

FALL 2014 | Vol. 37

[www.wmcarey.edu](http://www.wmcarey.edu)



# *The* Carey Pulpit

*I am very aff. yours*  
*W. Carey*

**William Carey University**

Hattiesburg • Biloxi





The sermon outlines in this issue of *The Carey Pulpit* cover a broad range of topics and passages. I pray that they help you in your Bible study and sermon preparation. *The Carey Pulpit* goes out to pastors across Mississippi and to alumni and friends across the country.

William Carey University is proud to carry the name of William Carey, who was born in Paulersbury, England in 1761. While apprenticing as a shoemaker, he encountered John War, a “dissenter,” who led him to accept Christ as his personal savior. William Carey became a bi-vocational pastor and demonstrated his talent for learning biblical languages. To help lay the theological foundations for the missionary movement, Carey wrote *An Enquiry into the Obligations of Christians to use Means for the Conversion of the Heathens* and worked with other area pastors to establish the Baptist Missionary Society. In 1793 Carey and his family sailed for India where they would spend the rest of their lives devoted to the Gospel. When Carey answered the call to become a missionary in India, God honored and enhanced all his gifts and talents by transforming the poor shoemaker from England into a linguist, scientist, professor, and social reformer. Carey and his associates evangelized, established Serampore College, and translated the Bible into 40 languages. The “Father of Modern Missions” died in 1834 after helping to start the modern missionary movement.

Past and current volumes of *The Carey Pulpit* are posted on the university website, so you will have access to an ever increasing number of sermon outlines. The web address is [www.wmcarey.edu/pulpit](http://www.wmcarey.edu/pulpit). If you would like to receive sermon outlines by email, please send your email address to [scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu](mailto:scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu).

I invite you to submit sermon outlines for *The Carey Pulpit* and to encourage others to submit outlines. The sermons can be focused on a single passage, topic, holiday, or event.

Mail or email your sermon outlines to the address or email listed below.

Dr. Scott Hummel  
Executive Vice President and Provost  
Professor of Religion  
William Carey University, Box 1  
498 Tuscan Avenue  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

[scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu](mailto:scott.hummel@wmcarey.edu)

*The pulpit shown on the cover is a late 19th century line drawing of William Carey's pulpit that now sits in the Carey Library and Research Center (CLRC), Serampore College, India.*

# Table of Contents

Education and Church Relations 2013-2014 Report.....Page 2

## **Sermon by Garry Blackwell**

Assistant Director of the BSU and Instructor of Religion, Tradition Campus • William Carey University

“The Easy Yoke” (*Matthew 11:25-30*) .....Page 4

## **Sermon by Billy Dowdy**

Pastor • First Baptist Church, Leakesville, MS

“Heaven Came Down” (*Colossians 1:3-8*) .....Page 5

## **Sermon by Scott Hummel**

Executive Vice President and Provost • William Carey University  
Interim Pastor • Hurricane Creek Baptist Church, Marion County, MS

“Names of Jesus” (*John 1*) .....Page 6

“Names They Called Jesus” .....Page 7

“What Is the Meaning of the Law?” (*Deuteronomy 6:20-29*).....Page 8

## **Sermon by Chas Rowland**

Pastor • Bovina Baptist Church, Vicksburg, MS

“Jesus’ Superior Humility” (*Hebrews 2:5-9*).....Page 9

## **Sermon by Kevin Jackson**

Pastor • Grace Baptist Church, Grenada, MS

“Trust in God Alone, Part 1” (*Isaiah 1-39*).....Page 10

“Trust in God Alone, Part 2” (*Isaiah 40-66*) .....Page 11

## **Sermon by Matt Olson**

Pastor • Big Creek Baptist Church, Wayne County, MS

“Man Shall Not Live by Bread Alone” (*Deuteronomy 8:1-6*).....Page 12

# William Carey University

## Education and Church Relations 2013-2014 Report

William Carey University had its earliest origins in Poplarville, Mississippi, when W.I. Thames opened Pearl River Boarding School in 1892. In 1905 the school was relocated to Hattiesburg and renamed South Mississippi College. In 1911 the college was offered to the Mississippi Baptist Convention as Mississippi Woman's College. In 1953 the college became co-educational, and the name was changed to William Carey College. After being approved as a Level 5 institution in 2006, the name became William Carey University. WCU now offers 41 undergraduate majors and 26 minors, as well as 18 graduate degrees, including one specialist and four doctorates.

### CAREY IS GROWING

- Record enrollment for fall 2013 was 4,076 with 111 international students from 36 countries.
- Our student/faculty ratio is 13:1.
- Enrollment increased 1.1% over last year and increased 60% over the past six years.
- The College of Osteopathic Medicine began its first year in 2010. About 400 medical students are currently enrolled. The fifth class of 108 students was selected from over 2400 applications. Third and fourth year medical students are engaged in clinical rotations around the state. The first class of medical students graduated in May 2014.
- The first doctoral students graduated in 2014 in all four doctoral programs (D.O., Ph.D. in Nursing Education, Ph.D. in Higher Education, and Ed.D. in Higher Education).
- In addition to Biblical Studies, the Department of Christian Ministries has been formed.
- Davis Hall, a new woman's dormitory, was completed in fall 2013.

- Three new buildings were completed: Bass Memorial Chapel, Ross Anatomy Wing, and the new School of Business.
- Seven years ago, Carey had seven sports; now it has 14 sports.
- The 3rd annual Scholarship Endowment Dinner with Senator Roger Wicker raised over \$375,000 for scholarships. Over \$1.1 million has been raised over three years.

### CAREY IS COMMITTED

- The BSU provided weekly and special activities which involved over 535 students and reached over 1000.
- More than 150 students served in community ministries and mission teams.
- Over 40 students on BSU ministry teams served at 14 churches.
- Over 100 students participated in projects to provide tutoring and community service.
- Carey Scholars provided "College Preparation" sessions for 75 Hattiesburg High students.
- The BSU sent 12 students as summer missionaries and 35 on other mission trips.
- WCU students participated in international mission trips to Brazil, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, England, Honduras, Lebanon, Peru, Spain, and Uganda.
- The BSU raised \$15,719 for summer missions.
- BSU and FCA ministries saw 49 professions of faith.
- FCA students have spoken at numerous area schools about their faith.
- Global Opportunities Week featured Dr. Rebecca Naylor and involved over 250 students.

- Nearly 600 participated in the 3rd annual GC Night: A Night for the Great Commission.
- WCU had 120 Church Related Vocation students.

## CAREY IS EXCELLING

- The average ACT score for incoming freshmen is 24, which is six points higher than the Mississippi average and three points higher than the national average.
- Carey was ranked a “Top Tier Regional University” by *U.S. News and World Report* and as the **#1 Best Value Regional University in the South**.
- WCU was recognized as College of Distinction, a Best College Buy, and a Best Christian College Buy.
- Ranked in top 100 in nation by ETC (Educate to Career).
- For the sixth year in a row, Carey was selected as a “Military Friendly School.”
- WCU received a perfect score by the U.S. Department of Education for “College Financial Responsibility.”
- Chelsea Rick, 2013 Miss Mississippi, is a WCUCOM medical student.
- The speech and debate team won second place in the national debate tournament for the fourth year in a row.
- WCU had 23 NAIA Scholar-Athletes.
- Eight Carey athletic teams were selected as NAIA Scholar teams with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Seven teams placed in the NAIA Top 25 in the nation, including softball, which finished 2nd in the nation and men’s basketball, which was ranked as high as #3 in the nation.
- Coaches Steve Knight (basketball) and Danny Owens (soccer) were named Coaches of the Year for the Southern States Athletic Conference
- WCU received the Halbrook Award for having the highest graduation rate among athletes (96%).

## CAREY IS GLOBAL

- WCU maintains its relationship with the Texas Tech University Center in Seville, Spain.
- A teacher/student exchange program with Linyi University brought Chinese professors and students to Hattiesburg and Carey students and faculty to China.
- The men’s basketball team competed in Puerto Rico, and the men’s soccer team competed in Chile.
- The Study, Travel, and Excavation Program took students to Greece, Jordan, and Israel.
- Students are studying in numerous countries for their internships in intercultural studies.

Promoting and supporting Christian education is vital to Mississippi Baptists. At William Carey University, we are unapologetic about our commitment to a biblical worldview and the blending of faith, learning, and living. Through a solid Christian education, our students are able to reach their highest potential in scholarship, leadership, and service. Our achievements were possible due to your prayers and continued giving to the Cooperative Program. You are directly responsible for enabling us to equip students to answer the calling God has placed upon their lives. Through our students, you are helping to fulfill the Great Commission. Thank you for your continued support of William Carey University and Christian higher education.

***U.S. News & World Report***  
ranked  
**William Carey University**  
**#1 BEST VALUE**  
among regional universities  
in the South in 2014

## THE EASY YOKE

Matthew 11:25-30

### Introduction:

1. It is commonly believed that the Christian life is difficult. Theologian G.K. Chesterton said, "Christianity has not so much been tried and found wanting, as it is found difficult and untried."

2. The way of Christ is not the only way that may prove to be difficult. Soren Kierkegaard reminds us, "It costs a man just as much or even more to go to hell than to come to heaven. Narrow, exceedingly narrow is the way to perdition." The "cost of discipleship," though it may take all that we have, is small when compared to the lot of those who do not accept Christ's invitation to be a part of his company in the way of life.

3. The words of Jesus from Matthew 11:25-30 present an alternative. The ease, lightness, and power of his Way we rarely enjoy, much less see as the pervasive and enduring quality of our human existence.

4. We tend to see the words of Jesus as an ideal, not something that he intended for us to do.

5. None of our "reasons" remove Jesus' command that we obey him. To obey we must grasp the secret of entering the easy yoke.

6. The secret lies in the words "little children," "come," "all," "yoke," "learn," and "rest."

#### I. "Little Children"

- A. Knowledge of God comes to those who have faith like little children.
- B. To "know God" is to meet him in trust and love.
- C. Only those who are willing to meet God with childlike trust and love will "know" God.

#### II. "Come to me"

- A. The Father is known through the Son.
- B. Only those persons, who heed Jesus' call to "come to me," can truly know the Father.

#### III. "All"

- A. Everyone gets weak and weary and needs rest.
- B. No one is arbitrarily excluded from salvation.
- C. Jesus' gracious invitation is to all who are weary and burdened.

#### IV. "Yoke"

- A. A yoke is a wooden frame placed on the backs of draft animals to make the pull in tandem. The word is often used in the Bible to speak of slavery, bondage, or hardship.
- B. The Jewish rabbis spoke of the Jewish law as a yoke and their many interpretations and details made the law a burden on the people.
- C. Like the rabbis, Jesus offers a yoke, but one that is light and not a burden. A yoke is made for two and Jesus does not offer his disciples a yoke which he does not also bear.

#### V. "Learn"

- A. In the book, *In His Steps* by Charles Sheldon, an entire community is transformed by people who begin acting as they think Jesus would act.
- B. The secret of the easy yoke is to learn from Christ how to live our total lives.
- C. If we wish to follow Christ, we must learn to walk in the easy yoke with him.

#### VI. "Rest"

- A. Jesus does not offer an escape from the toil, pain, conflicts, and all that makes life hard.
- B. The rest Jesus offers is the security that a person knows when he/she knows that his/her sins are forgiven and that he/she is accepted into the family of God.

### Conclusion:

What is the secret of the easy yoke? The willingness to live life yoked with Jesus, who enables us to overcome fear, anxiety, uncertainty, and meaninglessness and thus to live the abundant life he said he had come to bring.



## HEAVEN CAME DOWN

## Colossians 1:3-8

**Introduction:**

The concept of heaven is a subject filled with idyllic dreams and visions of different kinds, such as a cup of hot chocolate, a movie, and a blanket on a rainy winter day; a beach towel, sunshine, and surf; a deer stand in a tall tree with leaves falling all around.

Hollywood also has its ideas about heaven:

- In *It's a Wonderful Life* with Jimmy Stewart, heaven is a place where angels must earn their wings by helping people on earth.
- In *Ghost* Patrick Swayze's character is stuck between earth and heaven until his murder can be solved and the criminals caught.
- Over a hundred movies are about the afterlife, and some are interesting, and the others, well, I have never heard of...

One of the best statements about heaven comes from the hymn "Heaven Came Down" by John Peterson, "Now I have a hope that will surely endure after the passing of time; I have a future in heaven for sure, there in those mansions sublime. And it's because of that wonderful day when at the cross I believed; riches eternal and blessings supernal from His precious hand I received."

The best source about Heaven is God's own Word.

**I. There are People in Heaven**

- A. The rich man in hell sees Lazarus in Heaven (Luke 16:24).
- B. John is caught up to Heaven's throne room with elders (Rev 4:2ff).
- C. King David says of his deceased baby son, "I shall go to him, but he cannot return to me" (2 Sam 12:23)

**II. There is Power in Heaven (Rev 4:1-11)**

- A. No power outages, power failures, nor power vacuums

- B. Heaven needs no sun or moon (Rev 21:23) because the glory of God fills heaven.

**III. There is Peace in Heaven (Luke 19:38; Rev 21:1-7)**

- A. On earth peace has been illusive because of the:
  - Sinfulness of man...in Heaven there will be no sin.
  - Greediness of man...in Heaven there will be no greed.
  - Impatience of man...in Heaven there will be no impatience.
- B. On earth peace has been shattered by the:
  - Explosion of gunfire...in Heaven there will be no gunfire.
  - Screams of pain...in Heaven there will be no pain.
  - Sobbing and tears...in Heaven there will be no crying or tears.
- C. On earth peace has broken because of:
  - Lying lips...in Heaven there will be no lying.
  - Personal agendas...in Heaven there will be no personal agendas.
  - Power struggles...In Heaven there will be no power struggles.

**IV. There is Praise in Heaven**

- A. Christ's Birth (Luke 2:13-15)
- B. Our Spiritual Birth (Luke 15:10)
- C. What a holy convocation that will be (Rev 19:1-10)

**Conclusion:**

I am looking forward to Heaven...aren't you?

NAMES OF JESUS

John 1

Introduction:

As Christians we should boldly proclaim the name of Jesus and enthusiastically sing the hymn, "Jesus is the Sweetest Name I Know" because we know Jesus. However, as Jesus began his ministry, the world did not know him. The purpose of the Gospels is not merely to tell the story of Jesus' life, but to identify who he really is. Unfortunately, two thousand years later, so much of the world still has not heard of the name of Jesus. Even more tragically, for many "Jesus" is just the name of a historical figure, one among many prophets, a good man, or just an expletive.

No one name fully describes the significance of Jesus, so the New Testament provides many names and descriptions of Jesus. While not exhaustive, John 1 provides one of the highest concentrations of names and descriptions of Jesus. In a single chapter, John provides seven names for Jesus and at least six descriptions or roles of Jesus. It is a powerful chapter for proclaiming the identity of Jesus and for demonstrating Jesus is worthy of worship.

I. Word of God (John 1:1-14)

A. Creator

1. Beginning
2. Through Him all things were made, without him nothing made
3. In Him is Life

B. True Light

1. Connected to Creation – "Let there be Light"
2. Shines in the Darkness
3. Yet, not recognized
  - a. Darkness did not understand (1:5)
  - b. Not John the Baptist (1:8)
  - c. World did not recognize him (1:10)
  - d. His own did not receive him (1:11)
4. Those that received him have the right "to become children of God"

C. Incarnation (became flesh)

1. Dwelt among us
2. Glory

II. Lamb of God (John 1:29-30, 35-37)

- A. Lamb of God – Takes away the sin of the world (sacrificial, atonement)
- B. Surpasses John (before John)
  1. Told others about the Lamb of God and they followed Jesus
  2. John pointed others to Jesus and away from himself

III. Son of God (John 1:33-34)

- A. Spirit upon him (like the anointing on a king)
- B. Testifies that Jesus is the Son of God
- C. Salvation of nation (Lamb of God) comes not through conquest but through sacrifice.

IV. Rabbi (John 1:38-40)

- A. Key part of Jesus' ministry – teaching
- B. Jesus as Rabbi called his disciples
- C. When they heard, they followed

V. Messiah (John 1:41-45, 49)

- A. Messiah (Christ)
  1. Jesus is "Son of God," a messianic title
  2. In contrast, John denies being the Messiah
- B. Fulfillment of Prophecy (Moses, prophets)
- C. Andrew told Peter and brought him to Jesus
- D. King of Israel

VI. Son of Man (John 1:51)

- A. Heaven will open as described in Daniel 7:13-14
- B. Most common way in which Jesus would refer to himself.

Conclusion:

The world still desperately needs to know Jesus, the Word, Creator, Light, Lamb of God, Son of God, Rabbi, Messiah, and Son of Man. Jesus is still calling disciples to follow him and worship him. As Christians how can we not boldly proclaim the name of Jesus, "the sweetest name I know."



## NAMES THEY CALLED JESUS

### Introduction:

Children can be very mean as they call each other names. Unfortunately, politicians, other adults, and even family members can be even crueler as they call each other names. When people argue they often stray from actual arguments to name calling. Even in the New Testament period, Jesus is called names. While Jesus' followers called Him Messiah, Son of God, Son of Man, the Prophet, and Rabbi, Jesus' enemies called him derogatory names and made fun of him. They called him "Samaritan," illegitimate, blasphemer, sinner, demon-possessed, insane, criminal, terrorist, and glutton.

#### I. "Samaritan" (John 8:39-59)

- A. Called Jesus "illegitimate" and a "Samaritan"
  - 1. Rumors of Jesus' birth
  - 2. Samaritans represented mixed races and mixed religions.
- B. In contrast the Jews emphasized that they were sons of Abraham.
- C. Jesus preceded Abraham and was greater than Abraham.

#### II. "Sinner" (John 9:16-25)

- A. Jesus was called a sinner because he healed on the Sabbath
  - 1. Jesus fulfilled the Sabbath by healing, but he broke the rules of the Pharisees.
  - 2. Jesus challenged the religious doctrines that had deviated from God's Word or elevated themselves above God's commands.
- B. Jesus often challenged religious practices to draw attention to deeper meaning.
  - 1. Washing hands
  - 2. Dedicating money to the Temple, but neglecting family in the process
- C. Jesus probably would offend many Christians today.

#### III. "Blasphemer" (John 10:29-33)

- A. Blaspheming – claiming to be God
  - 1. Arrogance or delusion at best and blaspheming at worst
  - 2. Challenge to monotheism
- B. Some claim that the early church invented the divinity of God, but the New Testament clearly proclaimed Jesus' divinity.

#### IV. "Demon Possessed" / "Insane" (Luke 11:15-19; Mark 3:22; John 10:20)

- A. They could not explain Jesus so they made wild accusations.
- B. Numerous times Jesus was accused of being demonic.
- C. Say a lie enough times and people begin to believe it.

#### V. "Criminal" (John 18:29-30; 19:12)

- A. Jews accused Jesus of being a criminal.
- B. It was difficult for early Christians because Jesus had been executed as a criminal.
- C. Roman charge of insurrection – "King of the Jews"

#### VI. "Terrorist" (Matt 26:61; 27:40; Luke 23:2; John 11:50)

- A. Threatening the Temple was a capital offense.
- B. Also accused Jesus of opposing the Roman Empire and not paying taxes.
- C. Justified killing Jesus to protect the nation from the Romans.

### Conclusion:

If the world called Jesus names, it will call us names too. Our commission is not to please everyone; it is to proclaim the Gospel. Some find that offensive and will not only call us names and mock us, but persecute us. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake. Let's stay faithful, no matter what we are called.

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THE LAW?

Deuteronomy 6:20-25

Introduction:

As a father, I know children ask a lot of questions. They start off as “what” questions and then graduate to the endless “why” questions. Scattered among their many questions are theological questions, some of which may sound silly but they all provide teachable moments. I am fortunate to have been raised by a father who answered my many questions and encouraged me to ask more.

Moses provides some needed advice for answering a child’s question. In Deuteronomy 6:20, Moses says “In the future, when your son asks you, ‘What is the meaning of the stipulations, decrees, and laws the LORD our God has commanded you?’ tell him: . . .” Neither I nor my children asked such a deep and difficult question, but how would you answer the question? If you are not sure, don’t worry because Moses provides three good answers.

**I. First Answer: The Meaning of the Law is Found in Relationship with God (Deut 6:21-23)**

- A. Moses describes the history of Israel being delivered from Egypt and the LORD bringing them to the Promised Land.
  1. At first it may seem like Moses is avoiding the question, but the history of God’s deliverance and salvation are at the heart of the answer.
  2. Similarly, immediately preceding the 10 Commandments, God first reminds them that he saved them before he gave them the law. Relationship/ Salvation precede law.
  3. The true meaning of the law can only be known in the context of a relationship with the Lawgiver. Only when we know God as our savior, deliverer, can we know him as Lawgiver. Only when we know the Lawgiver can we know the meaning of the law.

**II. Second Answer: The Law is for Our Own Good (Deut 6:24)**

*The LORD commanded us to obey all these decrees and to fear the LORD our God, so that we might always prosper and be kept alive, as is the case today.*

- A. This verse could appropriately end with simply “The LORD commanded us to obey” because God is our Lord and King, but the verse continues to demonstrate a reason for the law—for our benefit and blessing.
- B. Similarly, God disciplines us for our own good (Heb 12:5-14). Father knows best.
- C. We are blessed when we know and keep his word.

**III. Third Answer: The Law Points us to Righteousness (Deut 6:25)**

*And if we are careful to obey all this law before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, that will be our righteousness.*

- A. The Law demonstrates what God expects and what is right.
- B. God’s Word is our guide (Ps 119:9-16)
- C. God’s Law points out our need for Christ and His grace because of our unrighteousness (Rom 10:4; 1 Cor 1:30; Phil 3:9)

**Conclusion:**

Moses and later Paul answer the question, “What is the meaning of the law?” Thank God for our salvation and for His Word, which guides us in our sanctification.

**TRUST IN GOD ALONE (PART 1)****Isaiah 1-39****Introduction:**

Trust in God alone. It seems easy enough, right? In reality, our hearts gravitate toward other gods. Idolatry plagues all of us. Warnings against idolatry fill the pages of the Bible (see Lev 19:4, Deut 6:14, Psalm 81:9, 97:7, Hos 13:4, Matt 4:10, 1 Cor 5:11, 6:9-10, 10:14; Gal 5:19-20, Col 3:5). To close his first epistle, John wrote, "Little children, keep yourselves from idols." Idolatry presents an ever lurking challenge to the believer.

Idolatry breaks the first two of the Ten Commandments. Each subsequent commandment is based on the first two. Exo 20:3-5a "You shall have no other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image.... You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God..." Honestly, breaking commandments three through ten are breaking the first two.

Idolatry, simply defined, trusts someone or something other than God to give you security, comfort, identity or righteousness. Idolatry makes good things the ultimate thing. How, then, can we trust God alone? Isaiah addresses how trusting God is possible.

**I. Remember the Simple Things (Isaiah 1-39)****A. God's Grace Will Win (Isaiah 1-12)**

1. Isaiah explained the foolishness and corrupt nature of idolatry. He also warned of God's impending judgment against it. (Isaiah 1:2, 10, 21)
2. Isaiah's held a small view of God. So small, in fact, they ignored him. (Isaiah 5:12)
3. Isaiah's recipients held a small view of sin. So small, in fact, they believed they could overcome it on their own. (Isaiah 5:21, 24)

- B. God is Sovereign Over All (Isaiah 13-27)
  1. Israel trusted foreign alliances instead of God. They specifically trusted Babylon to help them against Assyria.
  2. Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth. (Ps 124:8)
  3. Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. (Ps 20:7)
  4. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes. (Ps 118:8-9)
- C. There is Only One True God (Isa 28-39)
  1. Hezekiah, the king, trusted God as his security against Assyrian aggression. (Isa 37:14-20)
  2. God delivered Hezekiah and the people of God from Assyrian aggression. (Isa 37:34-37)

**Conclusion:**

Discern your idolatrous tendencies. What gives you comfort? Security? Identity? Ask yourself: Where does my mind aimlessly wonder during the day? What makes me angry? What do I complain about? Trace these questions to your idols. We all have competing loves in our heart. Isaiah warns us of God's displeasure with our idols. And he encourages us to "remember the simple things" in order to trust God alone.



**TRUST IN GOD ALONE (PART 2)**

**Isaiah 40-66**

**Introduction:**

Trust in God alone. It seems easy enough, right? In reality, our hearts gravitate toward other gods. Idolatry plagues all of us. Warnings against idolatry fill the pages of the Bible.

**I. Understand Renewal Comes from the LORD (Isaiah 40-66)**

**A. God has the power to renew (40-44)**

1. God called Isaiah to comfort the people of God. (40:1-11)
2. Can God renew them? (40:12-42:17)
3. Will God renew them? (42:18-44:23)

**B. God gave a pattern for renewal (44-48)**

1. God offered deliverance to His people through Cyrus, the Persian. (44:24-45:25)
2. God humbles Babylon, His people's enemy, and offered deliverance to them. (46:1-47:15)
3. God humbles the proud and gives grace to the humble. (Isaiah 48, 1 Peter 5:5, James 4:6)

**C. God will send a person to renew (Isaiah 49-55)**

1. God will send a specific person to deliver His people. [Servant Song (Isa. 49:1-13)]
2. God has not forsaken His people and will prove it by sending His person to deliver them. (Isa. 49:14-52:12)
3. God will send a specific person to deliver His people. [Servant Song (Isa. 52:13-53:12)]

4. The person God sends will give compassion and peace. (Isaiah 54)
5. The person God sends will give grace and joy to repentant sinners. (Isaiah 55)

**D. God's People Will Experience Renewal (Isaiah 56-66)**

1. God's people will experience rest and revival. (Isaiah 56-59)
2. God made a promise to His people of an anointed one who would restore them. (Isaiah 60-61)
3. God will intervene and transform His people with His compassion, if they confess their sin. (Isaiah 62-64)
4. God will answer His people and gather them to Himself. (Isaiah 65-66)

**Conclusion:**

We all have competing loves in our heart; this is called idolatry. Isaiah warns us of God's displeasure with our idols. In Isaiah 40-66, he encourages us to believe God will renew His people. God has the power to renew. He demonstrated it when He raised the person He sent from the dead. In order to experience His compassion and renewal, His people must confess sin and believe on the person He sent. (Acts 16:31)

**WCU Homecoming**

**Friday and Saturday,  
March 26-27, 2015**

*For more information,  
call 1.800.962.5991, ext. 6561  
or email Cindy Cofield at  
[ccofield@wmcarey.edu](mailto:ccofield@wmcarey.edu)*

**JESUS' SUPERIOR HUMILITY**

Hebrews 2:5-9

**Introduction:**

God is worthy of all power, glory, and honor. He is perfect and righteous, and He is greater in every way than anything in all creation. As such, He is not required to do anything. He only must do that which He freely decrees Himself to do. This reality makes the humility of Christ all the more amazing. Jesus puts on display the kind of amazing humility that not even the angels are capable of. Jesus is willing to do what angels will not lower themselves to do! In so doing, Jesus displays his humility, glory, compassion, and love.

**I. He Displayed Superior Humility in His Incarnation (2:5-8a)**

- A. The incarnation displays His humble compassion for men.
  - 1. He was willing to become like His creation in order to save His creation.
  - 2. Man could not be saved unless God humbled himself to take on flesh (Phil 2:6-8).
  - 3. The only reason Jesus lived as a man was to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10).
- B. The incarnation displays His humble identification with Adam.
  - 1. He was made lower than the angels (Ps 8:5).
  - 2. Jesus didn't just appear as a man, He became man, and was humanly a descendant of Adam (1 Cor 15:45).
  - 3. Through his humble identification in sinful Adam, all who are identified with Christ are made righteous (Rom 8:3-4).

**II. He Displayed Superior Humility in His Patience (2:8b).**

- A. His patience in delaying His full reign displays His self-restricting humility
  - 1. Jesus has all authority (Col 2:9-10).
  - 2. Despite Jesus' right to all authority, Jesus is not exercising his full authority ("we do not yet see everything in subjection to Him")
- B. His patience in a delayed reign displays His ongoing humility.
  - 1. We are waiting the full consummation and exercised authority of the Kingdom in his return!
  - 2. The martyrs in heaven are anxiously begging, while Jesus is patiently waiting (Rev 6:9-11).

**III. He Displayed Superior Humility in His Death (2:9).**

- A. His death displays the ultimate humiliation.
  - 1. His method of execution was humiliating (Matt 27:31).
  - 2. His life was not taken, it was given (John 10:18).
- B. His death displays the ultimate undeserved substitution (2 Cor 5:21).
  - 1. Man does not deserve Christ's righteousness.
  - 2. Jesus does not deserve man's sin.

**Conclusion:**

On display is a holy God who humbled Himself by doing the unthinkable to save the unsaveable.

**MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE****Deuteronomy 8:1-16****Introduction:**

As the Israelites were traveling from the bondage of Egypt to the freedom of the Promised Land, God desired to teach them dependence and trust. In order for this to take place, God provided circumstances and situations to test and humble them. He even “allowed them to hunger” as our text explains. The point was not for them to suffer because He despised them. On the contrary, God, in his love and mercy, allowed hunger so they might turn to Him. No doubt, the Israelites learned to say, “As God leads us, we should trust Him to feed us.”

As believers, we must make up our minds daily to trust God. There are times that God may allow us to hunger physically, emotionally, and even spiritually so that we might depend on Him. How can we learn to trust God when suffering takes place in our life?

**I. Feast on His Sovereignty**

- A. Notice the Purpose: “That you may live and multiply, and go in and possess.” God’s purpose for our lives is to make disciples through the spread of the Gospel.
- B. Notice the Promise: “The land of which the LORD swore to your fathers.” The Israelites were given the promise that the land was going to be theirs. By holding to this, they could have understood that He would not forsake them.
- C. Notice the Plan: “Led you all the way... to humble you and test you.” God planned to humble and test the Israelites, which gives us confidence that He is on His throne even when bad things happen.

**II. Feast On His Sufficiency**

- A. The Israelites learned that God’s Presence was their Deepest Need (2 Corinthians 12:7-10)
- B. The Israelites learned that God’s Word was their Strongest Power (Psalm 119:25-32)
- C. The Israelites learned that their Obedience was God’s Greatest Desire (Deuteronomy 10:12 & 1 Samuel 15:22)

**III. Feast On His Salvation**

- A. Jesus Christ is the Bread of Life who Saves Us.
  - 1. Because He was the Perfect One of Heaven (John 6:47-58)
  - 2. Because He was Broken for Us (1 Corinthians 11:23-26)
- B. Following Christ helps us to Conquer Temptations in the Present. (Matthew 4:1-4)
- C. Ultimately, we look forward to Feasting with Christ in the Future (Revelation 19:9)

**Conclusion:**

The Bible reveals throughout Israel’s history that they forgot about God and leaned on their own strength. God would continually draw them back to Himself. Our application of this passage is very simple. The struggles and trials of this life can either build us up or break us down. We have a choice to make when God “allows us to hunger.” Will we turn against Christ in bitterness, or will we turn to Christ in brokenness? God extends an invitation:

“Come to the table of Mercy, prepared with the cup and the bread;

All who are hungry and thirsty,  
Come and your souls will be fed.

Come at the Lord’s invitation;  
Receive from His nail-scarred hand.

Eat of the Bread of Salvation;  
Drink of the Blood of the Lamb.”



## Newly Created Christian Ministries Department

William Carey University recently announced, in addition to the Biblical Studies Department, the creation of its new Christian Ministries Department. This new department currently offers a Bachelor of Arts degree in intercultural studies (ICS). The ICS degree prepares students with the following ministry interests:

- Missionary
- Military Chaplains
- Church Planters
- Social Justice Ministries
- Orphan Ministry
- Mission Focused Pastors
- Medical Missions
  - Students who desire to go to medical school and then to the mission field would need to double major in biology/pre-med and intercultural studies
  - Students who desire to go to nursing school would need to complete a major or minor in ICS prior to entering nursing school.
- Hispanic Ministry (double major in Spanish and intercultural studies)
- International Entrepreneur (double major in international business and intercultural studies.)

The Christian Ministries Department is currently exploring a new degree in Christian ministries with the following concentrations:

- Expository Preaching
- Student Ministry
- Senior Adult Ministry
- Preschool/Children's Ministry

*For more information, contact:*

Dr. Brett Golson  
Chair of the Christian Ministries Department  
Assistant Professor of Religion  
Director of the Holloway Center  
[bgolson@wmcarey.edu](mailto:bgolson@wmcarey.edu)

## Mississippi Baptist Convention

October 28-29, 2014

[www.mbc.org](http://www.mbc.org)



### WCU Alumni Reception

October 28, 2014, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

Chapel Parlor ♦ First Baptist Church, Jackson

---

## Southern Baptist Convention

June 16-17, 2015

Columbus, Ohio



*For more information or to RSVP:  
601-318-6497 or [shummel@wmcarey.edu](mailto:shummel@wmcarey.edu)*

## Church Planters Pastors Business Professionals

Receive a  
Bachelor of Arts degree (B.A.)  
that will prepare you to be on the front  
line of mission work  
and have a global impact!

*For more information contact  
Dr. Brett Golson at  
[bgolson@wmcarey.edu](mailto:bgolson@wmcarey.edu)  
or scan the QR code  
with your smart phone.*



**WILLIAM CAREY UNIVERSITY**  
WCU Box 1  
498 Tuscan Avenue  
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Jackson, MS  
Permit No. 937



*Acta Non Verba*

**Actions, Not Words**

~ James 1:22

