



a quarterly publication of Ambassador Baptist College

THE AMBASSADOR

Fall 2011

POSITION AND DISPOSITION

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT, BY DR. ALTON BEAL

Words get us into trouble more than we care to admit. On occasion, we have all said the wrong thing. From our limited perspective, we formed an opinion, verbalized it, and did much harm. Other times, we have said the right things, but we said them in the wrong way and have done a lot of damage. I'll be glad when we get to Heaven and will not have to worry about our tongues, which James says are "set on fire of hell" (James 3:6).

In the meantime, we must be very careful about what we say and how we say it. Jesus was described in John 1:14 as being "full of grace and truth." This description beautifully portrays the balance that every Christian should have. I believe John was referring to Christ's disposition (grace) and position (truth). **If we want to be like Christ, we must remember that our disposition is just as important as our position.**

As fundamental Baptists, we often focus on the right position—and rightfully so. In a day of compromise, it is very important for us to contend for the faith (Jude 3). Many churches are dipping their colors while being pressured by the world, academia, and organized religion. A number of churches today are a shadow of what they were fifty years ago. Their doctrine and stands have changed dramatically. Some call that progress, but I call it a shame. It is important for every believer to make sure that his positions are rooted in the truth of God's Word.

In recent days, I have noticed a problem not only with weakened positions but also ungodly dispositions. It is possible for a man to have a *position* that is grounded in truth and yet have a repulsive *disposition* that drives people away from God's Word. A man can preach a magnificent message on the virgin birth; yet if his heart is filled with pride, is he



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AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE
presents

FISHERS OF MEN

MISSIONS CONFERENCE 2011

October 31st through November 4th

 <p>David Snyder President of Baptist International Missions, Inc.</p>	Day	8:45am	9:30am	 <p>Bud Steadman Executive Director of Baptist World Mission</p>
	Monday	Snyder	Steadman	
	Tuesday	Steadman	Snyder	
	Wednesday	Snyder	Steadman	
	Thursday	Steadman	Snyder	
Friday	Snyder	Steadman		





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A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

not as wrong as the liberal who denies the virgin birth? A man can preach on Biblical separation; yet if his heart is filled with pride, is he not as wrong as the compromiser who has the wrong position? By no means am I saying that our positions are not important. **I am saying that we need to be concerned with how we say the truth, too.**

Jesus used "gracious words" in Luke 4:22 when speaking to those who did not hold His viewpoint. The people in that synagogue had not declared Jesus to be the Messiah. This is obvious by the fact that they acknowledged Him as "Joseph's son" later in the narrative. Yet Jesus used kind words to teach them the truth. I sometimes wonder if Jesus would have anything to do with some of the open letters, conflicts, and disputes that are among the brethren today. I am prone to think that a godly disposition would solve a lot of the problems in our circles.

Ephesians 4:15 tells us that we should speak the truth to each other in love. Sometimes, love demands a firm or even harsh disposition if the danger is grave. However, love will also demand a tender entreaty or meekness that appears to be weak in the eyes of some. If we get so caught up with positions that we forget about dispositions, we make a grave mistake and can drive people away from the truth.

When we say the right things the wrong way, we do great damage. We cause hurt to the cause of Christ. We create stumbling blocks for the brethren. We propagate a spirit of harshness that is motivated by pride, and we unnecessarily divide the brethren. The lost world looks and says, "If that is what a Christian is, then I want no part of it." If we are full of grace and truth, we will help the brethren and we will be a shining light to a lost world.

One of the greatest pitfalls in the Christian life is to become imbalanced in our lives and ministries. *Here at Ambassador Baptist College, we desire to have the balance of a Biblical position and a godly disposition as we train men and women for the Lord's service.* 🙏

PRAYER & PRAISE

In *everything* by *prayer* and *supplication* with *thanksgiving*

- New students' adjustment to college life
- Employment for students seeking jobs
- Equipment to improve live-streaming broadcasts
- Gymnasium and Williams Hall remodeling
- Excellent week of Camp Barnabas
- Safety and fruitful services for summer travel groups
- New students from over 15 states
- God's blessings on Opening Revival

MINISTRY PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS

DR. JOEL SPENCER, DR. ALTON BEAL, PASTOR NORMAN JOHNSTON
AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE

This course will provide practical training in the areas of interpersonal and inter-ministry relationships, with specialized emphases for the specific ministries of pastors, missionaries, and evangelists.

January 2-6, 2012

Cost:
 \$800 for Credit (4 hours of Masters-level credit)
 \$200 for Audit
 Special tuition discount for pastors of churches that support ABC monthly:
 \$200 for Credit

Any interested student may audit the course.

To receive credit, the following criteria must be met:

- ABC graduates may enroll in the program if they have more than two years of ministry experience.
- Non-ABC graduates may enroll if they have more than ten years of ministry experience, have a bachelor's degree, and are in agreement with Ambassador's philosophy and doctrinal statement.

If you would like more information about the M.Min. program, please email info@ambassadors.edu. For specific questions about enrollment, please contact our Academic Dean Dr. Charles Surret at csurret@ambassadors.edu. For information about on-campus housing, call 704-434-0303 or email info@ambassadors.edu. For more information, visit www.ambassadors.edu/MastersModule/

Meet our Newest Faculty Member: Dr. Bill Dillon

Q: Could you share with us your family background and salvation testimony?

A: I was born and raised in Norristown, Pennsylvania. My family is Catholic and I attended Catholic schools. As a young teenager, I followed my friends into drinking and drugs. Although I had a great deal of religious education, I did not know the Lord. Shortly after graduating from high school, I heard the gospel and realized that I was a lost sinner.



On a side street in a bad neighborhood, I accepted Christ as my Savior. My life was dramatically changed.

Q: When were you called to the ministry?

A: Ten months after being saved, I went to Bible college. While I was there, God called me to pursue full-time Christian service and gave me the desire to be a pastor.

Q: What Bible training have you had?

A: I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree from Indiana Baptist College in 1983. During two of my summers in Bible college, I served in the Preacher Boy program under Dr. E. Robert Jordan. That program was like a boot camp for young men who felt God's call to ministry. I learned many practical lessons regarding full-time Christian service. I also graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from Calvary Baptist Theological Seminary in 1989. Dr. Jordan taught us that ministry is serious work, and he instilled in us the discipline to work hard. I believe that Ambassador Baptist College has that same mindset. We believe that we have in our hands the very Word of God and the souls of mankind need to hear the Gospel. I am thankful to be a part of the Ambassador family.

Q: Please tell us a little about your family.

A: My wife was a Christian School teacher at the church I attended. We met during my senior year in college. She has been a great blessing to me and a wonderful co-laborer in God's work. We have been married for twenty-seven years, and have two children, Laura and Bill. God has blessed in allowing us to sell our home and relocate to North Carolina. My wife and I are excited about what God has done and will do.

Q: What ministry experience did you have before coming to Ambassador?

A: I have been the pastor of two churches. Most recently, I was the pastor of Immanuel Baptist Church in Clifton Forge, Virginia. I pastored there for thirteen years.

Q: Did you have any other training that helped prepare you for being a part of the faculty here?

A: Some years back, God gave me a heart for Israel. I felt God leading me to learn Hebrew. I had taken several years of Hebrew in my master's program, but I did not remember much from it, so I found a young man who was studying to be a Rabbi. He was attending the University of Virginia and his Hebrew teacher was from Israel. I had one year of Biblical Hebrew and three years of Modern Hebrew. In the future, I hope to write Gospel tracts for the Israeli people.

Q: What are your responsibilities at Ambassador?

A: I am very thankful that the Lord has led me to Ambassador Baptist College. This semester I will be teaching Hebrew, Daniel and Revelation, Prison Epistles, Church Administration, and Greek Exegesis. I also serve as the Dean of Students.

Q: What are your goals for your students?

A: I want to help our students gain the tools they need to effectively serve the Lord. I want them to have a balance of academics and a real heart for the Lord. My goal is to be a positive testimony for the Lord before our students.

Q: Do you have a hobby?

A: I enjoy hunting and fishing, and I am a Philadelphia Eagles fan.

Q: What is your favorite candy or candy bar?

A: I like all dark chocolate, but I especially like a box of See's Candy (dark chocolate). Occasionally, I buy a gift box for my wife so I can have some! 🍫

Campus Renovation Projects

Two volunteer work crews spent the week of June 6–10 on campus and accomplished a significant amount of work in that time. Twelve workers from Immanuel Baptist Church in Clifton Forge, VA, and Grace Baptist Church in West Columbia, SC, helped with two major improvement projects on campus.

Over 150 ceiling panels and trim boards were prepped, painted, and installed on the gymnasium ceiling. At Roger Williams Hall, fifteen very old aluminum or steel frame single-pane windows were removed and replaced with double-pane, energy-efficient windows. In addition, workers pressure-washed the Campus Host house, removed and painted the shutters, and reinstalled them.

We are very grateful to the work crews, Immanuel Baptist Church, and Grace Baptist Church for their investment in Ambassador Baptist

College. Some of these men used their own vacation time to be a blessing to ABC, and we greatly appreciate their servant's spirit.



MEMORIAL
• G • I • F • T • S •

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Clark in memory of **George M. Clayton**

Mrs. Diane Wetzel in memory of **Gene E. Wetzel**

Mrs. Jennifer Wetzel in memory of
Gene E. Wetzel

Mr. James Matthews in memory of
Mrs. Francis Alphin



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RON COMFORT EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

SEPTEMBER

25-28 Central Baptist Church Pastor Jim Townsley Southington, CT 860-621-6701

OCTOBER

2-7 Tabernacle Baptist Church Pastor Joel Long Williamsport, PA 570-322-3055

9 Faith Baptist Church Pastor Bryan Pease Elizabeth City, NC 252-335-1685

16-21 Bible Baptist Church Pastor David McClellan Xenia, OH 937-372-7957

23-28 Community Baptist Church Pastor Doug Jackson Saginaw, MI 989-781-2340

NOVEMBER

6-11 Somerville Baptist Church Pastor Shane Lewis Somerville, AL 256-778-8844

13-18 Twin City Bible Church Pastor Scott Bandy Nitro, WV 304-722-4677

DEC. 4-7 New Hope Baptist Church Pastor Bruce Smith Leesburg, GA 229-439-9997

Please check our website for updates to the itinerary at www.ambassadors.edu/ChancellorDesk/

ALTON BEAL EVANGELISTIC MINISTRY SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2011

SEPTEMBER

18 New Testament Baptist Church Pastor Tim Daniel Kinston, NC 252-523-0648

OCTOBER

2 Skyland Drive Bible Church Pastor Tony Muniz Columbia, SC 803-779-8669

9-12 Still Waters Baptist Church Pastor Tony Facenda Kitty Hawk, NC 252-255-1835

16-19 Central Baptist Church & Christian School Pastor Greg Anderson Memphis, TN 910-385-1809

NOVEMBER

4-5 Tabernacle Baptist Church (Father-Son Campout) Pastor Mike Free Candor, NC 910-974-4028

6-10 Ashland Street Baptist Church Pastor Barney Law Archdale, NC 336-431-7531

13-18 Twin City Bible Church Pastor Scott Bandy Nitro, WV 304-722-4677

DEC. 11 (am) Andrews Memorial Baptist Church Pastor Tommy Willis Graham, NC 336-228-7801

Please check our website for updates to the itinerary at www.ambassadors.edu/PresidentCorner/

COMING EVENTS

CHURCH MINISTRY
LEGAL SEMINAR
*Tuesday-Thursday,
October 4-6, 2011*

MIDTERM EXAMS
*Tuesday-Tuesday,
October 18-25, 2011*

FALL BREAK
*Wednesday-Sunday,
October 26-30, 2011*

MISSIONS CONFERENCE:
FISHERS OF MEN
*Monday-Friday,
October 31-November 4, 2011*

TAC CONFERENCE
Saturday, November 12, 2011

MESSIAH CONCERTS
*Friday & Saturday,
November 25-26, 2011, 7PM*