



“The Del-Haven Vision”

“Without vision, the people perish” (Proverbs 29:18)

Newsletter of Camp Del-Haven

Turning Kids from Crime to Christ

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January 2008

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, a new creation -- the old passed away; behold, have become new -- all. (18) And all are of God, the one having reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ and having given to us the ministry of the reconciliation...”

2Cor.5:17-18

The beginning of a new year always breeds the hopes and dreams of the beginning of new and better things -- times, experiences and circumstances. For the believer the reality of one's aspirations falls into two different camps...those of the flesh and those of the Spirit. We all hope for a better world around and about us, but let's face it, the best that we can hope to have is a continuation of what is good as well as a continuation of holding at bay the growing tide of what is evil. Especially for the believer, this world is not a playground, but it is in every way a battleground!

The above rendering of this all too familiar text from 2 Corinthians 5 is a literal rendering of the way it is written from the original. Many times it proves to be very beneficial to get a new perspective on an old familiar picture. Therefore, in that light let us note the descriptive manner in which vs.17 is being communicated. Normally it is emphasized that if anyone is in Christ they are a new creation...period. However, the text is actually serving to clarify that if anyone is *“in Christ, a new creation”*, then it will also be true that *“the old passed away”* and *“all”* has become *“new”*. By contrast, if that, in fact, has not taken place in their life, then they must not truly be in Christ, a new creation. A bare profession of one's being in Christ does not mean that they actually, genuinely are. If it is really true that they are in Christ, then it will prove to be true by the completely new purpose and perspective that becomes the way in which they live out the rest of their life. Vs.15 of this same context becomes a genuine and relevant reality, in that, they no longer will continue to live just for themselves, *“but for Him who died for them and rose again”*. Like the words to the gospel song that say: *“That day at Calvary -- it changed my history. It gave me a new outlook on life; now I can conquer the sin and the strife the devil throws at me. Oh what a change -- happened that day at Calvary!”*

Vs.18, then, dogmatically declares that all this new change is completely *“of God”*. In other words, it is all wrought, or brought into being, by Him. In addition, as it also says, this happens because of our having been reconciled by Him *“to Himself through Jesus Christ”*.

“Reconciled” means that where there has existed a spirit and condition of total opposition and enmity toward one another between you and God -- He has, as an act of His love, has mutually changed all of that by and through the person and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence, *“in Christ”* *“all”* has become *“new”*! And, perhaps even more important for us to be reminded of and come to understand is that the same loving, redeeming God that has reconciled us to Himself has also *“given to us the ministry of the reconciliation”*. So then, let's show ourselves to be new creations in Christ and live to fulfill the purpose of spreading the message!

For Christ's glory only!
A. Carpenter

Praise the Lord! - Thank You For Praying With Us

Well, dear ones, we have many reasons to rejoice in praising our Lord for the way 2007 has now passed away and how that 2008 is just beginning.

We thank the Lord for hearing and answering our prayers in regards to the need for adequate transportation. God has blessed above our expectations once again. Plaza Heights Baptist Church in Blue Springs, MO has graciously donated to us a 1991 Ford E350 van. Plaza Heights Baptist has helped us out in many different ways over the years, and now, we lose a minivan last year and the Lord has, through them, given us another full sized one. Praise His Name!

But wait...there indeed is more! Gary Mainard of Swim Center pool supply, also in Blue Springs, heard about our loss of the minivan and has not only given to us a 1996 Ford Windstar, but also a 1991 Ford Ranger XLT Pick-up truck. I don't believe that I even mentioned that we also lost our 1976 Chevy pick-up last year. We used that old pick-up for various jobs just on the campgrounds...and it was missed. The Lord has also supplied for us a more than adequate replacement. He truly is a most wonderful Lord God!

Needs for the Summer

It came out at our first board meeting of 2008 that we have a need in the kitchen for some good Tupperware containers with lids. Also, we could use some good kitchen utensils like serving spoons, spatulas, etc. Please pray with us concerning these sorts of items.

Lake Project and Water Lines

The cold weather has temporarily halted the progress of both the lake renovation and the water lines replacement projects. As soon as it warms up, we have been assured that these major projects will resume.

Prayer Requests

Finally, we would be remiss to not remind you to be praying for the main focus of the ministry of Camp Del-Haven...that being the children. Every time our board meets, we have a time of prayer. We thank God for your continual prayerful support and we supplicate Him for the souls of the boys and girls that He has already sent to us to minister to, as well as, the ones that are yet to come through the camp program to hear, perhaps, for the first time the gospel of the glory of Jesus Christ.

As the world goes through its continual fluctuations and changes the one constant reality looms over all of us -- the awful devastation and depravity of sin. Praise the Lord God almighty for His everlasting love and eternal mercy and grace. He it is that rules over us, our nation..., and all the nations of the entire world. Through the gospel, the victory of Jesus Christ is effectively communicated. God has ordained that saving faith comes into existence by hearing the gospel and hearing the gospel is accomplished through the Word of God. We must keep on keeping on -- for the glory of Christ. Thanks for being there and

“In behalf of Christ, therefore, we serve as ambassadors” 2Co.5:20