

### **“I Know What The Lord Has Chosen To Do!”**

In a recent item in the so-called “Christian Chronicle” of July 2009, page three and following, Dennis Cox of the Ohio Valley University said, “I want people to know that the Lord has chosen to maintain this institution for 49 years, going on 50, and our assumption is that He is going to continue to do that.” Is such a thing true? Can we know if such a statement is true? How can we know, and know that we know (I John 2.3) that God is involved in secular institutions? Could it be that his “assumption” was really presumptuous?

Another question: How does Mr. Cox know what the Lord has chosen to do? The apostle Paul twice asked the rhetorical question: “Who hath known the mind of the Lord?” This is a good question! We find this question first in Romans 11.34. The context wherein it is found is discussing God’s desire to graft Gentiles into His “olive tree” called the remnant. This is the church of Christ. Paul’s question calls upon any who might think the Gentiles are not acceptable to re-think this. After all, “Who are you to question God’s actions to save all mankind: Jew and Gentile?”

The second time we find this question is in Paul’s epistle to the Corinthians, I Corinthians 2.16. Very clearly this text is contrasting the “natural man” with the “spiritual man.” What kind of men are these? Simply: he is contrasting inspired with uninspired men. Note in the context the distinction between “we, us” and “ye, you.” Some things are only know to God...except when He decides to reveal them to men. This He has done through the Holy Spirit to His apostles. So, who can know what God thinks, does, or chooses? Only God and the inspired apostles as He reveals such things to them. Who has the mind of Christ? Only inspired men. Here is happy news: we who are not inspired can know some of these thing as well! How? By reading what the inspired men wrote (see Ephesians 3.3-5; I John 1.1-4).

So, for Mr. Cox to be so bold to claim to know what the Lord has chosen to do, he is either implying that he is able to out-guess or otherwise direct God’s thinking and actions (Romans 11), or he is an inspired apostle (I Corinthians 2). I wonder which it is? Men of all sorts of religions claim to “know” that their “success” is the Lord's doing. Does the claim made by the Mormons that because they are the largest denomination in America PROVE that God is blessing them?

Whichever Mr. Cox believes it to be, he faces another problem: Does the Lord truly “maintain” secular institutions? In all of the Bible, there are only three institutions that God has ordained: the home, the government, and the church. Now, into which of these three does a college or university fall? I know that some folks have been deluded into believing that so-called “Christian” colleges or universities are God ordained, or extensions of the local church. But such thinking is false. Even if God did choose to spiritually bless a secular institution, would He do so for one that was so blatantly opposing His will by allowing error to be taught and practiced within its walls? Would God really bless fellowship with the error that OVU practices? Surely King David expressed God’s thoughts when he said “Through thy precepts I get understanding: Therefore I hate every false way” (Psalm 119.104).

This same article also quotes Rubel Shelly as saying “All of us know the value that Christian Colleges have added to the evangelistic outreach of Churches of Christ in different parts of the country where they are known.” Really? Where is the proof for such a claim? And that coming from the likes as Rubel Shelly himself...a turncoat of the rankest kind! This is the man who has fellowship with EVERYTHING, wears his collars backward, and claims that the Lord's church is not the New Testament church! I have no doubt that so-called “Christian Colleges” may offer a fine secular education, but to claim that they do one of the

three works assigned only to the Lord's church is either ignorant or arrogant. I do not think that Rubel Shelly is ignorant. I have seen and read his arrogance for years!

For the most part, what "Christian Colleges" have added to the evangelistic efforts of many congregations is error coming from the liberal "Bible Departments" of these secular institutions. Impressionable kids' heads are filled with half-baked notions that come from their "professors" who desire to restructure the church into something of their own hearts' imagination (Jeremiah 23.16). For nearly 30 years I have had ample opportunities to work with congregations who have been in need of remedial grounding in sound doctrine and "thus saith the Lord." This due to some "campaign" that came to them from a "Christian College" or "University" or "School of Preaching" that was directed by a liberal, and conducted by liberals who filled the young minds of the local congregation with error regarding authorized worship, the church and its organization and function, marriage-divorce-remarriage, and the work of the Holy Spirit. Sometimes it takes years to correct the damage done by a one week "campaign."

Some churches never recover.

This is nothing new for the so-called "Christian Chronicle" to disseminate. This is the organ for what is called "Oklahoma Christian University of Science and Arts" which is nothing but a clearing house for liberalism...and has been for years. It is sad, however, that so many gullible brethren will read this trash and consider it "news" among God's elect. They fail to realize that it is just another tool the devil uses to find in-roads into the thinking of otherwise uninformed brethren. As has been said, "You just can't warn some brethren!"

# RAGER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

SUNDAY MORNING	BIBLE STUDY	9:30 A.M.
	WORSHIP	10:30 A.M.
SUNDAY EVENING	WORSHIP	6:00 P.M.
WEDNESDAY	BIBLE STUDY	7:30 P.M.
Preachers:	Robin W. Haley	614-751-1082
	James Grayson	614-409-0941

August 2, 2009

Weekly Budget: \$1360.00

### Wednesday's Wisdom:

*"Jesus is the only way to Heaven. Always look to Him!" Josh Haley*

**New address:** Brian & Whitney Grayson  
3425 Parlin Pl S  
Grove City, OH 43123  
614-871-1978

**Privilege lists** are available on the bulletin table. Men, pick one up.

**Robin & Cheryl** are in Pomeroy today, reporting on the trip to Kiev.

**Congregational Picnic:** with the Pomeroy brethren at Old Man's Cave, Saturday, August 15. Meet by or before noon for lunch, then some hiking, etc.