

Acts Ministry Presents ...

the Real News-Review

Chronicles, Editorials, Epistles

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July 2010

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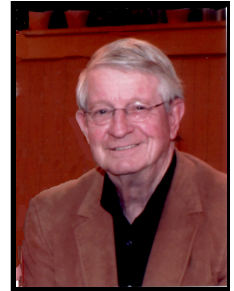
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## *Personal Words From Dr. Paul Collins*



Dr. Paul Collins

*Every Christian Is Called ... Ministry Is For Every Christian ...*

## **CONNECTION AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

*(too important to be overlooked)*

I am convinced we live in an increasingly dangerous world. No matter what you believe regarding the Rapture of the church, you have to live until then ... or until you die. In the meantime, you should live a productive Christian life. This is something that will be an accomplishment of those connected to other members of the body of Christ. Those properly connected to the body will be accountable.

I am convinced that Acts Ministry makes a valid claim to be a part of the body of Christ. It is a part of the body that many have chosen as their place to be connected and accountable. Those of us in whom God has entrusted a leadership role, take seriously the responsibility of guiding this ministry in order to offer the opportunity for connection and accountability.

I am convinced that members of the body of Christ are hungry for the Word, emotionally depleted by the stress of modern life in America, spiritually neglected by most who claim the title of Christian, and preyed upon financially by a large number and variety of "wolves in sheep clothing."

Help is as close as the telephone or computer keyboard. Contact Acts Ministry. ☐



Nancy Collins

## He Is Here

By Nancy Collins

Who has felt alone in the boat called frustration or aware that there were many of similar states of mind in the same boat? There are many boats with names such as pain, depression, desperation, anxiety, fear, anger, illness, inferiority, oppression, poverty, self-centeredness, etc. The last name may be the overall problem. One may be so focused on/in him/her self that there is no room for the awareness of **I Am** being ever-present. I have said off and on that God is here; that He is everywhere. I have been in enough boats to know I forget He is here right now—every second, minute, hour and day. He is here with me and with you. He is no respecter of persons.

Have you ever stopped long enough to savor what the following words mean? Here are a few with their meanings from the New World Dictionary of American English. The word **present** is defined as being at the specified or understood place; at hand; in attendance. The word **always** is defined as at all times; on all occasions; invariably; all the time; continuously; forever; in every instance; with no exception. The word **eternal** is defined as without beginning or end; existing through all time; everlasting; forever the same; always true or valid; unchanging; always going on; never stopping; perpetual; outside or beyond time or time relationships; timeless. Stop a few seconds to dwell on and savor these words and their meanings.

From the same dictionary, the word **know** is defined as to have a clear perception or understanding of; to experience; to have knowledge. The above three words deal with time and location. The word know deals with experience. Let these words slowly melt into the depths of your mind and spirit. I have the “*peace that passes all understanding*” when I am still. *Be still, and know that I am God* (Psalms 46:10). *God is our refuge and strength, a present help in trouble* (Psalms 46:1). *I will never leave you or forsake you* (Hebrews 13:5). “... *lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world* (Matthew 28:20b). He is here. I AM is here.

Think of these words now that you are more aware He is with you. *Cast your burden on the Lord, and He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved* (Psalms 55:22).  *Casting down imaginations and everything that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, and bringing into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ* (2 Corinthians 10:5). *Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand* (Isaiah 41:10). He is here talking to you through His Word. Savor His Word. Savor His Presence. He is here.



LeAnn Kennedy, President

## Learning to Love

By LeAnn Kennedy

This summer, a small group of women and I have been meeting to study love. I’m convinced that we have very little understanding of the subject, for Scripture says that God is love, and how can we even begin to understand the vastness of our God? However, it is the Holy Spirit’s job and pleasure to reveal to us more and more truth as we diligently seek Him.

I think the enemy has attempted and succeeded somewhat in confusing us on the subject of love. We say we love God, love our family, love baseball and love chocolate. And furthermore, we confuse love as always being a feeling or emotion.

We have been taught about different types of love such as phileo, eros, and agape; brotherly love, erotic love, and God’s love, respectively.

Agape takes care of everything. According to The Complete Word Study New Testament, the Greek word agape, “is a word not found in Classical Greek, but only in revealed religion. It is translated charity, meaning benevolent love. Its benevolence, however, is not shown by doing what the person loved desires, but what the one who loves deems as needed by the one loved. For example, God gave not what man wanted, but what man needed as God perceived his need, namely His Son who brought forgiveness to man. God’s love for man is His doing what He thinks best for man and not what man desires. It is God’s willful direction toward man.”

The verb form, agapao, to love, “indicates a direction of the will and finding one’s joy in something. Agapao is used of God’s love toward man and vice versa.”

During our study on love, and with some extra searching, the Lord allowed me to see a clearer picture of Galatians 5:22. Many of you may have already seen this, but please allow me to share my excitement.

Although we do not completely understand agape, it resides in the innermost being of Christian believers, for God is love and He lives within our hearts. According to Romans 5:5, *God has poured his love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit*, and 2 Corinthians 1:22 states that *God has put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit*. So there is always a deposit, a guarantee of this agape love that will always be within us.

Galatians 5:22 says, “*The fruit of the Spirit is love.*” Now here is where I received illumination. When I looked up the Greek word for fruit, the definition indicated “fruit as plucked, to seize, take”. A connection was made in my mind to the definition of agapao—“to love—indicating a direction of the will and finding one’s joy in something”—or someone.

(continued on page 3)

(continued from page 2) I think the reason we find it so difficult to love others with the love of Christ at times is twofold, or at least I find it true of myself:

Although the love itself and the ability to love resides in me (*for I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me*), I was never taught that I must “pluck” or seize or take the fruit of the Holy Spirit as a direction of my will and to find my joy in doing what was in the best interest of someone else.

If we would only pray daily to be filled with the Holy Spirit, we wouldn’t have to reach so far down into our innermost being to pluck the fruit of love. Actually if we are so filled with the Holy Spirit, love will just spill out of us!

Although we may have been confused at times on how to love others with the love of God, take heart dear one! *For it is God who works in us, to WILL and to ACT according to his good purpose* (Philippians 2:13)!

### ACTSFEST 2010

Dates: August 5 – 8, 2010

#### Schedule:

Thursday, Economics Seminar  
from 10 AM – 4 PM in the host hotel ...  
lunch provided, no charge

Friday, daytime fellowship, networking,  
7 PM Holy Spirit Victory Celebration and  
Healing Service,  
Dr. Collins preaching and ministering

Saturday, daytime fellowship and networking,  
6 PM The 10th Annual Fellowship and Awards  
Banquet in the Community Building  
at Maranatha Village

Sunday ... 10 AM Worship (in the hotel)  
Sunday 2 PM ... Service of Ordination and Holy  
Communion in the chapel at Maranatha Village,  
Dr. Collins, presiding

#### HOTEL

The host hotel is the Lamplighter Inn North,  
just off of Interstate 44. Easy to locate.  
Special room rates for Acts Ministry Actsfest  
participants ... just \$59.00 per night  
(excluding taxes).  
(417)869- 3900. If you have any problems, ask  
for Jeanne Hart, Convention Coordinator.

The hotel is the site for the Thursday seminar  
and the Sunday morning worship.

## On The Light Side

By Audrey West

### ENTER NOT

(Proverbs: Chapter 4)

As we travel along the highways, most of us have seen the red warning signs that say DO NO ENTER. We have heard of instances where a vehicle was going the wrong way on the Interstate and collided with someone that caused injury or death. There is a right way and there is a wrong way.

There is a path the righteous are to take. The righteous are not to enter the path of the wicked and go not the way of evil men. Proverbs chapter 4 tells us to avoid it, not **even** pass by it which assumes that they know the places of evil and wickedness. The Lord always leads in the right path. We should follow that leadership. If we do, we won’t have to worry about having to stumble. Be assured that danger is always present when we enter the wrong path.

Especially young people are great risk takers. I have been told that a person can not logically access dangerous obstacles until around the age of 22, when the brain has fully developed. Have you heard of people who love to live on the edge? They like to go just as far as they can, risking their lives and sometimes the lives of others, for the sake of the thrill of victory. But, they often suffer the agony of defeat. Often times they are following the crowd just to be one of the “gang”, taking the wrong path. They do not remember that their lives are not their own. God’s word gives instruction in righteousness. He tells us to remember the Lord in our youth. A good family name that has been respected for many years can be discredited in a moment by failing to follow God’s warning signs of ENTER NOT. The children of God can not be distracted by worldly enchantments and still be able to distinguish the correct path to follow and see the warning signs. God’s good name can be tarnished by our failure to exercise heavenly wisdom which the Lord has freely given us. So, we must be careful about following our friends and acquaintances. We need to “check them out” to see if they are on the right path. Do they constantly take the Lord’s name in vain, do they partake in drugs, do they delight in immoral social activities, do they deal in dishonest business tactics? We are exposed to such people by the fact that we have to attend school and we must make a living for ourselves and for our families in the work place. We do not have to be willing to enter such a path when there is another path marked out for us.

Perhaps that driver going the wrong way on the Interstate did so because of drunkenness and failed to heed the warning sign that said DO NOT ENTER. That driver was in danger and everyone else he approached.

May we all ENTER NOT the path of the wicked and evil men.

**Reminder: When praised go up, blessings come down.**

# The Founder's Report

*Dr. Paul Collins*

## Expansion

Acts Ministry is expanding services to the body of Christ through the Internet, book publishing services, counseling, and helping others make connection with needed resources. Specific examples of these (and several other) services are available. Never hesitate to call 417-886-0223 or use email to reach us at [actsministry@sbcglobal.net](mailto:actsministry@sbcglobal.net).

## Response

Recently, I sent out an email to a list of people as a test to see if there is a need to continue offering advice and counsel in the areas of money and health. The response has shown me there is a need to spend a significant portion of my time in an effort to help our Acts Ministry family in both areas. I have already begun the follow up to the responses.

## Your Ministry

In order for you to continue ministering, it may be necessary for you to have a computer. John Wesley rode a horse to make his rounds, but that was before the invention of the automobile. St. Paul walked but that was before man was able to build and fly something called an airplane. **Preachers, are you walking or riding a horse to church? Do you ever watch television or listen to a radio? Do you read a Bible produced using the technology of computers for design, layout, and printing? Are you eating processed food? Are you wearing clothes made by machines? Do you use a telephone ... corded, cordless, wireless, cell? Need I say more? Are you using a sound system in your church?**

We live in a technologically operated world. The day is upon us when you will have to have (and actually use) a computer to stay in touch. Out of touch Christians were NOT the ones who turned the world upside down in the Book of the Acts of the Apostles.

## Doing The Right Thing

If I had begun this segment using the word giving, some of you would not have even begun to read what I have written. Now that I have your attention, you can read this reminder that tithing (10% of gross income before taxes or anything else is held out) is a necessity. If you do not tithe, you have closed the door and shut the windows of Heaven. Offerings really don't count if you are not a consistent tither. Furthermore, without tithing and giving offerings, a financial seed (as promoted by televangelists and others) will be dead before it hits the ground in which you are sowing. No wonder the church and ministries are broke and nearing bankruptcy!

## Last, But Not Least

Health is not dependent upon a government program, the pharmaceutical industry, or physicians. God is involved. Therefore, since He gave us our bodies, we should be good stewards and be very careful what we put into the vessel. When we have done our best, God will do the rest. If we don't do our best, God is under no obligation to do the rest.

- **Services in Springfield, MO** the 2nd and 4th Sundays of every month at 2 PM in the chapel at Maranatha Village on East Norton
- **Greater Is He Gospel Sing** the 1st Saturday night of every month in Springfield at 7 :00 in Springfield Community Church on East Battlefield
- **ACTSFEST IN SPRINGFIELD ON AUGUST 5, 6, 7, AND 8, 2010**