



Steel Valley Baptist Association

Communicator

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Semiannual Meeting

The next gathering for Steel Valley will be the semiannual meeting this coming Monday, April 8 at First Baptist Church of Garrettsville. The meal starts at 6 pm and the meeting at 7.

One of the important matters at this meeting will be the election of the following officers: Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, and Treasurer. All nominations will come from the floor.

The Revitalization Team and the Properties Committee will give presentations on their assignments.

What Time Is It ?

by Gary Frost, A.M.

I have found during the course of my preaching ministry that every once in a while I have a certain sense of urgency regarding the reality of the last days and the Return of Jesus Christ.

God has called preachers to function as Watchmen on the Wall. God spoke through the prophet Ezekiel in the 33rd chapter of his prophecy with these sobering words: *The word of the LORD came to me: 'Son of man, speak to your*

countrymen and say to them: 'When I bring the sword against a land, and the people of the land choose one of their men and make him their watchman ...'

What Time Is It? It may be much later than we think. The believers in Thessalonica were wondering what time it was. There were false teachers who told them that Christ had already come. Paul had to write a Second Letter to them to assure them that the Second Coming was still a future event. He wrote in 2 Thessalonians 2:1-4: *"Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by some prophecy, report or letter supposed to have come from us, saying that the day of the Lord has already come"*

In his book, *What in the World is Going On?*, Dr. David Jeremiah listed several things that we should do in Redeeming the Time in light of the return of Christ. Here are 5 recommendations:

1. **Respond to life spiritually.** (Colossians 3:1-4)
Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your

hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

2. **Recommit ourselves to the ministry.** (2 Timothy 4:1-2)
In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I give you this charge: Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction.

3. **Remain steadfast.** (Jm 5:7-8)
Be patient, then, brothers, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.

4. **Renounce sin in our lives.** (1 John 2:28-29)
And now, dear children, continue in him, so that when he appears we may be confident and unashamed before him at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you know that

everyone who does what is right has been born of him.

5. Reach the lost. (Jude 21-23) *Keep yourselves in God's love as you wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ to bring you to eternal life. Be merciful to those who doubt; snatch others from the fire and save them; to others show mercy, mixed with fear—hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh.*



O.N.E. SCHOOL

The school is going well this semester as we learn how correct theology affects our lives. Look for our display this Monday at the semiannual meeting.



5TH SUNDAY MUSIC

The next Musicfest will be Sunday, June 30 @ Austintown Baptist Church. The last gathering was held the evening of Good Friday at Howland Glen. With many churches already committed to other schedules we still had about 40 in attendance, which was great. The message from Brother Gary Frost was inspirational and challenging. The fellowship afterwards was great as well.

CHURCHES TO MINISTER

A team from Louisville, KY will be here in a few weeks to

see the ministry opportunities which they can do during the week of July 6-11. A church from Florida will also be here this month to see how they can assist African-American churches in SVBA later.

MISSIONS & MINISTRY

2 Peter 1:3 says, *“His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness”*

Our God is an awesome God! Because of Jesus' Resurrection, The Holy Spirit has been given to all who have come to know Jesus as Lord. God is holding nothing back from us in equipping us to do everything He has purposed us to do. Those who are called to preach have the ability and equipping to do so by the work of The Holy Spirit.

Those who are chosen to teach, evangelize, lead worship, perform the ministry of compassion, etc. Are all equipped to fulfill your calling in The Lord.

But there is something that God equips us to do as we trust Him and step out in obedience: To be His witnesses for Jesus and His Gospel. There is no course or outreach packet that is effective for all people but the leading of The Holy Spirit is always right.

You have all you need in Jesus to share The Gospel with the lost. The Holy Spirit can work through the loving Spirit He has given you. Through your personal testimony and through what you personally know about Jesus. He will even amaze you by speaking words through

you that you never would have thought on your own! You don't need to fear being a witness for Christ. You ought to be excited by the thought of the wonderful journey He will take you on if you will only believe. There are lost souls all around you who need you to find a BOLDNESS in Christ and share the hope of Christ with them. And time is running out.

God has also equipped us with a block party trailer that contains a grill, sound equipment, a snow cone machine, a generator, and even a projector and portable screen! I would be happy to lead your congregation in a training session for doing outreach. We will work on finding you help if you don't have enough people in your church capable of doing an outreach event on your own!

There's absolutely no reason for not doing outreach ministry this year. The calendar for reserving the block party trailer is still wide open for 2024. Please make plans for your church's event and let me know the dates. I would love to see the majority of our SVBA churches doing at least one outreach event this year.

Our Jericho Project street ministry has the 2024 calendar finished with a few other events added. Please keep us in prayer that many will experience God's work of deliverance and transformation as we hit the streets. Let's make 2024 the BEST outreach year our Association has ever experienced! God Bless you all!

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