I talked and we decided that Tepango is now a church and we are considering San Martin as a mission. In San Martin or Yivi Ndaa there are two families who are waling with us in the Lord's path. We praise the Lord for that.

Guille is about to deliver. We hope this will happen the next week.

Our hugs to each one of you. Tell the church we send our love to them.

With much love,  
Pedro, Guille, Rosalba, Obed and Monica

(Pedro followed this letter with the announcement of the birth of his fourth child born August 13. She was a girl weighing about 6 lbs. They had not given her a name at the time of the announcement.)

## Book Table

We have bought a number of resources at bulk prices in order to pass on both quality helps and savings to you. The following books, magazines, and other resources are usually available at the front of the room an Sunday nights.

### MAGAZINES

Called Out- Published quarterly by the fellowship at Columbia Missouri. \$1.00

People of Destiny- Published bimonthly by People of Destiny. \$2.00

### CURRENT BOOKS

The Subversion of Christianity by Jacques Ellul \$9.95

China Miracle by Arthur Wallis \$5.95

Progression from Passover, to Pentecost, to Tabernacles by Sergio Valeri \$.50

### ITEMS AT NO COST

Pastor's Brief

How to Manage Your Money by Larry Burkett, a monthly newsletter

University Christian

## Needed: Servants

We need two volunteers to help in cleaning Woodland Avenue Baptist Church. Call Bill John at 278-0269 if you would like to volunteer.

# JESUS IS OUR PRAISE

by Rick Starns

For the past several weeks, we at LCF have been learning of praise. Beginning in 2 Chronicles Chapter 20, we have traced the story of Jehoshaphat, King of Judah, and his response to the advancing of a great multitude of enemy against the people of Israel.

The response of Jehoshaphat and his kingdom, through praise and worship, in the face of impending destruction has established for us a pattern of victory to be followed. An avenue of praise and worship waiting to be traveled lays before us. A vast treasure-house of untapped riches in glory, in Christ Jesus, awaits us as we travel the high path of praise.

If you are in anyway like me, and I suspect you are, then you know that we have yet much to learn and a long way to go concerning praise. As we concentrate before the Lord to learn of Him, I have a great expectancy and hope that the Holy Spirit will turn on the lights for us and that we would see to walk in God's truth for us this hour.

Regarding praise, the Lord has placed some thoughts on my heart that I would like to share with you. First I would like to lay some groundwork and help to establish two concepts.

## PRAISE IS A PERSON!

Praise in its purest form, in its highest realm is a person! Don't let this get by you; reach out in the spirit and lay hold of this truth. In psalms 148:14 it is recorded: "He also exalteth the horn of his people, the praise of all his Saints."

The word used for praise here in Ps. 148:14 is hawlal. It is a word we learned the meaning of a few Sundays ago.

Hawlal - Strong's 1984 - haw-lal; a prim. root; to be clear (orig. of sound, but usually of color): to shine: hence to make a show, to boast; and thus to be (clamorously) foolish; to rave; causat. to celebrate, commend, (deal, make), fool (-ish, -ly), glory, give (light), be (make, feign self) mad (against), give in marriage, (sing, be worthy of) praise, rage, renowned, shine.

We see that praise is a celebration, the making of a show, to be clamorously foolish, but also it is a shining, a giving of light and glory. This becomes increasingly important in light of Zacharias' prophecy in Chapter One of Luke's gospel.

As his father, Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost and prophesied, saying,

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel; for he hath visited and redeemed his people,

And hath raised up a horn of salvation for us in the house of his servant David;...

Through the tender mercy of our God; whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us,

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. (Luke 1:67-69, 75-79)

Jesus IS the horn of salvation, He IS the horn of Psalm 148:14. He came to give light, to shine upon those who sit in dark-

ness. He IS the praise of all his saints!

Let's look at this another way. Who is our salvation--Jesus, who is our peace--Jesus, who is our healing--Jesus, who is our light--Jesus. Jesus is our all and in all. As we pursue Him to know Him fully, we begin to realize that He is more than just the object of our praise, He is our praise!

May I tell you something else, we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even being transformed; we are becoming praise!

Glory to God! A works oriented or legalistic mentality will not accomplish this miracle, only an impartation of grace working wholly through us by faith will bring it about. With all this in mind, let's continue:

## PRAISE SHINES FROM ZION!

In Psalm 50:2, Asaph writes, "Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God hath shined." What is Zion? An understanding of it is crucial to the understanding of the Kingdom of God. First let's look at a definition of the word.

Zion - Strong's 6726 - tsee-yoon; the same (reg.) as 6725; Tsizon (as a permanent capital), a mountain of Jerus.: - Zion.

- Strong's 6725 - tsee-yoon; from the same as 6723 in the sense of conspicuousness [comp. 5329]; a monumental or guiding pillar; - sign, title, waymark.

Zion - T.W.O.T. 1910 - Zion is the fortified mound between the Kidron and the Tyrap-ean Valleys that David captured from the Jebusites (II Sam. 5:7). Subsequently, it became known as the city of David. With the building of the temple to the north, that hill later became known as Mount

(Continued on next page)

Zion. Zion may even refer specifically to the temple vicinity or more generally to Jerusalem itself; sometimes it included the entire nation, the covenant community itself (Isa. 1:27, Ps 97:8). It seldom refers to the political capital of Judah, but much more often stands for the city of God in the new age.

Simply and practically speaking, Zion, the City of God, is where the throne of God is eternally established. Zion is the dwelling place of God. Zion is where the tabernacle rests in peace, where praise is made perfect, it is the hope of the destitute and groaning prisoner. In Zion, the Lord is known in greatness. (Ps. 2:6, 87:5, 9:11, 9:14, 65:1, 99:2, 102:16-22, 20:2)

Zion is the source of strength and support for the people of God; it is a place of being in God; it is righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit. Zion is the Kingdom of God coming forth in the fullness of glory.

Folks, we are the temple of God (I Cor 3:16); we are being built together into a dwelling of God in the Spirit (Eph. 2:22). We are living stones being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Christ Jesus (1 Pet. 2:5). As we choose to praise God, (spiritual sacrifice), we magnify Him and not our situation. God sits enthroned on our praises (Ps. 22:3). He who is praise begins to shine forth and we are changed in the midst of our circumstance.

A great confidence comes from knowing that the one who indwells us is a great and mighty King. In fact, He is the King of Kings, the Lord of Lords, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, (Judah means praise); there is a roaring Lion of praise who is seeking to fill His people with all that He is. From the depth of our inner man (Jn.

7:38) this King of praise is shining forth with light, and steadily, ever so surely (Isa. 28:10), the purifying heat (Heb. 12:29) of His ever present light is expanding outward until one day (2Pet. 1:19) spirit, soul, and body (I Thes. 5:23) we totally glow with His everlasting glory forevermore (2 Cor. 3:9, Matt 17:2).

Church, this is for us now! We must begin to walk in this today. Put on your walking shoes and don't worry about the soles wearing out, your feet are shod with good news and your soul will find rest upon the way (Heb. 4:7-9, Isa. 52:7, Eph 6:15). Don't say this is for another time (after death, the Millennial Kingdom) or another people (the natural Jew only); it is for us today. The Kingdom of God is a present reality and Zion is spreading, without observation (Luke 17:20, 21), over the face of the whole earth. Praise shines from Zion and we are becoming His praise!

We can either facilitate or hinder the establishment of the

old; the rod of thine inheritance, which thou has redeemed; this mount Zion, wherein thou has dwelt.

Lift up thy feet unto the perpetual desolations; even all that the enemy hath done wicked in the sanctuary.

Thine enemies roar in the midst of thy congregations; they set up their ensigns for signs. (Ps. 74:2-4)

We noted earlier that Zion is a guiding pillar, a sign, title, or waymark. Only Jesus should be lifted up in Zion, as He is lifted up all men shall be drawn to Him (Jn. 12:32). Only the roar of the King of praise should be heard in Zion but the enemy has come in and desecrated the sanctuary (you are the temple). He has roared in our midst and set up his own signs for signs.

We would do well to heed the Holy Spirit inspired words of the Apostle Paul and "Cast down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bring into

*As we pursue Him to know Him fully, we begin to realize that He is more than just the object of our praise, He is our praise!*

Kingdom of God by the choices we make. The right response to every circumstance helps to establish the Kingdom (righteousness, peace, joy) in and around us, the wrong response only prolongs the darkness. To choose for the Kingdom's sake is an act of our will; God gives the grace, but we must choose to walk in it. Our will is affected by our attitudes, thoughts, and imaginations. In all this we need the mind of Christ.

The Psalmist declares:  
"Remember thy congregation, which thou has purchased of

captivity every thought to the obedience to Christ" (2 Cor. 10:5). Remember that "we wrestle not against flesh and blood" (Eph. 6:12), not even our own, and begin to praise God for the victory. God has given us a mighty arsenal to use against the enemy. Praise is one of our weapons and it is not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4). Use it! May your praise shine and may darkness flee.

ARISE, SHINE; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee! ■

# Training your children to be wise

*"Listen, my sons, to a father's instruction; pay attention and gain understanding. I give you sound learning, so do not forsake my teaching. When I was a boy in my father's house, still tender, and an only child of my mother, he taught me and said, 'Lay hold of my words with all your heart; keep my commands and you will live. Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or swerve from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you: love her, and she will watch over you. Wisdom is supreme; therefore get wisdom.'" Proverbs 4:1-7a*

My four children, Matthew, Karen, Stephen and Susanna are teaching me about being a father.

This proverb shows a biblical father's desire to build wisdom into his son. I hope I can skillfully build wisdom into my children's life.

"The essential idea of hakam (wisdom) represents a manner of thinking and attitude concerning life's experiences; including matters of general interest and basic morality. These concerns relate to prudence in secular affairs, skills in the arts, moral sensitivity, and experience in the ways of the Lord." (Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament)

So, what I have in mind for my kids is building into them a manner of thinking which relates life's experiences to God and His Kingdom. Specifically, I am interested in building prudence in their working habits, developing skills and gifts, as well as nurturing good moral fiber.

That simply means that everything I allow the kids to do at this point in their lives should be seen in light of what I want them to become.

For example: Sports is a big thing in America. Thinking ahead, I knew there would be a time when Matthew would become interested. So, I had to view sports as it related to what I wanted to build

into my son. I chose to let him get involved in soccer for several reasons.

First, I see soccer as the international sport. Almost every nation plays soccer. I want Matthew to have a view towards other nations. If he knows a little bit about soccer, it will be much easier for him to relate to Latin Americans or Europeans, as well as Africans and Asians.

Also, LYSA allows parents to be very involved with their children in the coaching and general running of the team. As a matter of fact, it worked out that I could serve as assistant coach during Matthew's time in soccer thus far.

During practices and games, I could encourage Matthew to develop an attitude of serving and love while learning to be assertive and disciplined.

But this is just one example of how we view everything in light of how it fits into the overall vision. The friends our children choose, the toys they have, the vacations we take all relate to building the Kingdom.

## THE BIG PICTURE

It makes it very difficult to determine what is best for your child if you do not have some type of overall vision and goal for his

life. For Matthew, I have the specific goal of him being the director of our CTS in the year 2000, the year he graduates.

The CTS is aimed at training young men and women in character, discipline, and Biblical principles, as well as bring them forth in their gifts and skills. As a whole, it helps students work toward flowing in the body of Christ as servants and friends. In order for Matthew to be the director, he will need to have these areas worked into his life. So, I can systematically prepare him for this goal over the next eleven years.

Of course Matthew will probably never really be the director. It is something I will prepare him for. If at that time he does not feel that this fits in with God's plan for his life, that will be fine. What is being built into his life will be transferable to any area.

Bob Trolese told me about a little child that was brought to them at the orphanage in Nicaragua. The mother had left it in a box until he was three years old. As a result, he was greatly retarded in many areas. He could not function physically or mentally like a three year old.

In the same way, I do not want to put my children in "the box of my own expectations". I want to have a general plan that

*(Continued on next page)*

will build into them what they will need in order to do what they find God calling them to do.

As for now, I am building one stone at a time in the areas of skills, gifts, character, morality, and a general understanding of God and the Scriptures.

**DIAGRAM**

In order to keep a clear picture before my eyes of what I am wanting to build into my children's lives, I have developed a diagram for each one which represents what I am trying to work on during any specific period. (See diagram on right)

At the bottom of the diagram, I have a code which identifies the different training points.

**DON'T SWEAT THE DETAILS**

Many times when I see a diagram such as this, I think "No way, I could never do all of this!" I feel the same way about my own diagram. I approach it open ended without feeling pressured to make it all happen.

Periodically, I view the diagram to see how I am doing. As I find time, I work on areas that are in need, and often I have to choose to let some things go without feeling guilty.

The idea of a plan is to get you moving in the right direction. Then, you make adjustments according to the restraints that present themselves. ■

**A letter of appreciation**

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

Thank you so much for your kind gift. It was needed and appreciated.

Please continue to pray for us. We are going through the "missing him" part, and it's hard. But we trust the Lord by His Spirit to fill the void.

God bless you.  
With love,  
Bob & Peggy Marr

(The Mar's attend Covenant Church here in Lexington. Most of you know about the loss of their son, Robert Jason, in an automobile/bicycle accident last month. A gift was gathered at LCF and sent to them.)

**Larry Lea**  
**VIDEO PRAYER CLINIC**  
Wednesday evenings 7:00 p.m  
September 6 - October 4, 1989  
**Lexington Covenant Church**  
*We are invited*  
For more information call 268-2243

		Matthew	
1989	8	Soccer ●	2
		Kindness □ Hospitality ■	
1990	9	Musical Soccer ●	3
		Diligence □ Allowance \$	
1991	10	Music Sport ●	4
		Allowance \$	
1992	11	Music ●	5
		Allowance \$	
1993	12	Music ●	6
		Job \$	
1994	13	Music ●	7
		Job \$	
19	Notice:		
19	The later years are not filled in nearly as much as the beginning years.		
19	As your child grows, you will identify different interests that can be used to develop certain skills. There is no need to force certain activities on a child that he is not able to perform. Instead, choose those that God reveals as best for the child.		
19	Also, it becomes evident at different periods that certain character traits and values can be learned in the context of where a child is. You must always keep the various character traits in your mind and look for those crucial times.		
20			

- ┘ Age
- └ Grade
- Skill
- Character
- Value
- \$ Finances

This chart is referred to in the story starting on page six.

## SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 5:00 pm Worship at Woodland	4	5  Children's Home Fellowship 7:30	6 Preach at UK 11:45-1:15 CET 6:30	7 6:00 am prayer	8 Gregg's HF 7:00 Jimmy's HF 7:00	9
10 5:00 pm Worship at Woodland	11	12 Billy's HF 7:00	13 Preach at UK 11:45-1:15 CET 6:30	14 6:00 am prayer	15	16
17 5:00 pm Worship at Woodland	18	19  Children's Home Fellowship 7:30	20 Preach at UK 11:45-1:15 CET 6:30	21 6:00 am prayer	22 Gregg's HF 7:00 Jimmy's HF 7:00	23
24 5:00 pm Worship at Woodland	25	26 Billy's HF 7:00	27 Preach at UK 11:45-1:15 CET 6:30	28 6:00 am prayer Home School Sup- port Group Meets 7:00 p.m.	29	30

### *Pastor's Brief*

*Lexington Christian Fellowship  
104 Dantzler Court, Lexington, Ky. 40503*

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