

Savior's Seasonings

"Helping Families Safely Navigate Through Today's Spiritual & Cultural Storms Since 1996"



September 2005 edition Volume 11, Issue 8

Hurricane Katrina Strikes Just Days Before Decadent Festival



Use the Plumb line of God's Word each day of life!
< Amos 7:7-8 >

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Rev. David W. Haltom
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Rev. David W. Haltom, 1996,
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Ann M. Wall, 1998
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Traci K. Haltom, 2003
1st term, Concord, N.C.

William Barnhardt, 2000
2nd term, Concord, N.C.

"The men of Issachar ... understood the times and they knew what (they) ought to do." 1 Chronicles 12:32

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Just two days before thousands of homosexuals were to have converged on New Orleans to participate in the annual "Southern Decadence" festival, Hurricane Katrina struck with fury and great destruction. The festival is deemed by many as the "gay" Mardi Gras, with video-documented public sex acts, prostitution, illegal drug use and sadomasochistic acts. The festival was "officially" canceled because of the flooding of New Orleans, but a scaled-down event, "Southern Decadence in Exile," was held in nearby Lafayette, Louisiana on September 7th. Former homosexual James Hartline wrote in his recent newsletter: "The shocking callousness of New Orleans' gay activists towards the severe suffering of its fellow citizens cannot be adequately articulated in a news report. The idea that human beings are continuing to party while hundreds of thousands of fellow citizens are starving, dying and suffering from a multitude of sicknesses brings into focus the real lack of judgment that these constant advocates of special gay rights demonstrate in a time of crisis." Following in the footsteps of the past three mayors, New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin publicly endorsed this year's 34th annual Southern Decadence Festival. In an official letter of support, posted on the festival's website (www.SouthernDecadence.com), Nagin wrote: "The City of New

Orleans extends to you our heartfelt gratitude for coming to our unique mecca on the Mississippi River. There is no place like this on Earth! Southern Decadence XXXII is an exciting event! We welcome you and know that you can anticipate great food, great music and great times in New Orleans." Known also for its annual Mardi Gras parties where thousands of drunken men and women revel in the streets with rampant acts of public nudity and sexual immorality, New Orleans has many other vices— it was the launching site for the pornographic "Girls Gone Wild" video series; it holds one of the highest murder rates in the country, nearly ten times the national average; it is renowned for many occult practices, particularly voodoo; and is home to a large portion of the Gulf Coast's casino gambling industry. Michael Brown, creator of SpiritDaily.com, stated recently that Hurricane Katrina, a name which means "pure," was definitely a "purification event" for the New Orleans area. Brown, in a recent interview with LifeSiteNews.com, was asked to elaborate on his amazingly accurate prediction for an upcoming disaster for the New Orleans area which he penned back in 2001. In the article, entitled "Oh New Orleans, shed ye the darkness or face disaster," Brown wrote, "There are few cities with so many good as New Orleans and also few cities where there is such a stark coexistence

with the bad. It is this city, the Big Easy, that is home to kind and generous and Christian people...and yet also this city that has allowed evil to flourish in a way that has become truly dangerous." Noting the rampant openness and acceptance to occult practices and the sexual immorality, Brown warned, "When you invoke dark spirits, you get a storm. The very word hurricane comes from the Indian *hurukan* for *evil spirit*...It's that kind of stuff—not God—that brings disaster....When I visited the National Hurricane Center, they told me there was no place that gave them the meteorological willies like (New Orleans)... stating that all it would take is a Cat 3 or 4 to put the entire city under water....officials told me that in the best of circumstances 100,000 would be stranded (in the city)...According to an emergency manager, if a Cat 5 made landfall between (New Orleans) and Baton Rouge, it would be "the most catastrophic hurricane in the history of the United States....it would do well for us to recall that in 1900 on the other side of the bay Galveston was destroyed by a Cat 4 hurricane that came just after a Mardi Gras which had as its theme "Beelzebub and the Devils." - TVC News (9.8.2005), IFA (9.6.2005), RepentAmerica.com (8.31.2005), LifeSiteNews.com (9.1.2005) & SpiritDaily.org



Take a few moments to study & reflect over these selected scriptures:
Jeremiah 25:6, Matthew 5:45, 2 Chronicles 7:14, Nahum 1:2-3, 8; Matthew 4:7, Job 37:5-13, Psalms 104:4 & 147:18, Isaiah 3:9

ELCA Okays "PC Hymnals"



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) has given final approval for the denomination's new, more gender-neutral hymnal. At its Churchwide Assembly last month, the ELCA okayed a plan to update the 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship* by eliminating the "Father" terminology and male pronouns used in reference to God. The hymnal overhaul will include other gender-neutralizing and diversity-affirming changes to traditional Lutheran worship

lyrics and liturgies as well. For example, in the Lutheran Creed, God and Jesus will now be referred to as "Holy Eternal Majesty" and "Holy Incarnate Word" instead of "Father" and "Son."

-AgapePress, 8.25.2005

Study God's Word...

Revelation 22:18-19,
Proverbs 30:5-6

8 hrs 33 mins

...The average amount of media content U.S. children ages 8 to 18 are exposed to each day, up from 7 hours 29 minutes in 2000.

-OnMission.com, Fall 2005



♦Please pray about how God could use YOU in helping meet the critical financial needs for operating this ministry each month! (John 4:35, Galatians 6:9, 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, 1 Corinthians 9:1-14).

♦Thanks to each of you who uplift our family before the Lord thru your **faithful prayers** for our health, His strength, His peace & healing for our family's health struggles (i.e. "thorns in the flesh;" 1 Corinthians 1:4-9)!

♦Praise God for the upcoming guest preaching opportunities at South China Grove Baptist (10/2 & 10/30) and our 11th year of street evangelism at the Chrysanthemum Festival in downtown New Bern, NC (10/8)!

**P&P
Prayer & Praise**

Quips & Quotes...

"I came here willing to die if I have to, so that I can help our Marines and sailors see their need for a personal relationship with God. I hope to show my commitment and concern for their spiritual well-being by being here every day that I can. I plan on helping with their hurts and supporting their celebrations."

- Lt. Cmdr Phillip Endel Lee, a Navy Chaplain now serving at Camp Fallujah in Iraq; reprinted from OnMission.com, Fall 2005.



News Byte ...

The 2005 National PTA convention included a homosexual advocacy group, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) for a second consecutive year. The group hosted a workshop stressing the need to incorporate more "gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender" (GLBT) issues in public school policies and curricula. One of the presenters said that putting a rainbow ribbon—a symbol of homosexual pride and solidarity—on the school bulletin board is one way faculty and staff can let GLBT students know they are in a "safe" environment. -Faith & Family Values, July-August 2005 edition



...Frontline Reports in Today's Culture War



• **Great Britain**—A secondary school in Great Britain will now allow pupils to swear at teachers - as long as they don't do so more than five times in a lesson. A running tally of how many times the f-word (or derivatives) has been used will be kept on the board. If a class goes over the limit, they will be 'spoken' to at the end of the lesson. The new policy, which the school says will improve the behavior of pupils, was condemned by parents' groups, calling it 'wholly irresponsible and ludicrous'.

One parent commented, "What next? Do we allow people to speed five times or (steal) five times? You don't improve something by allowing it, you improve something by discouraging it." ¹ (Colossians 4:6, Psalms 19:14, James 3:2-10 and Matthew 15:11, 17-20, 36-37)

• **United States**—After 23 years of legislative debate, North Carolina lawmakers finally passed a lottery bill which ushered the Tarheel state into the business of legalized gambling. The State Senate debate had ended in a deadlock with a 24-24 vote, due in great part to the excused absence of two Republican senators who had both publicly opposed the lottery—one who was at home recovering from a leg infection and the other was on his honeymoon.

Lt. Governor Beverly Perdue, the State Senate's presiding officer, cast the tie-breaking vote in favor of the lottery, handing Governor Mike Easley a "gambling gift" which he had tenaciously pursued throughout his governorship and signed into law on August 31st. Research clearly indicates that state-sponsored lotteries prey on the poor, create compulsive gamblers, reduce legitimate retail sales and do nothing to improve education spending. Rev. Mark Creech with Christian Action League of NC, shared, "The unholy trinity of votes that passed the lottery has deeply corrupted State government; so much so, our State motto, 'Esse Quam Videri' - which means "To Be Rather Than to Seem" - is no longer true. We have now entered the gambling business' world of vice and deception." (See May 2005 Savior's Seasonings for more details of the harmful effects of state lotteries)² © (Exodus 20:17, Proverbs 15:27 & 28:25, Romans 13:9, 1 Timothy 6:10)

Referenced Sources for above Frontline Reports:

- ¹ DailyMail.co.uk (8.29.2005)
- ² NBC6.com (8.31.2005) & NC Family Policy Facts (9.1.2005)



**"Search the heart
and examine the mind..."
Jeremiah 17:10**



ENGAGE today's culture! First, pray for our nation's public school leadership—both nationally and locally, for local school boards, administrators and teachers—that they would see the tragic truth of homosexuality and would not be blinded nor fearful to stand for traditional family values! Secondly, be involved in your local school board and school system. Get to know your child's teacher, encourage & support their indelible influence on our children today!

A Prayer of the Nation for Katrina Victims



"O Lord, we know that tragedies never change Your love or Your presence among us. Tragedies are moments when you make Your love real and personal to those who trust You and call on You. Your presence gives us hope because all of life's circumstances are always under Your loving control. It is Your presence among us that allows a watching world to see the compassion that You have for us all. You have immediately stirred within us in these days hearts that continue to suffer alongside those who have suffered most-the families whose lives have been shattered by this catastrophic national disaster. May you then counsel us greatly to know your wisdom and how best to express Your love to those in need. Help us to recognize and know Your presence in this existing tragedy, that none may despair. For we know that You invite all who are "burdened and heavy laden" to come to You and take Your yoke upon them, that they might learn day-by-day and moment-by-moment from You. May they find rest and peace in the midst of this unexpected storm. Grant also Your enabling courage

to those on the front lines who risk their own lives for the sake of others. May emotional and physical stamina be given in great measure to our policemen, firemen, military, and healthcare workers. We know that many of them are, likewise, experiencing enormous personal and corporate loss and pain. We pray that in all things, Lord, You will especially provide wisdom and discernment to our local, state, and national leaders as they face many challenging decisions. And, finally, grant patient hearts to people as they experience delays in their needed help. You said, "all authority, in heaven and on earth is Yours" and that You would "be with us to the end of the age" (Matthew 28:18). We are now fully trusting in Your promise that "nothing will be able to separate us from Your love..." (Romans 8:35-39). Thank You-right now-for Your promises, and Your presence among us! This we pray in Your holy name, Amen."

- by Dr. Henry Blackaby

W³ Site of the Month ...
Adopt a Church

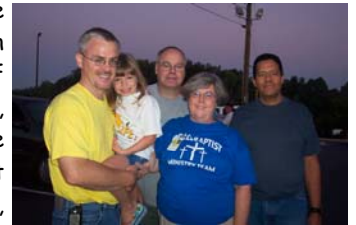


Adopt a Church is a unique ministry developed through the North American Mission Board of the SBC. Churches are needed to "adopt" congregations whose facilities were badly damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. The adopted period is to be 12-24 months, whichever the church needs to get back on its feet. Many adopted churches will have several "adopters," thereby allowing more churches to participate and share in the opportunity/responsibility/joy. For more information, visit www.namb.net



Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers last year prepared more than 3.5 million meals, repaired more than 2,600 buildings and completed nearly 11,000 cleanup and recovery projects.

More than 15,000 of the 30,000 trained Southern Baptist Disaster Relief volunteers gave their time, talents and energies in response to 193 natural disasters that included hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, tornadoes and ice storms. CIM extends our deep appreciation to the volunteers and leadership of this vital ministry and is honored to serve together when disasters strike! Rev. David Haltom recently completed his fifth mission trip, serving as Team Chaplain/Volunteer Worker during a 6-day Disaster Relief mission work in Mississippi helping/ministering to victims of Hurricane Katrina. -OnMissions.com, Fall 2005



Rev. David Haltom and Bethany Hope, along with dear friends and fellow Disaster Relief workers Bobby & Carlene Bean and Edwin Martinez (9.2005)



CIM's FY 2005 Monthly Ministry Operating Needs \$ 2,500.00
 (\$82.20/day or \$3.43/hour)
 20 donations as of August 31, 2005 totaling **\$2019.75** (Only ~80.8% of August 2005's operating needs were financially met! ☺)
Your Gifts Enable CIM to Continue!



Christian Impact Ministries
"Engaging today's culture for Jesus Christ"

- I would like more information on serving as a Covenant SALT Partner for the vital ministry work of CIM each month in 2005
- I would like to add my name / my friend / my church to the CIM ministry newsletter mailing list <Please secure their permission first >
- I would like to personally be added to the CIM e-SALT Alert / Prayer Ministry Network Team (e-mail address): _____
- I would like additional information about having a personal, abiding love-relationship with Jesus Christ (**John 15:1-17**)
- Our family prayerfully supports the God-given vision/labor of CIM's ministry & would like to pledge our financial support to the CIM operating budget in 2005 as the Lord leads & enables us to give to this mission (**2 Corinthians 9:10, Ephesians 3:20-21**)
- I would like to make a special donation In Honor / In Memory of ...



The Kingdom Ministry Work of CIM Needs Your Faithful Partnership !

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip+4 _____

Phone (optional) _____ Church _____

Prayer Request/Praise/Testimony: _____



"The LORD is slow to anger and great in power; the LORD will not leave the guilty unpunished. His way is in the whirlwind and the storm, and clouds are the dust of his feet." (Nahum 1:3) The historical magnitude of the widespread destruction of Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast region should, as with 9/11/2001, be a reminder of the brevity of life (James 4:14), the holy and righteous judgment of God (Isaiah 3:9), and God's mercy (Micah 7:18). God's Word reminds us in Matthew 5:45 that "(God) causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous." The disastrous effects of Katrina fell upon loving Christians, as well as wicked pagans, many of



which walked the streets in New Orleans in depraved fashion (Romans 1:28) while thousands lay hungry and destitute from the storm, some even dying. Within hours after the storm, the Lord stirred in my heart His call to travel to the region and minister in and through His love. Through several God-confirmed events, the opportunity availed itself for me to serve on a Baptist Disaster Ministry Team as Chaplain/Volunteer Worker. Staged first in Leakesville, MS, our team was sent to the frontlines in Biloxi and Gulfport, MS, Hurricane Katrina's "Ground Zero." For six days of this mission trip, I viewed, from



ground level, destruction, loss and suffering which I can only liken to the accounts described in the pages of God's Word whereby entire cities were destroyed by horrific disasters (picture above left—remains of beach front McDonald's in Gulfport, MS). During the trip, our team members helped to prepare and serve over 23,000 hot meals for local residents, many of which had no food or water, and for some, no place to even "return home" for they had suffered the loss of everything they had! The



opportunity to minister in numerous ways abounded in every direction—from cleaning clogged toilets in churches, to mopping floors, to ministering to local families in prayer and with caring ears (picture above right—David Tate, our Team Leader in prayer/hug with local victim), to feeding the many who were hungry (picture to left), bewildered and in dire need of Christ's love both in word and deed (Colossians 3:17, 23-24/Matthew 25:35-40). This trip galvanized my heart to the urgency of the hour in Christians

servings as His "Salt and Light" in a world that is prophetically pointing toward the Second Coming of Jesus Christ! The long return trip home from Mississippi brought with it an unexpected phone call from Traci while our team was traveling by bus through Alabama. "David...are you ready for a baby boy?" A local adoption opportunity arose through God's loving direction/connection, and through the love and selfless gift of life of two precious



>>>> **Attention Pastors & Church Leaders** <<<<

Prayerfully consider extending an invitation for Rev. David Haltom to come to your church to share via personal testimony and through the use of a pictorial slideshow (using our mobile PowerPoint system) images of the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina, the ministry opportunities of serving on a Baptist Disaster Relief Mission Team and how God's Word directly addresses the increasing number of disasters and spiritual unrest in our nation and throughout today's world! Thank You!



home our new baby son, **Aaron Joseph Haltom!** He was born on September 8th, weighed 6 lb 10 oz and was 20" long. As the pictures here show, our family is joyfully elated! Bethany Hope is a wonderful new Big Sister, and loves her baby brother so much! Traci and I, still numb from the expediency of God's blissful new blessing, are praising Christ for giving us immeasurably more than we could have asked for or imagined (Ephesians 3:20-21). Please celebrate with our family in this precious new gift from above (James 1:17)!



Living Out His Message, Brother David <James 1:22>

1 Corinthians 16:13

"Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be men (& women) of courage; be strong."

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