



# The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ  
Vol. XXXVI January 17, 2010 No. 2

## Confidence Corner

John F. Board

One major attack on our confidence of the Christian faith and Jesus in particular has come from a group known as "The Jesus Seminar." Relatively new on the scene of biblical studies (organized in 1985), these self-proclaimed scholars are often quoted in television specials or news magazines that desire to address the Christian faith.

Those who are familiar with scholarship know that *The Jesus Seminar* consists of a few minor individuals who are considered to be on the radical fringe of biblical scholarship. The way they are employed by the media would lead one to believe these are the top experts in the field. Such is simply not the case. The evidence they offer to support their ideas stem from liberal scholars or quotations from one another. (In fairness to the media outlets, *The Jesus Seminar*, has made it a goal to seek out every media outlet available to promote their findings).

One of the most bothersome concerns for me is *The Jesus Seminar's* idea that they can determine from the Scriptures what should and should not be considered actual sayings of Jesus. Using different colored beads they vote on the probability that Jesus actually spoke the words we have recorded in the four accounts of the Gospel (the four possible votes range from at best, "Jesus **probably** spoke the words," to at worst, "Jesus **almost certainly did not** speak the words." Can you imagine the arrogance?!!!).

At the basis of their approach to the Scriptures is a rejection of the supernatural, any miraculous intervention in history by God, and an acceptance of a modernistic scientific worldview as a law. They hold to a logical fallacy of a false dichotomy that they have borrowed from the likes of Lessing, Kant, and Kierkegaard that is based in a distinction between knowledge and faith. *The Jesus Seminar* attempts to make a distinction between what they call the Jesus of history and the Messiah of faith. **Paul seemed to do the exact opposite—that is he recognized a connection between historical fact and our faith (1 Corinthians 15 see especially verses 14-19).**

You see if Jesus did not actually live upon the earth, teach the information we have recorded in the gospel accounts, die as those accounts indicate, or rise from the dead as the New Testament affirms, then He has no "saving" or "faith" value to anyone.

jfb

## ARCHAEOLOGY AND THE BIBLE

John F Board

Is the Bible a book we can trust? So often people have tried to question and challenge the Word of God. Time and time again, the Bible has withstood the test of time and the attacks of men.

For years people would make light of the Bible because of the mention of a nation known as the Hittites. Since there were no records of such a nation apart from the Biblical record, higher critics claim that the Hittites were nothing but myth. Over one hundred years ago, such criticism stopped as archaeologists uncovered the capital of the Hittite nation. Today archaeologists have uncovered evidence of over 1200 years of Hittite civilization.

Today (Monday) I begin a class through Amridge University taught by Dr. Rodney Cloud on Archaeology and the Bible. As I study and learn more about this topic, I thought I might share some of the information with the readers of *The Caller*.

On numerous occasions in the past I have heard Dr. Cloud speak of Nelson Gluek. I believe Dr. Cloud had him as an instructor when he attended Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Gluek is also regarded as one of the greatest archaeologists known. He once made this statement while speaking in Dallas, Tx: "All I have ever said is that in all of my archaeological investigation I have never found one artifact of antiquity that contradicts any statement of the Word of God."

The Bible is truly a unique document. As we shall see in the weeks to come, it can be trusted as a source document of the only God and the one true religion of that only God today, Christianity.

jfb

## Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — *Without Christ*

*Romans 5:6-11*

P.M. — *Biblical Interpretation*

*Deuteronomy 4:1-2*

# For To Me To Live Is Football???

Well for many people, life is over—or at least that's how they feel. The college football season has concluded with a much deserved Alabama National Championship (Gene and Susan no doubt are happy...Rick remember rejoice with those who rejoice). I must admit, I do enjoy watching college football and I even hate to see the season end. Yet a couple of days in my life, and the reactions of a few individuals (positive and negative) have help me put a little more perspective on college football as a game.

Last night I was set to enjoy the game. I felt it would be a good game and I was torn between the desire to see different individuals succeed for various reasons. I am a West Virginia native. My first preaching job was an associate position at the Oakwood Road Church of Christ in Fairmont, WV. For these reasons I have often followed various coaches who grew up and played their football in and around the Chester area and also North Central WV (Fairmont/ Bridgeport/ Clarksburg area is where I have spent 17 years of my preaching life and it is only approximately 2 hours from where I was born and raised—Chester, WV). Among the coaches from this area that I have to some extent tried to follow their careers include John McKay (USC/Tampa Bay), Lou Holtz (East Liverpool, Ohio—just across the river from Chester, WV), the Bowden boys (who had roots in WV and first coaching jobs in and around North Central WV), Rich Rodriguez (Grant Town, WV just outside of Fairmont—he coached one of the young men from the congregation in Bridgeport at Glenville State in Glenville WV), John James “Jimbo” Fisher (Clarksburg, WV Liberty High School, Salem College), and of course Nick Saban. Most biographies of Saban will indicate he was born in Fairmont, WV but he actually grew up just outside of Fairmont. Saban grew up in Monongah, West Virginia (hence his comment in his post BCS press conference...“If you saw where I came from in WV, you wouldn't think I would be here either”)and was All-State in football, basketball and baseball graduating in 1969 from Monongah High School, Marion County, West Virginia. It was a struggle while he was at Michigan State, but I always like him as a coach and the programs he led. Because I have always like Nick Saban and followed his programs, I had part of my heart pulling for Alabama. Since moving to Etown, I have also pulled for Crimson Tide defensive end Brandon Deaderick, an Etown native (probably only those from around Etown noticed it, but he was involved in the play before the half that turn the tide for the Tide—Dareus interception return for a touchdown).

On the other hand, though not a Texas fan by any stretch of the imagination (except when they played USC a few years ago for the BCS championship...but that has more to do with an....shall we call it... an aversion to Pete Carroll), I am a Colt McCoy and Jordan Shipley fan. This is for a couple of reasons. Both Colt and Jordan are members of the Church and seem unashamed of their faith. Whether that shows when Shipley quoted a scripture to his place kicker before a most important kick at the close of a game late in the season, or anytime Colt addresses the press. I do not know where they attend or some of the other details but I do know their teammates thought enough of them that McCoy and Shipley were asked to have a Bible study by some of their teammates. I have been told that as a result of this study some of their teammates obeyed the Gospel. I also had heard of Colt before through a connection in my family. My brother-in-law, David Hinds is the Uncle of Grant Hinds, the Marine and that Colt dedicated his season to in 2008 (for a more complete read of this story see:[http://www.sanmarcosrecord.com/sports/local\\_story\\_331150315.html](http://www.sanmarcosrecord.com/sports/local_story_331150315.html) — or better yet check out the video link at <http://www.truveo.com/Colt-McCoy-Dedicates-Season-To-His-Fallen-Hero/id/1730093609>). Brenna and I knew Grant and his family through visits and holiday gatherings with the Hinds family while we were living in California.

As I noted above, last night I was set to enjoy a good game with a feeling of really hating to see either team lose. I was so upset though when on the second series Colt had to leave the game. I almost turned off the TV. I was so sick for him. All his effort put into the chance to win a national championship and now that dream had ended. It seemed almost unfair. I also knew if Saban's Tide was able to obtain the victory, there would always be the questions of “what if.” Although I was frustrated I stuck with the game. I am glad I did. It was nice to see a young man from Etown have a part in the play that may have been a deciding factor in the game. It was also nice to see a young quarterback working to overcome adversity. It was amazing to see Shipley continue to give his all when some no doubt would have given up (all the emotions of having a friend, roommate and most importantly brother in Christ dealing with a difficult blow). By the end of the game, I was quite pleased that I had watched it all. I felt it was that good game I had hoped to see. But I still wanted to see how Colt would handle the situation. Both he and Shipley continued to amaze me. In his interview at the end of the game, an obviously emotional McCoy said, “I always give God the glory. I never question why things happen the way they do. God is in control of my life. And I know if nothing else, I am standing on the Rock.” Shipley in the post game press conference when asked about the situation of what could have been responded that he was just talking to his fellow player right after the game and he told him “Sometimes you just have to look at how you have been blessed.” What perspective by two young Christian men!

Allow me to contrast this reaction to another reaction I heard about regarding a college football fan who claimed to be a member of the Church. This man had been known for throwing and smashing his TV on the front lawn after his team would lose games. On one occasion he was attending a game where his team only had to beat their rival and they would be going to the national championship game for the first time in the history of their program. To make a long story short, his team failed in that objective. The man did not arrive home from the game till after midnight—I know because I too was at the disappointing game and he had further to travel than me. How did he respond to the loss? He gathered up the Bibles in the house, all of the team gear that he could find, and then woke up his family and gathered them around the table he had placed the Bibles and the gear, and he renounced God. He told his family something to the effect that there could be no God for God would not have allowed his team to lose the game that night.

I am quite certain that this man had not invested as much blood, sweat, and tears into the accomplishment of a National Championship as had McCoy and Shipley. The difference appears that for McCoy and Shipley—they view things like Paul—“For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain” (Phil. 1:21). How about you?

*John F Board, Elizabethtown, Ky*

# News and Notes

**ROY JOHNSON** had eye surgery on Thursday at Norton's Hospital in Louisville. **MIKE PARKS** had surgery on Friday at the VA hospital in Louisville. **PATSY RICHTER**, Barbara Underwood's sister will have surgery January 18 in Louisville. **HELEN RABY** fell and is not able to walk very well.

## MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

|                     |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Betty Addington     | Ruby Keister      |
| Carl & Delsie Axton | Rosa Lee Norman   |
| Neil Burden         | Pansy Sells       |
| Howard Gardner      | Grace Speer       |
| Faye Guess          | Oleta Stranahan   |
| Dorothy Hawkins     | Kay Thomason      |
| Betty Lawson        | Barbara Underwood |
| Diane Lewis         | Lonnie Underwood  |
| J Martin            | Dorothy Weaver    |
| Carl Mercer         | Lawrence Wells    |
| Tom Morgan          | Jim White         |
| Andy Nevins         |                   |

**Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers:** Robert E. Wooten, Kelly Leverett, Korry Leverett (Iraq), Joe Betterton, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Nathan McClain, Ronald O'Bryant, Roni Reed, Hector Meza, Aaron Wellman, Michael Morrow, Israel Fox, Barry Barclay, Brian Wilkins, Nathan Miller, Dan Sloat, Gregory Stack, A. J. Anderson, Travis Clonch (Afghanistan), Drew McAlpin (Iraq)

**Additional Prayer List:** Yvonne Barclay, John D. Board, Priscilla Boyd, Roy Buckles, Sue Cantrell, Michael Clymer, Elizabeth Cooper, Bill Cyrus, Doug Edwards, Pegggy Fryer (AL), Brenda Gaddie, Joe Gattis, Royce Goodman, Renee Green, Doris Grimm, Jessica Hannum (Wilkins' niece), Ryan Hanson, Ginell Harris, Louie Hodge, Mandy Holland-Sherwood, Betty Jabrocki, Janice Jones, John Kavanaugh, Becky King, T. L. Lewis, Buddy Logsdon, Sherry Marcum, Susan Moller, Mary Montgomery, Dorsey Morrow, Robert Moyers, Joe Pawley, Willie Pence, Steven Pitcock, Cindy Prael, Joe Richter, Jean Routt, Jamie Schwalm, Herlon Selby, Carlos Smith, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Florence Stull, Juanita Tillery, Tanya Waters (WY), Kevin Weaver, Margaret Whisenant, Judy Wilson, Virginia Wiser

## Welcome

**Ron Lemasters** met with the elders January 3 and indicated his desire to identify with the Elizabethtown congregation. Welcome Ron! His address is 2533 Kensington Way, Elizabethtown, KY 42701.

**Frank & Pamela Lercher** met with the elders January 10 and indicated their desire to identify with the Elizabethtown congregation. Welcome Frank & Pamela! Their address is 412 Genrose Dr., Rineyville, KY 40162

## Pantry Items of the Week

Week of 1/17/10—Canned pork'n'beans and soup

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- There will be a CSG reorganization meeting immediately following morning services, Sunday, January 17.
- Please make plans to attend the Singing at Atria on Sunday January 24, at 3:00 p.m.
- There will be a youth group devotional at the home of Jason and Carrie White following evening services Sunday, January 24.
- **FREED HARDEMAN UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP, February 7-12**
- Mark your calendars for the Sweetheart Dinner to be held on Saturday, February 20, in the South Wing.

## Super Saints

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for any Super Saints interested in attending the FHU Lectures. The bus will be leaving Tuesday, Feb. 9 around 8:00 a.m. We need a definite commitment by January 20. Rooms have been reserved for the price of \$49.95. Please see Gene or Karen Stough for more information.

## Tables

We are in the process of replacing a portion of the metal tables in the South Wing. If you would like to have one or more of the tables please turn your name and how many tables you would like to have in to the office.

## Mission News

Joe & Dorothy Brothers leave for a mission trip to Panama January 28. Please pray for the success of their trip.

## Volunteers Needed

The elders have asked for volunteers to help out in the Clothing Center once a month, to keep things organized. If you would like to help out, contact the office.

## Thank You

I would like to sincerely thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers and the flowers during the death of my grandfather. It has truly helped to deal with my sadness! Brenna Board

## OUR RECORD FOR

January 10, 2010

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Sunday Bible Study               | 134     |
| Sunday Morning Assembly          | 172     |
| Sunday Evening Assembly          | 144     |
| Wednesday Bible Study            | 128     |
| Ladies Bible Class               | 17      |
| Contribution (Budget -- \$6,888) | \$6,760 |

Elder/Coordinator for January  
Mike Pence

## Bible Question

**This Week's Bible Question: Who was David's strongest general?**

**Last Week's Bible Question: In what prophetic book is the command, "Prepare to meet thy God"? The correct answer is Amos, Amos 4:12. Those who correctly answered the Bible Question are: Joyce Pack, Edna Ashlock, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, Katy Watson, Bloria Taylor, Rick Eiler, Lorene Harris, Helen Raby**

*Please write down your answer and put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net) by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.*

## Schedule of Services

### Sunday:

|                 |            |
|-----------------|------------|
| Bible Classes   | 9:30 A.M.  |
| Morning Worship | 10:30 A.M. |
| Evening Worship | 6:00 P.M.  |

### Tuesday

|                    |            |
|--------------------|------------|
| Ladies Bible Class | 10:30 A.M. |
|--------------------|------------|

### Wednesday

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Evening Bible Class | 7:00 P.M. |
|---------------------|-----------|

Elizabethtown Church of Christ  
P. O. Box 652  
1211 N. Dixie Ave.  
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Church Office: 765-6446  
Fax # 737-0491

### Elders:

|                 |          |
|-----------------|----------|
| Ron Carter      | 358-5792 |
| Henry McAlister | 765-7386 |
| Mike Pence      | 737-8123 |
| Rick Whobrey    | 769-9267 |

### Minister:

|            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| John Board | 763-1677        |
|            | cell # 505-3925 |

### Secretary:

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| Kim Whobrey | 769-9267 |
|-------------|----------|

Email: [chofchrist@windstream.net](mailto:chofchrist@windstream.net)

Visit us on the World Wide Web:  
[www.etowncofc.org](http://www.etowncofc.org)

**Daily Bible Reading Schedule**  
Jan. 18 — Exodus 1-3  
Jan. 19 — Exodus 4-6  
Jan. 20 — Exodus 7-9  
Jan. 21 — Exodus 10-12  
Jan. 22 — Exodus 13-15  
Jan. 23 — Exodus 16-18  
Jan. 24 — Exodus 19-21

Jan. 15-17 — Evangelism University, TN  
Jan. 17 — CSG Reorganization Meeting  
Jan. 24 — Singing at Atria  
Feb. 7-12 — FHU Lectureship  
Feb. 9-12 — Super Saints trip to FHU Lectures  
Feb. 20 — Sweetheart Dinner

**PARTICIPATION**  
**Are You Part of the**

**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

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