

Apostolic Brotherhood International

Newsletter November 2015

ABI
2015 Annual
Christmas Banquet
For
Ministers and their Families
Date: Saturday, December 12
Time: 12 Noon
Location: Silver Star Smokehouse
1201 Dixie Overland Rd
Boissier City, LA 7111
(318) 752-3633

Please RSVP to Bishop Cathey or Brother Adams

Nehustan – Just a piece of brass

In Numbers 21 the Israelite were near the end of their 40 years of wondering in the wilderness and ready to come back to the land of Canaan. The Edomites had forbidden them to cross their land and God had honored that. They were beginning a wide arc in Arabia to come back to the river Jordan just across from the city of Jerecho. The people discouraged and complained against God and Moses. They asked why have we been brought up out of Egypt, and driven into the wilderness to die? There is no water. And by the way, we don't like this manna we have been eating for almost 40 years.

With their complaining God sent them fiery serpents, which bit them and many died. It is not clear if fiery refers to their burning bites, or to their flaming color. There is a snake in that area that is copper in color with bright red spots, and is deadly poisonous. They came to Moses admitting they had sinned against God, and Moses. They asked Moses to pray for them, and take away the snakes.

God had Moses build a fiery serpent on a pole. A serpent made of brass, or copper, would be bright red in the sunshine. Moses built it and put it up commanding the people to look on it. Repentance is shown here in that they admitted their sin, begging for forgiveness, but then they were forced to combine that with an act of faith by coming and looking on the brass snake. Those who looked on the snake lived. Those who wouldn't show that act of faith died in their sin, in a horrible painful way. Admitting sin is of no worth without a parallel act of faith to go along with it. It may start in tears, but it goes on in the joy of living for God.

After this the brass (copper) serpent was probably put in the tabernacle for safe keeping. The children of Israel had it for hundreds of years. After the temple was built it is not mentioned until the reign of Hezekiah started. The people were offering incense to the snake. It had become a relic, and unfortunately an object of worship. Hezekiah broke the serpent in pieces and called it Nehushtan, just a piece of brass.

What at one time had been extremely important had become irrelevant. What at one time they had to come, and look upon to live became a relic they worshiped, and was a hindrance to the true worship of God. Later Jeremiah told the people Jerusalem would become like Shiloh, which by that time meant just the place the tabernacle used to be, once the meeting place of worship, now irrelevant.

Jesus said "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." Paul told the Corinthians "And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation;" Have we kept our savor? Christianity is under attack today. Not just in arab countries, but here in the United States. Most groups that call themselves Christian are not. Are we praying, and fasting putting Jesus ahead of all else. Christianity as most present it does not work. Jesus still does. Is the power of God present in our lives that people see the work of the Spirit, and not just us. Do they see us as just another denomination, or do they see the power of God? Jesus is still relevant today. The world must see Jesus in us. Are we relevant, or are we nehushtan?

Prayer Requests:

Please be in Prayer for Brother Fowler as he recovers from Neck Surgery.
Please be in Prayer for Bishop Cathey as he recovers from Hand Surgery.

Announcements:

Grow The ABI With Us: Do you know a fellow minister looking for Fellowship? We are always eager to find ministers of like, precious faith who are looking for a place of healing, belonging, and fellowship. We believe that through this network of ministers we each help to make the other stronger and more effective in God's Kingdom. You can obtain a copy of the application for License/Ordination for the ABI by going to our website, apostolicbrotherhood.org. If you know someone needing a paper copy please contact Bishop Cathey or Brother Adams for a paper copy.

ABI Evangelists: Please let Bishop Cathey or Brother Adams know when and where you will be preaching. Whether you are preaching one service or a Multi-Day/Night Revival we would like to help get the word out. We want to do everything we can to help make your ministry a success. We will be happy to promote the Revival you are preaching on our FaceBook page, Twitter & in our Newsletter.

Revivals & Church Events: If you have any events that you would like to include in the monthly newsletter please contact Brother Adams by the 25th of the month to insure it is published in upcoming following issue. If you have an event you would like announced on our FaceBook page or Twitter please contact Brother Adams as well

ABI Website: Our Webpage has been updated and will now have a link to Newsletters. Also our Webpage has been updated to add information for Camp Meeting & other events going on around the ABI. Please stop by and take a look at the page & see all the wonderful things the ABI is doing.

**On Behalf of bishop Cathey & the entire Executive Board
We want to wish each of you and your families a
Blessed, Healthy & Happy Thanksgiving**

ABI Web Page: apostolicbrotherhood.org

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**Apostolic Brotherhood International Headquarters:
24455 East Terrace Porter, TX 77365**