

# Banner of Truth

*"The truth shall make you free." (John 8:32)*

## **Eighth Annual Banner of Truth Lectureship**

June 29 – July 2, 2009

Murray, KY

Murray State University

Curriss Center, 3rd Floor Theatre

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Daily Schedule: 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.  
Twenty Eight Lessons—Sixteen Speakers  
Countless Years of Preaching Experience

Lovers of the Plain Truth

Cannot afford to Miss This Lectureship

# Ninth Annual ***Banner of Truth Lectureship*** June 29 – July 2, 2009 Murray, KY

**—The Great and Urgent Need To Revive the Restoration Movement—**

Venue: Curris Center, Murray State Univ. Campus, 3rd Floor Theater  
Sponsored by the Powell Grove church of Christ, Lebanon, TN

## MONDAY, JUNE 29

10:00 a.m.	<i>What Is the Restoration Movement?</i>	Alan Adams
11:00 a.m.	<i>An Urgent Need for a Spirit of Restoration</i>	Walter W. Pigg
1:30 p.m.	<i>The Blessing of Vocational Preachers</i>	Jimmy Bates
2:30 p.m.	<i>The Influence of Our Schools</i>	Lloyd Gale
3:30 p.m.	<i>Where the Bible Is Silent, We Are Silent</i>	Paul Curless
7:00 p.m.	<i>God-Approved Evangelism</i>	Ken Burleson
8:00 p.m.	<i>“Come Over into Macedonia and Help Us”</i>	Joe Spangler

## TUESDAY, JUNE 30

10:00 a.m.	<i>Walking by Faith, Not Opinion</i>	Rick Knoll
11:00 a.m.	<i>Essentiality of Good Leadership</i>	Lloyd Gale
1:30 p.m.	<i>Bringing Up Children Spiritually</i>	Tom Snyder
2:30 p.m.	<i>Where The Bible Speaks, We Speak</i>	Jeff Bates
3:30 p.m.	<i>God’s Law on Fellowship</i>	Paul Curless
7:00 p.m.	<i>Speaking Boldly the Whole Counsel of God</i>	Roger Scully
8:00 p.m.	<i>The Galatians — In Need of Restoration</i>	Rusty Stark

## WEDNESDAY, JULY 1

10:00 a.m.	<i>The Power of the Printed Page</i>	Garland Robinson
11:00 a.m.	<i>The Influence of The Home</i>	Ron Tripp
1:30 p.m.	<i>The Error of Instrumental Music in Worship</i>	Rusty Stark
2:30 p.m.	<i>Christian Modesty</i>	Roger Scully
3:30 p.m.	<i>Being an Example of Believers</i>	Jeff Bates
7:00 p.m.	<i>The Church Must Be Militant</i>	Ken Butterworth
8:00 p.m.	<i>The Need for Home Churches</i>	Jimmy Bates

## THURSDAY, JULY 2

10:00 a.m.	<i>Withstanding the Homosexual Culture</i>	Ken Butterworth
11:00 a.m.	<i>The Plague of Indifference</i>	Ken Burleson
1:30 p.m.	<i>Warnings of Departures from the Faith</i>	Ron Tripp
2:30 p.m.	<i>Overcoming Materialism</i>	Tom Snyder
3:30 p.m.	<i>The Sadness of Leaving One’s First Love</i>	Rick Knoll
7:00 p.m.	<i>Today’s Opposition to Godly Influence</i>	Alan Adams
8:00 p.m.	<i>The Blessings of True Restoration</i>	Garland Robinson

# Is Restoration Quantifiable?

“The Way,” “the faith,” “the church,” et al, refer to a singular, identifiable entity which in any generation can be imitated, repeated, and perpetuated by application of the pattern which has through the ages been passed down by way of the New Testament. This is generally what we mean by restoration.

Some view restoration as an unattainable goal, rather an “ongoing process.” They view the denominations, as well as the churches of Christ, as all involved in the same noble quest, the only difference being that of proximity: some are nearer, some are closer, but all are seeking the religion of Christ. This conflicts with the objective perception of restoration which has for more than a century sustained churches of Christ in the United States, that being using the New Testament as a pattern and systematically checking actions and accomplishments against the criteria of that pattern. It is a closed-end process by which one can compare the pattern and the product and say, Done that, Got that; and finally say, Finished.

This perception of restoration sees “restoring” the original religion of Jesus in the same objective terms as those used of Moses in the building of the tabernacle where it is said, “Moses *was* warned of God when he *was* about to make the tabernacle: for, See, saith he, that thou make all things according to the pattern that was showed thee in the mount” (Hebrews 8:5). Just as there was some point at which Moses could compare what was being built against the “pattern that was showed *him* in the mount” and finally say, Done; so it is the case that we today may do the same. Why would one imagine that under Moses restoration was an attainable goal, whereas under one “worthy of more glory than Moses” (Hebrews 3:3), it is not.

What galls liberals within the church today is the idea of counting or ticking off things. You see, with them it’s all about feeling good, not what you do. Since feelings can neither be measured nor quantified, nobody is in any position to point to another and say, You are not right with the Lord because you haven’t yet done this, or you lack that; or, Here’s something you’re doing of which God has never spoken.

Take for example the salvation of a sinner. I recall a religious discussion with a gentleman years ago wherein I had set forth the terms or procedure at the end of which a sinner may know that his “iniquities are forgiven” (Romans 4:7). The gentleman, so steeped in Calvinism, got exasperated with me and exclaimed, “You can’t just boil things down to a few simple terms.” He was particularly exercised over the idea of counting off five—no more, no less—things that a sinner must “do” in order to be saved. Our liberals have joined this gentleman. They speak snidely of five-steppers.

Yes, it is by “grace” we are saved, and yes, it is “not of ourselves,” just as surely as it was by “grace” and not of “Naaman” that his skin was made “clean” (Ephesians 2:8; II Kings 5:14). Yet, it is equally clear that Naaman had to dip—now c-o-u-n-t—seven times in the Jordan.

I read the New Testament and I find several things which must occur before a sinner can “call upon the name of the Lord” and “be saved” (Romans 10:13). He must “hear...the glad tidings” (vv. 14,16). He must “believe” the gospel (Mark 16:15-16). He must “repent” (Acts 2:38; 17:30-31). He must “confess Jesus as Lord” (Romans 10:9-10). He must be “baptized for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). In fact, baptism is viewed as the comprehensive consummating act of a sinner “calling” on God to save him, which is why Ananias tells a believing penitent Paul, “arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name” (Acts 22:16).

It is not my fault that those things to be done by the one “calling” on God total: 1,2,3,4,5. Nor, is it my fault that one who does not fit this pattern has not yet “called” and is not “saved.” Verily, it is a hard thing to “kick against the goad” of quantifiable restoration.