

1972

Aims and Purposes of the Herald of Truth

Herald of Truth

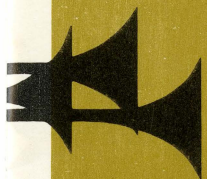
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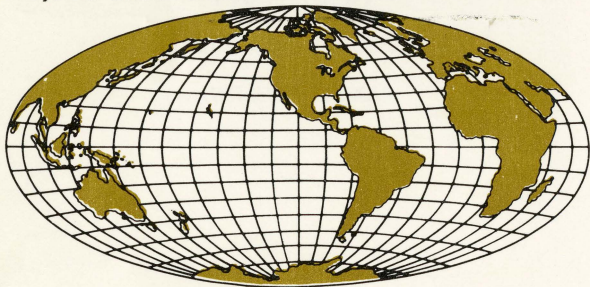
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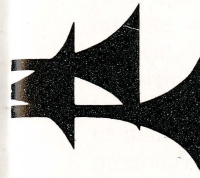
Herald of Truth

... radio and television programs

Go ye into all the world...



AIMS AND PURPOSES OF THE



Herald of Truth
... radio and television programs

Produced by
Highland Church of Christ
ABILENE, TEXAS

There is a need to state emphatically that the Herald of Truth radio and television programs are not the product of any kind of an ecclesiasticism. *We are not to set in order any kind of an organization to do the work that God gave the church to do, because that would be wholly unscriptural and sinful.* But we merely work together as Christians — elders, deacons, preachers and members of the great body of the Lord Jesus Christ *for the express purpose of searching out ways and means whereby we can better carry out the great commission of our Lord when He said, "Go . . . teach all nations . . ."* The church today has a sacred, solemn responsibility to a lost world. If the church of our Lord does not arise to that responsibility, multiplied millions of men and women will die and go to torment, and the finger of scorn will be pointed at the members of the church because we have failed to utilize modern communication and the ingenuity of man enabling the voice of the speakers on our program to be carried into the multiplied millions of homes, not only in America but into other nations of the world.

As we review the total population of our mighty world, which is today in excess of three billion souls as compared to the membership of the church of our Lord Jesus Christ, *there are less than one per cent of this total population who are members of the body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.* There are more than two and one-quarter billion people who are anti-Christ, who do not believe that Jesus Christ was born of the virgin Mary, that He grew to the years of maturity and suffered as the Son of God upon the cross, shedding His

blood for the remission of our sins. We are few in number, brethren, but if God be on our side, who can be against us. We have this responsibility to carry the gospel to the entire world today.

One year ago in August four of the elders of the Highland Church, including this writer, were sent to Europe for a definite purpose. We were glad to go. We experienced joys and thrills that we had never experienced before, but our hearts were made sad when we were made to think about the religious condition in cities, say like Jerusalem, Damascus, Cana of old, Nazareth and all the other places so closely connected with the life's work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I believe that the greatest disappointment to us was experienced on this particular, beautiful morning when we left our hotel in Tiberius and took a small boat and sailed across the Sea of Galilee, landing as we did at Old Capernaum. Capernaum, as you all know, is the place where most of our Lord's mighty works were done. I believe that more of His miracles were performed in and around Capernaum than any other one place in all the world. It was here that our Lord fed the five thousand. It was in this historic place that He walked upon the waters of the Sea of Tiberius, or the Sea of Galilee, being the same. We looked to our left and there was the cliff down which the swine ran and were drowned in the sea. It was regarding this ancient city that our Lord made the prediction in Matthew 11 when He said, "And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell . . ." Today, there is not one single vestige of Christianity visible in this ancient city where most of our Lord's mighty

works were done. Brethren, something happened. Something had to happen; something did happen. We cannot say that the apostles failed, because we know they did not. But a generation following the apostles failed, failed to this extent: they did not earnestly contend for the *faith once for all delivered to the saints*. So, today, because of their failure to earnestly contend for the truth of Almighty God, there is not one single vestige of Christianity visible. Today, almost two thousand years later, we stand in the world with every advantage intellectually and every other way. Yet, as analyzed a few moments ago, so few of the total population are members of the church of our Lord. Something is happening. Somebody has failed. I believe as firmly as I am standing here today that the God of heaven will not hold the church of the Lord Jesus Christ guiltless unless we go the second, the third mile and utilize every form and means of communication that is right and scriptural for the purpose of teaching men and women God's way — the way of salvation. They are going to have to understand, to know that Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life . . ." This, briefly, is why we have a Herald of Truth radio program and a Herald of Truth television program today.

We are not just *in* the broadcasting business. We are not out here asking brethren to raise funds to help carry on a radio program, but most of all and above all, we are preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, that inspiration affirmed to be the power of God unto salvation. In the 6th chapter of the book of John, John by inspiration said, "And they shall all be taught of God. Every one

that hath heard from the Father, and hath learned, cometh unto me." Men cannot come to salvation until they learn. They cannot learn until they hear, and you and I and other Christians joining hands together, the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ through us can be heard in every region, in every nation, in every hamlet, in every city and every town around the world today because of modern communication.

May I put it this way: Every single denomination (Now remember, the church of Christ is not a denomination), but every single denomination that is growing today is utilizing modern communication — radio and television. Can we afford to do less? Therefore, the very purpose and aim of our radio and television programs is that we might teach all nations (Matthew 28:19, 20), preach the gospel to every creature (Mark 16:15, 16) that men, who today are in darkness and in sin, may find their way to the great light — the Lord Jesus Christ.

There has never been a day from that memorable Pentecost until this good hour that the church of our Lord had the opportunity that it has today. If men and women who are dedicated to the cause of the Lord Jesus Christ, individually, collectively, as members of the church and as congregations, will support this program as faithfully as you have done in the past fourteen years, in fourteen years from now the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ will have been preached to every nation where the laws will permit and every creature bringing the glad message of salvation within reach of every anxious soul.

Let's look at the condition of our world for just a moment. There is an utter disregard for law and order. We see it in the home; we see it in the school; we see it in the church; we see it in the nation. Wherever man makes history today this attitude of disobedience to law and disregard for order and constituted authority is manifested on every hand. Crime is increasing at an enormous rate, and most of the crimes today, a big percentage of them, are committed by the younger ones of our generation, not only boys, but girls as well. And the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ, the message of hope, is the only thing that can retard the onward march of lawlessness and crime and disgrace and even Communism. But men must be taught; men must be brought to a knowledge and understanding of heaven's laws and respect the authority of the Lord Jesus Christ in order for a better relationship to exist between mankind.

The policies under which the program functions are stated briefly but emphatically: Every facet and every phase of this program is under the direct supervision of the sixteen elders of the Highland Church of Christ here in Abilene, Texas. We made the promise many years ago that we would oversee this work, that we would closely scrutinize every lesson taught and be responsible to the world and to the church for what was said on this program from the opening word to the last sentence expressed. That policy has been rigidly followed until this good hour. Every contract is in the name of the Highland Church of Christ, South Fifth and Highland, Abilene, Texas. Every contribution, regardless of its size, is carefully entered upon our

records and a receipt mailed to the donor. This policy will be continued. We are grateful for the response, and we urge and plead that brethren support this program in order that lost men and women may be reminded time and time again that a supreme sacrifice was made when Christ died upon Golgotha's rugged cross for the sins of the world. Every person in our office, out yonder in the field, that is drawing a salary and working in the interest of this program, is under bond. We have regular audits made by a certified public accountant. We are not only scriptural in our teaching and in our practice, but we are businesslike in our operations as well. Modern business has demanded a more efficient way of bookkeeping — the system of data processing we have been employing during the last months is working to our advantage and to the advantage of those who are assisting in this program.

The goals and objectives of these programs can be summed up briefly. The goal was set, not by the Highland elders, but by our Lord Jesus Christ when He said in Matthew 28:19, 20, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit . . . and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." Or, as Mark put it in the inspired record, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved . . ." Or, in the language of Luke in Luke 24:46, 47, "Thus it is written, and thus it behooved Christ to suffer, and to rise again . . . the third day; and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name unto all the nations, beginning from

Jerusalem." These are the marching orders. These are the commands that we have been trying to fulfill and obey. Today, as we sit here, our program is being carried on six of the seven continents with favorable results from every place. We are happy today that in Edinburgh, Scotland, the gospel is being carried each week into Ireland, into Scotland, and into northern England and Wales. On radio London in England the gospel is being preached each Lord's day morning with success. Herald of Truth is broadcast in Africa — Enugu, Nigeria — and we received a letter from one of the elders of one of the fine churches in Nashville, Tennessee, who said just a few days ago in a communication to us, "I was amazed to find the results of the Herald of Truth program in Nigeria." Then again in Africa — Monrovia in Liberia — the results are marvelous there. As we swing on down into the "nation down under," Australia, we have four radio stations carrying the gospel of God's dear Son to the last frontier, Australia. Coming back to the Panama Canal Zone — both radio and television. Jumping then to the Philippine Islands with some five radio stations carrying the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ to those people in the isles of the sea. We have many, many letters from brethren over there, and we have visitors from over there, commending us for the great work that is being accomplished today by radio in the Philippine Islands. In practically every state in our nation the gospel is being carried today by radio. Something like one hundred fifty (150) television stations today are carrying the gospel of God's dear Son, most of which, some one hundred (100) of them, are carrying our program today on a sustaining basis.

Summing it up in just a few words: The reason we have a program, as stated; the policy under which the program is operated today has been fully stated; and the goal and objectives are worldwide evangelism! Brethren, I close with this statement: This program is proven. It has been tested; it has been tried; and it is a proven success. Therefore, you can with confidence ask your brethren and friends to support this worldwide endeavor. May God bless you.

W. F. Cawyer
An Elder of the
Highland Church of Christ
Abilene, Texas

Goals and Purposes of HERALD OF TRUTH Programs

- *To reach the largest possible audience in the shortest possible time over the largest geographical area.*
- *To search out truth seekers.*
- *To serve as heavy artillery in preparing the minds of people for more personal teaching.*
- *To exert a positive force for the restoration of New Testament Christianity and for the unity of all religious people in Christ.*
- *To wield an influence for morality in home, community, state and world affairs.*
- *To assist and guide truth seekers in a more comprehensive study of God's Word.*

