

Heaven

October 26, 2008

"In my Father's house are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for

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Charlestown Road Church of Christ

4601 Charlestown Rd.
New Albany, IN 47150
812-945-0664

Web site:

www.Charlestownroadchurchof-
christ.com

Our Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 am
Worship: 10:20 am
Evening: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Our Preacher:

Roger Shouse 816-260-1257

Our Elders:

Larry Beckham 502-777-7720
Bill Densford 812-944-8446

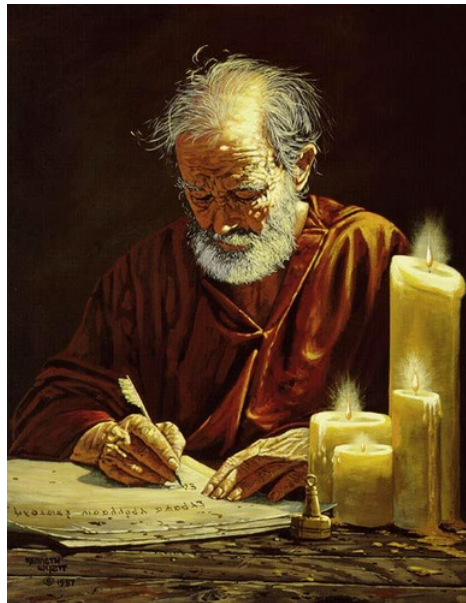


Would We have Liked Paul's Preaching?

This sounds like a ridiculous question. Sure we would have liked Paul's preaching. Paul was the great apostle who wrote more books of the Bible than anyone else. He established churches and endured hardships nearly every where he went.

The Bible identifies some who were truly gifted at preaching.

Apollos: "Now a certain Jew named Apollos, an Alexandrian by birth, an eloquent man, came to Ephesus; and he was mighty in the Scriptures" (Acts 18:24).



But many of those who actually heard Paul preach were not impressed.

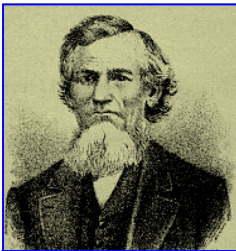
- ▶ 1 Cor 2:3-4 "And I was with you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. And my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power"
- ▶ 2 Cor. 11:6a "But even if I am unskilled in speech, yet I am not so in knowledge"
- ▶ 2 Cor 10:10 "For some say, "His letters are weighty and forceful, but in person he is unimpressive and his speaking amounts to nothing."

Now, I wonder if we would have been disappointed if we heard Paul preach? Let us not be so fickle that we measure the greatness of a sermon on the delivery process. The message is far more important than the performance!

A sermon should be evaluated by what it says and how true it is to God's word. Good speakers do not always make good preachers.

Would we have like Paul's preaching? Interesting thought. I'd hope the answer would be yes! Preaching is not to be compared to TV watching. Preaching is sowing God's word in good and honest hearts. Preaching is convincing. Paul was a great preacher, even if he wasn't a good public speaker.

Joseph Lemuel Martin



Joseph Lemuel
Martin
(1810-1871)

Joseph Martin, a man of humble beginnings, rose to become one of this area's most successful preachers and "the Midwestern authority" on the book of Revelation. Martin was born in Shelby County, Kentucky, on Nov 13, 1810. His family moved to Indiana when he was young and settled in Washington County. The community of Martinsburg is named after his uncle, Dr. Abner Martin. He had a very limited education and suffered from poor health throughout his life. He was baptized into the Martinsburg Baptist church. Within a few years (1833), the entire Baptist church returned to the New Testament pattern. They decided to dispense with all human creeds

and take the Scriptures as their only rule of faith and practice. Joseph Martin soon became their preacher. His first attempts at preaching were so bad that the congregation encouraged him to do something else.

In the early days there were still several denominational practices that brethren used. One of them was an organized state wide missionary society. The Indiana district paid Martin \$300.00 a year to preach throughout Southern Indiana, with the stipulation that he go where no brethren were and establish congregations. Martin preached and established congregations in Corydon, Georgetown, New Albany, and little villages along the Ohio River. He often preached in Methodist church buildings and would convert many to the Lord's Way. His reputation grew so quickly, that many towns would not offer him a building to preach in. He baptized over 6,000 souls and organized so many congregations that he could not remember them all.

In July 1852 *Millennial Harbinger*, Martin reports of establishing a congregation in Bethel with 60 members. He also reported 40 being added to the church in Salem.

Martin was elected to the board of directors of the newly established Northwestern Christian University (now known as Butler University) in 1855.

In his journal for 1867, he calculated that he had traveled 3,621 miles, preached 375 times and baptized 306 souls that year.

In 1870, a series of his lectures on the book of Revelation were transcribed and put into book form. The title, "*The Voice of the Seven Thunders*" was well received and became a financial success for the publisher. It was later included in the College Press Restoration Reprint Series. Martin believed in what today we refer to as "Postmillennialism". Martin originally preached that series at Corydon, Georgetown, New Albany, Muddy Fork (Clark County) and Old Union.

James Mathes, a fellow preacher at that time described Joseph Martin as "a man of about medium size weighing perhaps over 135 pounds, and stoops a little as he walks and is of a dark complexion, with a dark, penetrating eye and a very pleasant countenance...He is not fashionable in dress or manners, and assumes nothing of the "clergyman," but rather delights in being old-fashioned and passing along unnoticed. He is quite witty and quick at repartee, which makes him a universal favorite in the family circle. As a speaker, Elder Martin is not eloquent, but earnest and pathetic, and always makes a good impression on his audience. He is a very forcible teacher and a good exhorter." (*Voice of the Seven Thunders*, pg 40).



'Uncle Lem,' as Martin was affectionately called is buried in the Martinsburg cemetery.



Family Connections

News for You

- **Roger** starts a meeting in Bloomington, IN today (Westside congregation). The meeting goes through Friday. On Saturday I go to Phoenix to start a meeting with the Monta Vista congregation (that meeting goes through the following Friday).
- **Bob Quinn** is preaching this morning. (Singing service tonight—we will be trying out some new songs).
- **Jordan Shouse** is preaching at Shoals today.
- Our new quarter of classes begins TODAY
- Deacons meeting Nov 2nd @ 4:00 pm
- Ladies Class this Thursday @ 10:30
- Our gospel meeting with David Thomley begins on **Nov 16th**. The theme is marriage.

For your Prayers:

- **Beth Lee's** father got a great report that he is cancer free. We rejoice with them.
- Remember our shut-ins and our college students

Missed Out?

If you miss a service you can get the bulletin and sermon from our web site. www.charlestownroadchurchofchrist.com Use this and tell your friends about it.

Got a Question?

Roger is doing a series of lessons on Sunday evening next month on questions that are submitted. If you have something you'd like to hear, let Roger know.

