

Looking Up For the Lord's Second Advent from Carriacou

We have been remembering the first advent of our Lord Jesus Christ and looking up for His second that could occur at anytime.

We have recently completed our verse-by-verse trek through the book of Revelation on Wednesday nights. We began on August 11, 2004. Deducting our recent furlough of ten months, it took a little over 100 Wednesday nights with each message being 40 to 60 minute long. It was exciting for me and I learned more this time that I ever have about this marvelous book. I believe it has served to help the folks of Windward Bible Church to understand the end times from a Biblical perspective. It was my hope and expressed desire that it would encourage our people to keep the immanent return of the Lord Jesus at the forefront of their hearts and minds. The Bible teaches that such helps to encourage believers to be more faithful to the Lord and live purely in a world that is getting increasingly dark and sinful.

² Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is. ³ And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure. (1 John 3:2-3)

Only those who believe in the pre-tribulational rapture can truly say that they are looking for the blessed hope of the Lord's return at any time (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Titus 2:13). If one believes that the church is to go through even part of the tribulation, including any of the seals of the book of Revelation (*i.e.*, the PreWrath rapture), in truth they can only say they are expecting those things to occur before looking for the Lord to take out his church. That makes it very difficult for believers to find hope and encouragement in a world that is becoming more depraved each year.

The priority for all believers should be to live as though the Lord could return for His church at any time, because He can and will some day, and likely sooner than later!

Windward Bible Church

The work at Windward Bible Church has been going well. The last couple of months our attendance had jumped to the high thirties on Sunday and Wednesday nights (36-39 typical). It has dropped of a bit here during December, but that has been typical ever since Windward Bible Church began. Sunday morning attendance had also increased to being in the mid twenties. We have been encouraged by the numbers, but equally encouraged by the spiritual growth we have seen in some of our children, teens, and adults. We have been working with many of our young children to teach them proper behavior and not to use profanity.

The vast majority have shown tremendous improvement, especially since many do not get encouragement from their parents or other guardians to come to church. Most of those who do come, come because *they* want to do so! We have also seen improvement in our older teens who are behaving more respectfully, dressing more appropriately, and asking what the Bible teaches about important questions such as dating, sex, and what to look for in a future mate. Some of our young adults are now working hard with good jobs that the Lord has provided after asking the church to pray for them. They are now beginning to testify openly about how God is answering their prayers and beginning to build a life based upon biblical Godly principles. The Lord has recently supplied a very nice vehicle for one young man, and two of our ladies have obtained driver's licenses. We praise the Lord for what He has been doing in their lives. *Please pray for the continued growth of all that has been mentioned here.*

The increased numbers has made it necessary for us to make two trips for many services since we still have the one bus. Thankfully, the Lord has made it work faithfully since I replaced the radiator a few months back. We desperately need another bus and we also need a meeting place large enough to accommodate the growth we have seen recently. I know that the Lord has everything we need ready in His perfect timing. *Please remember to pray with us concerning our meeting place and transportation needs.*

I have already mentioned that we have recently completed teaching through the Book of Revelation on Wednesday nights. We are now considering key prophetic passages in other places in both the Old and New Testaments, and relating them to the chronological relationship with events described in the Book of Revelation. On Sunday nights, we have been going verse-by-verse through the Old Testament for many years. We are now through Exodus chapter 30. Sunday mornings we have been going through a topical series on "How to Be an Effective Soldier for Jesus Christ." We have been going through the whole armor of God as described in Ephesians 6. I have learned much and benefited from the teaching personally, and I believe many of our folks have as well. *Pray that the Lord will lead and empower me in my selection, preparation, and delivery of messages as I seek to shepherd the flock of God at Windward Bible Church.*

On December 19th, Windward Bible Church held its 15th annual Christmas program. I believe it was the best that we have ever had. There were nearly 60 present, with about 27 of them being in the program! All the children, teens, and young adults spoke clearly and loud enough for each to be clearly understood. Everyone, including visitors enjoyed it. Linda and all the others worked hard to produce the program that I believe glorified the Lord. (See photos on the last page.)

The following Sunday, December 23, we visited the two nursing homes and the hospital here on Carriacou. There were about thirty people from Windward Bible Church that

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participated, more than we have ever had before! It was truly a blessing! At each place, we sang Christmas Carols and some of our children and teens recited their parts from the Christmas program. I then provided the patrons a short message about true gifts being those that one can receive only after having done nothing to earn them. I then challenged them to make sure they had received the true gift of eternal life apart from all works, including rituals such as baptism (Romans 10:9-10, Ephesians 2:8-10, Romans 4:1-5, 9-10). Several at one nursing home raised hands to indicate that they had understood the 15-minute message and had received the true gift! Obviously, only the Lord knows who truly understood and responded with a sincere heart, but the Lord takes the spiritual seeds that have been planted, and the spiritual water that has been provided for nourishment, and He is the One that brings the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6-8). Before we departed from each place, we gave each patron a beautifully prepared bag with fruit, tasty snacks, and a Bible tract. Most seemed truly appreciative and thankful to get them. I believe their spirits were lifted to know that someone had remembered them during this busy season.

We praise the Lord and ask that you help us pray for these souls that recently indicated that they have been born again apart from all works.

After all the visits were over, we all went back to our home for a time of fellowship, food, and fun. Many brought a dish or something to drink, so we had plenty of food for everyone. We then showed the video I had taken of the Christmas program using our digital projector and a large screen. All watched with rapt attention and laughed as they saw themselves on the big screen. Linda and I made two trips to take every one home after 6:00 PM. We finally got back home about 7:00 PM, and we were pleasantly pooped.

Our Crate is Soon to be Shipped, Lord Willing

Lord willing, in January 2008, we hope to ship the crate that we built and packed before we returned to Carriacou this past June. It has some personal items in it, but it is filled predominately with items we need for the work here, including literature, special occasion gift items for those that attend *WBC*, etc. The crate is 4' X 4' X 4.5' and weighs just under a thousand pounds. We left it with a friend who has a business just outside of Cross Lanes, West Virginia. He told me that he would ship it to Miami for me. He has been holding on to the crate until we were ready to receive it here on Carriacou. We expect that it will cost us \$500.00 to a \$1,000.00 dollars to ship it, pay import fees, and pay handling and transportation fees to get it to our home. *Please pray that we will have enough when the bills for shipping it come due!*

Linda and Walter's Health

Linda has been doing well, and she no longer has pain in her leg. Thanks for praying. I have been doing relatively well. Yet, I have had problems with suspected diverticulitis off and on for the last few months. I have been on and off antibiotics three or four times, and have modified my diet considerably. With the Lord's help, I have lost a little over thirty pounds, and I hope to lose another thirty to get to my ideal weight of 165. I praise and thank God that I have been feeling better and getting more done the last couple of weeks. *Please remember to pray for our health often.*

Thanks

By now many should have received personal notes of thanks to specific individuals and churches that we had visited on our past furlough. When we look back, I am awed, amazed, and very appreciative for all that God had done this past year. The Lord always remains faithful according to His Word and power. We have been spared of hurricanes and tropical storms and an earthquake that shook us up pretty good a few weeks back. He has also supplied all our needs and even granted many things that we simply wanted. We are always reminded that the Lord has precious faithful children throughout His kingdom through He works to supply the needs of others. We thank God and his children for the way our needs are being met.

Thanks once more for touching our lives with yours. May the Lord bless you all as we look forward to serving in the New Year just a few days away.

Still looking up for Him,
(Signature Omitted in E-mail Version)
Walter Robinson II

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See attached Photos on the next page:

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This is a sample of the visitors and program participants. They filled our open congregational area and the extension off to one side toward the door. We counted 59 present that Wednesday night!



These are mostly the young children and teens.



These are more of the older teens and young adults, which were eager to participate in the program.



Tyrus, the youngest of our participants who spoke up and was heard clearly by all.

The younger and the *older* alike enjoyed all. Can you guess which is which?

