

Revival Service featuring John Hamblin, April 8, 7:00 PM

Video at: http://libcphiladelphia.sermon.tv/mc/Online_Video_Sermons/8062153

The service didn't actually get under way until 7:05 with the pastor leading a period of silent prayer while the organ played softly in the background. He seemed like a pretty low-key and genial guy. The opening song was 'Praise Him! Praise Him!' and was followed by announcements. Then on to the recognition of attending pastors and those in full-time Christian service. Next up was special music. I didn't catch the name of the song but it was sung by an older lady who said she hadn't sung it since she was in the Philippines 50 years ago. Before the next song, they took a love offering for Hamblin. The second congregational song for the evening was 'In the Service of the King'. A visiting pastor who was playing the piano for the service followed up with a song called 'I Found the Book' which was about knowing what Jesus did because of finding the book.

The main event started at 7:29 when John Hamblin took the platform. He announced his text of Jude 22 and finally got around to reading it at 7:33. His focus was what he called the basement or part B of the verse: "making a difference". His summation of the book was "beware of heretic teachers and their dangerous doctrines". He followed that with an alliterated outline of the book: The Revelation (1-2), The Reaction (3-4), The Repetition (5-9), The Retribution (10-15), and the Regeneration (16-25).

His message's theme was 'Dynamics of a Differencemaker'. He recommended taking a pencil and scratching these things somewhere in the margins of your Bible but hoped "God would take an eternal pen and write these things upon thy heart as well".

1. They know how to Contend (v3). He said that 'the faith' in verse made sure to touch all the bases such as Verbal inspiration and Very preservation of the scripture, Virgin birth, Vicarious death (included a jab at Calvinism/limited atonement), Victorious resurrection, and Visible return. Something about people who tried to tamper with the truth. No bible college student going into the ministry should be ordained unless they know at least three references for each of the fundamentals. Selah, muse on that for a moment! (yes, he actually said that.) Those who made a difference in the past not only Memorized this verse but also Mirrored it in their own lives. Referenced Luke 18:8 that when Jesus returns there will be some Baptist churches and colleges where the whole body of revealed truth will not be found even with a spiritual metal detector (err, what?). Christianity is being replaced by Sissyanity. He followed this by recounting the story of General McAuliffe's famous 'Nuts!' reply to a German commander's demand for the surrounded Americans to surrender. Someone's cell phone went off and he asked if he could please answer that call. He talked about churches putting rock and roll bands on their platforms, throwing away their KJV's and joining the Bible-of-the-month club, Bible colleges walking the paths of new-evangelical teaching and trends. Just shout 'NUTS!' and determine that you're going to fight on! He recently saw on Twitter where a 'so called' bible college president had put his arm around a neo-evangelical who was responsible for sowing the seeds of compromise in churches all over America and said it

was great to meet him. It made Hamblin nauseated and he wanted to puke. You'll never be a champion like that (someone later told me this was a reference to Eric Capaci of Champion Bible College)!

2. They know how to Contact (v20). Praying in the Holy Ghost simply means the saints on their knees asking for things that are on the third person of the trinity's agenda and that he can also say 'Amen' to. Most praying is not Holy Ghost praying. 95% of prayers go unanswered. Holy Ghost prayer grants believers: Power (Acts 4:31), Perception (Acts 6:4), and Perseverance (Acts 16:25). The Bible is a closed book to the believer until they have an intimate relationship with its author. He then told about how his aunt and uncle finally got saved after he had prayed for them for thirty years. The problem was that it took him about six minutes to get through his story after accounting for all the rabbit trails about Christmas, fireplaces, the title of the sermon he preached at the meeting where they got saved, talking to the camera audience, etc.

3. They know how to Convert (v23). Jude tells us of the need to bring people to Calvary. This 65th book of the Bible beats the war drum against liberalism, formalism and modernism and gives the clear command that the believer must do everything in their power to keep people from hitting the flames of perdition. God is not impressed with you standing for the faith when there was no gospel tract in your pocket yesterday and there still is no gospel tract in your pocket tonight. What good would it be to stand FOR the faith when we're not winning anyone (say Amen right there) TO the faith? Reference to Daniel 12:3 as evidence of soulwinning. Instead of wanting to shake the hand of a Politician, Punkster, Prankster or the Person enjoying 15 minutes of Popularity, the child of God should then want to shake the hand of the Personal soulwinner because according to the book of God it is the personal soulwinner that's the star of heaven. If you don't understand John 3:16, that 'world' and 'whosoever' proves that beyond any shadow of a doubt that God is not selective in salvation, I don't wanna hear you pray, don't wanna hear you quote a verse of Bible, I sure don't want you teaching my young people. Oliver B. Greene used to say that there are a lot of people who can tell you what every wrinkle on the toe of Daniel's image means but won't go across the street to lead a soul to Christ. All that is is Bible ignorance with a PhD in front of it. I think everybody ought to carry a gospel tract. I'm not interested in hearing anybody sing, preach, pray, play or usher if they don't have a tract in their pocket. He told a five minute anecdote about giving Rick Ross a tract at an airport and having his picture taken with him. I'm only telling you this to motivate you and, yes, to motivate me. If your theology has a problem with passing out gospel tracts, I got a problem, and so does that Bible, with your theology. If Rick Ross goes out into eternity unsaved, he'll remember one day he had an opportunity when a gospel tract was put in his hand. He followed this with another five minute story about reading the obituary in the paper (Philadelphia Enquirer section B5 of the April 8 edition) of fashion designer Lilly Pulitzer. She's known for designing dresses but he wants to be remembered for more than that which is temporal. God bless her for making a dress, it's better than a pair of pants on a woman, say amen right there! He made some other remarks and then started the invitation.

Invitation – Our heads are bowed and eyes are closed (everyone stands). He starts talking about March Madness, basketball and how much he loves basketball (his team is University of Michigan). Last month was March Madness, spiritually speaking. Things that happened last month that you may or may not be aware of and if you're not, it's probably better that you're not (Presumably a reference to Supreme Court hearing on gay marriage). Even in these dark, dark, dark, dark days we can still make a difference. Who can lift their hand and say they know that they know that they know they're saved? If you couldn't lift your hand would you lift it and say preacher pray for me. Some random bit about how he never gets up to preach without looking in the flyleaf of his Bible at a picture of his mentor Tom Malone Sr. who died in 2007 and remembering that someone impacted his life. He talked about Carl McIntire who stood against Communism to the point of broadcasting his radio station from a boat when his station was shut down (Seems factually inaccurate. see: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_McIntire). He finally called for people to come forward. The invitational hymn was 'Jesus I come' played on the organ with chimes on one of the keyboards. It actually sounded pretty nice. More talk about himself and his adventures while making a difference. The invitation from heads bowed to the end lasted for 13 minutes.

Book table infomercial (13 minutes): Various sermons and books available, including his sermon on 'Seven Public Enemies of New Testament Christianity' and 'Where Old-Time Christianity Will Take You and Me'. There is a booklet called 'Religion of the New Cart'. What's that? Churches with bad Bible, bad music, bad methodology, bad associations, bad bad bad! By the way, they'll be having toboggan races where the bogeyman lives before you see me throw my arm around a compromiser and say how great it is to meet him. My first book, published by the Sword of the Lord, 'Fire in the Pulpit', is a collection of sermons including 'Leave the Ancient Landmarks Alone'. I was preaching that in a preacher's meeting about ten years ago and a preacher in the second row jumped up and hollered 'I don't have to take this' and walked out. I put it in reverse, put it in drive, said it all over again and loaded his backside with Bible buckshot all the way out the door. Now I'm not bragging but anybody can tick off a church member but when you tick off a preacher, [baby?], that's preachin'. I've been flown in for meetings just to preach this message 'What Would Billy Sunday Say to a Young Preacher?' I based that off of everything I've read about Billy Sunday, both secular and sacred and I came across a note that he had written to a young man who was going out to preach. And with that note and with the Bible I preach what Billy Sunday would say to a young preacher.

He was interrupted by a cell phone ringing while talking about a soulwinning card he and Shelton Smith had written together: Hey, uh, excuse me! It was – (realizes it was the pastor's phone) That's your phone that's ringing. I'd nuke anybody but you preacher so that's good. Anybody else, I'd light 'em up. God bless you, it's you and it's ok. You're signing the love offering checks so it's alright. God pity if it was anybody else. *goes back to talking about the card*

Talking about the preacher's meeting the next morning he encouraged laypeople to come. In a preacher's meeting you get to hear preachers beat up on preachers. Church services,

preachers beat up church members but when you come to a preacher's meeting tomorrow morning I'm preaching. It's gonna be a cage match. You won't want to miss it.

Closing song ~ Redeemed How I Love to Proclaim It

Closing prayer finished at 8:50