

appeal allegedly moved him to tears.

Perhaps Campbell's most important work was launching and editing *The Millennial Harbinger*. The journal defined and fueled the Restoration movement's spectacular growth, from about 22,000 in 1830, when the journal was launched, to over 200,000 in the year of Campbell's death.

In 1840 Campbell chartered Bethany College in Bethany, Virginia, to provide more education for ministers. He published a translation of the New Testament (1827), and wrote several books, including *The Christian System* (1839) and *Christian Baptism* (1854).

In *The Christian System*, he elaborated on the principles that drove him all his ministry. He was deeply disturbed by denominationalism: "In what moral desolation is the kingdom of Jesus Christ! Was there at any time, or is there now, in all the earth, a kingdom more convulsed by internal broils and dissensions than what is commonly called the church of Jesus Christ?"

He sought desperately to get back to a "simple evangelical Christianity," founded on the Bible and the Bible alone. Only this – not creeds or confessions or liturgy – could bring unity to Christians: "The testimony of the Apostles is the only and all-sufficient means of uniting Christians." And only in unity could Christians effectively evangelize: "The union of Christians with the apostles' testimony is all-sufficient and alone sufficient to the conversion of the world."

Campbell's emphasis on New Testament Christianity appealed powerfully to frontier Americans – and to many Christians since.

131 Christians Everyone Should Know. Nashville: B&H, 2000.

News:

There is a singing to be held at the Bisbee church on Friday, May 31 at 7:30

P.M. Some of us will probably be going so those interested may be able to find a carpool.

Please continue to pray for Tatyana's daughter Olga who is undergoing treatments for cancer.

Prayer List:

Healing: Jerry Robinson's daughter Christie, Jerry Robinson's mother Norma. Mike Cavasos, Sandy Cavasos, Ben Atchley, Faye Atchley, Nicolas and Annie Self, Douglas and Jonda Gardner, Dave Morse, Richard Tuey.

Travels: Gloria, Catalina and Dakota Short, Tatyana Knowlton.

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Safford Church of Christ

3888 S Hwy 191, Safford, AZ 85546

26 May 2013

Sermon Topics

A.M.: Confidence in Christ

Hebrews 10:19-25

P.M.: The LORD will Redeem the Righteous

Isaiah 26

Pulpit Evangelist

Ken Knowlton: 428-5974

Elders

Ben Atchley: 428-2246

Greg Briggs: 428-8756

John Cunningham: 428-0895

Services

Sunday Bible Class	10:00 A.M.
Sunday Morning Worship	11:00 A.M.
Sunday Evening Worship	6:30 P.M.
Wednesday Evening Class	6:30 P.M.
Thursday Ladies Bible Class	10:00 A.M.

Let Them Be Put to Shame

Miles Custis, Bible Study Magazine, March/April 2013

Psalm 83 is an imprecatory [calling down misfortune upon a person -ns] psalm – the psalmist calls for God to judge his enemies. The psalmist begins by asking God not to be silent. What would cause the psalmist to think God was silent? Have you ever felt like God was not acting or offering direction when you wanted Him to? How did you respond? What did you learn through that situation?

The psalmist describes how Israel's enemies are conspiring against them (83:2-8). How does he describe these enemies and their intentions? Have you ever felt like you were surrounded by people who opposed you? How did you respond?

In the second half of the psalm, the psalmist calls for God to destroy his enemies (83:9-18). Passages like this are difficult to reconcile with verses like Matthew 5:43-44 that say, "Love your enemies." Nations in the ancient Near East were closely associated with a particular deity. For Israel, defeating a nation was equivalent to defeating their god

(compare 2 Kings 19:10-19). Victory would show other nations that the Lord was truly God (note the reason the psalmist gives for God to destroy his enemies in Psalm 83:16, 18). Today, God has displayed victory over sin and death through Christ's death and resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:56). In light of Christ's victory, how can you lovingly help your "enemies" recognize God?

For other imprecatory psalms, read Psalms 58, 69, 109 and 137. What do these psalms teach us about God's attitude toward evil and righteousness?

Who Was Alexander Campbell?

Separated by the Atlantic Ocean, Presbyterian preacher Thomas Campbell and his son Alexander simultaneously came to the same conclusion: the future was not with Presbyterianism.

Why these two Irish men concluded that, and what they did about it, created one of the most powerful movements in American religious history – and a uniquely American denomination [*sic*].

The plan was for Thomas to sail to America first with his family to follow later. But the ship carrying Campbell's family was shipwrecked, and they had to spend a year in Scotland. There, 19-year-old Alexander answered the call to preach and began studying at the University of Glasgow. He quickly became disgusted with what he perceived to be theological pettiness in Presbyterianism. One Sunday he refused Communion, symbolically breaking with the faith of his father.

When Alexander finally arrived in Pennsylvania, though, he discovered his father had also seceded from the local presbytery! One reason: a perceived lack of scriptural support for infant baptism. Thomas had founded The Christian Association of Washington (County, Pennsylvania). "Where the Scriptures speak, we speak," declared Thomas, "where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent."

In 1811, Alexander began pastoring [*sic*] Bull Run Church, a group of Presbyterian refugees. The birth of his first child led him to reconsider his views on infant baptism. He decided that his own infant baptism was invalid, so he sought out a Baptist minister to immerse him as an adult believer. His church then joined the local Baptist association.

Alexander traveled on horseback through the Midwest and South, preaching a simple gospel stripped of "dogma" and "creeds." In 1823 he launched *The Christian Baptist*, a monthly that, wrote editor Campbell, "shall espouse the cause of no religious sect, excepting that ancient sect 'called Christians first at Antioch.'"

That purist spirit eventually drove a wedge between Campbell and the Baptists, but it created an affinity with Barton Stone and his

followers, some 10,000 strong and known simply as "Christians." They too were championing a "restoration" of primitive Christianity. Stone's followers and Campbell's (some 12,000 known as "Disciples") merged in 1832 to form a loosely organized group of independent-minded churches committed to primitive Christianity – eventually called the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ).

Campbell's evangelistic methods were varied, to say the least. A life-long debater, Campbell once sparred with popular atheist Robert Owen, delivering an address on the evidences of Christianity that lasted 12 hours! Later Campbell visited Owen and pleaded with him to accept the Christian faith; Owen wouldn't budge, though Campbell's

JUNE 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 Eric and Stacy Kramer's anniv. Kristen Cocks's birthday	3 John and Sharon Cunningham's anniversary	4	5	6	7	8 Singing at West Olive church of Christ in Peoria 6:30-7:30 P.M.
9	10	11	12 Megan Short's birthday	13	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21 June Solstice Gloria Short's birthday	22
23 Don Wilson's birthday	24	25	26 Ken Cocks's birthday Dakota Short's birthday	27	28	29
30 Ken and Tatyana's anniversary					Notes:	