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Mary Craig

From: Mary Craig

Sent: Monday, December 01, 2008 6:07 PM

Subject: Mary Craig Ministries December email 2008



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Dusty, dry, dead religion, cities of the dead, pyramids built for the dead, temples to the no-gods, desert regions, deceptive hidden rooms in the tombs of the pharaohs, people walking around in fear of the next terrorist attack and possible death; yet in that spiritual darkness there was the light of the gospel of Jesus Christ, a light shining in that darkness.

It was a mission filled with contrasts. Against the spiritual darkness with its apathy, the mocking, and the ridicule of Jesus' miracles, stood the Truth. Even as some pastors took their theology from movies like *Bruce Almighty* and others taught that Jesus is not the only way to God as one travels on the journey that leads to everlasting life, the Truth came forward in the Word of God, that Word which some denied as being inerrant and infallible.



Rev. Jim Craig, Dr. Mary Craig, Dale Steinmetz, Kroy Ellis

Within the culture of death, a culture into which America is likewise becoming immersed, shines the light of Christ. Hold fast to what is good. Hold fast as lovers of the Truth. Prove and test all experiences by the Word of God. Do not let emotions be your guide, nor sensational experiences; but determine to know nothing save Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Do not be ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Do God's will, not seeking God to bring you into the destiny you have in mind; but seeking God to bring you into the destiny He has for you in Christ Jesus.

God is hedging His people in from their other lovers (Hosea 2). As He draws them into the dry places of the wilderness, He will shine forth to show Himself strong to save. His own must turn to Him, cry out, call upon His Name, and He will answer. He will show His people great and mighty things they know not of. He will rescue from the darkness, from the death, from the deadness, from the law of sin and death.

This Christmas celebrate the One who is strong to save, the Deliverer who was sent by the Father as the Incarnate Word to invade human history in such a way as to fulfill all righteousness. Jesus came according to prophetic word. He is coming again, according to prophetic word. Watch, be ready, learn how to overcome, and pray.

While Pastor Jim, Kroy Ellis, Dale Steinmetz, and I were on the mission to Jordan, Israel, and Egypt, David and Betty Patten were in Croatia. Some years back an MCM team went to Croatia, but the Pattens were called to go to some specific places as a follow-up. Betty writes,

"There was significant Christian persecution in the Split, Croatia, area by the Emperor Diocletian, who declared himself the "son of Jupiter" around 295 A.D., built a temple to himself, and ordered all the Christians killed. We toured and prayed at the archeological ruins in Salona, a former town near Split, where some of the key Christians were martyred in the gladiator stadium and are now buried. We also prayed in Split at the temple that the Emperor built for himself, which is now a Roman Catholic church.

We also prayed, as we were led, at Mars Hill in Athens, Greece (where the Apostle Paul spoke to the Greek court); in Delos, an island near Mykonos that was the alleged birthplace of the Greek god Apollo; at the ruins of the Temple of Zeus in Olympia, Greece, site of the first Olympic games; and at the Roman Theater in Verona, Italy, "



David and Betty Patten

For this month's Craighouse events, go to www.craighouse.org. We have a lot going on, from regular Sunday services at 4:30 p.m. to the Monday Night Thing to Wednesday Bible study on strategic spiritual warfare to Friday nights 7:30 p.m. when we are looking in depth at *Hesed: God's Enduring Love*.



Barnabas Project: Distribution in Loxahatchee

Saturday, December 6th. **Meet at Craighouse 9:00 a.m**. to travel to distribution site at Acts II Worship Center, the Buena Fe Day Labor Referral Center, 13000 Okeechobee Blvd., 10:30 a.m. until noon. David Patten, Barnabas Project Director

Special Events:

Sunday, December 21st, Christmas Dinner & Caroling from Craighouse. 6:00 p.m. Bring family, friends, food, and a flashlight! Witness to the birth of the Christchild on the streets of the city.

Here we were last year ready to hit the streets with Pastor Jim on trumpet and some great voices for caroling! We've been doing this for some 14 years now and we have seen God honor our witness every year. Join us as we testify to the glory of God!

Wednesday, December 24th, join us for a family-style Christmas Eve. 7:00 p.m. Dessert, Songs & Scripture, Christmas Stories & Inspirational Readings





 $\label{lem:condition} \textbf{Craighouse} \textbf{@: Where Christ is exalted and His people grow in grace.}$