

Still Faithful after All These Years

By Ron Schrock



“Still Faithful After All These Years” was the theme for the CARBC’s 90th Annual Bible Conference at First Baptist Church in El Monte on April 9–11, 2019. We were delighted that former CARBC Representative Ron Schrock and his wife, Sally, joined us. On Wednesday evening, Ron preached on “Faithful in Our Commitment.” Below is a summary of his message that we believe will challenge your heart in your service to the Lord.

Commitment. Commitment is a pledge or a binding by a person or an organization to a certain course or policy. It can also mean to be dedicated to something. As I began to look at Scripture, there seemed to be five key commitments emphasized.

Commitment 1: the commitment of our cause.

A cause is something important enough that someone needs to say something about it as well as do something about it. Remember when David saw Goliath cursing God and the people of God? What did David say? “Is there not a cause?” (1 Samuel 17:29).

Have you noticed that when you stand up for God, sometimes those around you will turn on you in that situation. But David said, “Is there not a cause?”

Commitment 2: commit our way.

Psalm 37:5 says, “Commit your way to the LORD.” The idea is for us to turn over the direction of our lives and make the Lord the leader. Commit our way to Him. Let Him make the decision about where to go.

Commitment 3: commit our works to the Lord.

Whatever we do, we do it heartily unto the Lord—worshiping God, studying God’s Word, and praying—as we are told in Colossians 3:23.

Commitment 4: commit your souls to the Lord.

As we face the hardships and the joys of life, we need to commit our souls to our faithful Creator (1 Peter 4:19).

Commitment 5: commit our spirit to the Lord.

While the soul tends to be more connected to the earth and horizontal relationships, the spirit is more focused on our vertical relationship with God. Jesus’ very last words as He walked this life in human flesh were, “Into Your hands I commit My spirit.”

How committed are we to God’s call? Our churches need committed people—men, women, children, and students!

GARBC Conference Coming to Sacramento

The 2020 GARBC Conference will be held in Sacramento, June 29—July 2, at the Hilton Arden West, northeast of downtown Sacramento. This is the best opportunity in many years for our West Coast GARBC churches to participate in a conference close to home.

Bruce McLain, CARBC representative, told the conferees in Des Moines in June 2019, “My first response to hearing that the conference was coming to Sacramento was thankfulness. Much has changed in the GARBC since the last conference on the West Coast in 2003. Our churches in the West need this opportunity to connect with their brothers and sisters from across the nation.”

As plans are being finalized, information will be available at www.GARBCconference.org. Begin making plans now to come together in Sacramento next summer.



GARBC National Representative at 2019 Round Up

The Association of Regular Baptist Churches of Southern California will hold its annual meeting (the Round Up) at Victory Ranch on Nov. 2. GARBC National Representative Mike Hess will be making his first ministry visit to California to speak at the Round Up and meet the Regular Baptists of Southern California. Details for the day are at www.vranch.org. Don’t miss this opportunity to meet Mike Hess. You will be blessed by his ministry.

Christian Worker’s Retreat

Pastors, missionaries, Christian workers and spouses of our Association value the Annual Retreat. As costs for such events skyrocket it limits those on a tight budget. We ask that God may direct those who have the means to underwrite the Retreat for our workers.

The CARBC Council has established a special gifting fund enabling workers to attend. If God leads you, consider giving to help underwrite the fees for Pastors and Missionaries of the CARBC. Please send monies to CARBC, P. O. Box 2697, Santa Maria, CA 93457-2697 and designate the gift to the Retreat Fund for Pastors and Missionaries.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this important ministry.

Ministry Perspectives:

Ministry Perspective: Partners

By Tim Heinrich

Ecclesiastes 4:9–12 impacted me as to the importance of not going it alone in ministry. My wife, Susan, and I have been privileged to have our longtime friends Don and Joyce Shade as tentmaker partners in the work here in Tracy, Calif. Don and Joyce have served as friends, counselors, and general supporters in the work here.

The Ecclesiastes passage starts by saying that two are better than one person alone because of the good reward they will have by working together. Without the Shades, the work here would have closed on several occasions, because one family could not do all the work necessary. Because of their encouragement and perseverance, we are seeing good reward.

The passage adds that by working together, we can lift one another when we fall. When you have people beside you with your best interests at heart, they encourage you and spur you on in ministry. Because of our close friendship, Don and Joyce and Susan and I can speak frankly with each other and solve problems before they grow. We are much stronger together than we are separately. When we work together, twisting our lives together with one another, we are not easily broken by the trials and temptations that come our way. Although each of us individually gets discouraged, there is always someone on the team who can lift up the others.

It has been Don and Joyce who have been these things for our family. We have literally raised our families together in the ministry and been blessed by the mutual support. They are our partners in seeking the good reward. They lift us up and help us to see clearly the path that God would have for us to walk together. Because of Don and Joyce, we are strong and not easily broken. If tentmaking is something you would be interested in learning more about, please contact Baptist Church Planters.

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