



LIGHT ON THE LAW

A MINISTRY OF THE LIGHTHOUSE BAPTIST CHURCH
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March 2008

Troublesome Times

The year 2007 was a troublesome year for Independent Baptists.

- An Independent Baptist evangelist, and his wife, were sent to federal prison for tax evasion.
- The Criminal Investigation Division of the IRS is now conducting an investigation of another Independent Baptist evangelist.
- Two Independent Baptist churches are under investigation by the Ohio Attorney General for allegations of mismanagement of charitable contributions.

The year 2008 is starting out no better. I recently met with church officials about their former pastor, who resigned amidst allegations of financial mismanagement.

My heart breaks over each such situation. Apparently, Dr. Shelton Smith's heart breaks, too, as evidenced by a front page article in the February 8, 2008, edition of *The Sword of the Lord*. Detailing the tax fraud conviction of a respected Baptist preacher in Birmingham, Alabama, Dr. Smith sighed:

Any time a situation like this winds up in court, it brings reproach to the name of Christ, and tarnishes the testimony of Christians and churches everywhere. Whoever the accused may be, his name is dragged through the mud, and all of us are thereby hurt to some degree.

Please pray for these preachers, their families, and their churches as they struggle through these troublesome times.

Harassment of Hephzibah House

One of the most honored and longest lasting Christian boarding schools in America is Hephzibah House, a ministry of Believers Baptist Church in Winona Lake, IN.

Founder Dr. Ron Williams and his son, Pastor Don Williams, continue to do an amazing job of training young ladies to forsake the wicked ways of the world and to follow the ways of the Lord.

Inevitably, any such long standing ministry will face distractions and detractors from two different sources – disgruntled family members who do not like the safety and stability found in such Christian boarding schools and government agencies eager to regulate such ministries.

LLM is helping the church to prepare for the possibility of investigations. Please pray for this good ministry!

Soon – New Offices!

All of us are excited about the ongoing construction of our church's new addition, including expanded office space for LLM.

As of this writing, the new building is completely enclosed, all interior block walls are up, and the studs for the new LLM offices are in place. We are looking forward to the day, this Spring, when you can visit the brand new LLM facilities! God bless you all!

Pastor John Jones

Money Matters

God richly blessed LLM in 2007 and continues to do so in 2008. This year so far, the Lord has raised up **three** new supporting churches in **New York** and **Ohio**.

As LLM prepares to move into expanded office space this Spring, several churches have called us about our two greatest needs.

- **New office furniture.** LLM's cramped existing office space for Office Manager Bob Heath and Attorney Terry Hamilton is filled with old and used furniture. If the Lord leads you to help meet these needs, please take a look at the enclosed flyer.
- **New attorney.** With the expanded office space, LLM can easily accommodate a second attorney to help Attorney Hamilton with our increasing workload.

We can't thank you enough for your faithful prayers and support for our legal ministry to Independent Baptist churches.

January Income	\$ 8,614.65
• monthly support	7,014.65
• special gifts	1,600.00
January Expenses	\$ 6,695.65
• attorney salary	2,082.50
• attorney IRA	200.00
• other salaries	1,142.50
• travel expenses	794.98
• medical expenses	1,700.00
• office expenses	628.67
• workers compensation	147.00
February (ongoing)	\$ 25,436.13

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFTS OF

in December 2007 and January 2008

In Memoriam

We will dearly miss the following friends who recently went Home to be with the Lord. Please pray for their families.

- **Pastor Jerry Stinger, Victory Baptist Church, Springfield, Ohio**
- **Pastor Arnold Fernald, former pastor of Slippery Rock Baptist Church, Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania**
- **Mrs. Carla Gomez, wife of Pastor Keith Gomez, Northwest Bible Baptist Church, Elgin, Illinois**

New Supporting Churches

- **Heritage Baptist Church, Palmyra, New York**
Pastor Tim Young
- **Grace Baptist Church, North Ridgeville, Ohio**
Pastor Dennis White
- **Truth Baptist Church, West Salem, OH**
Pastor Carlos Browning