

May 2001

Patriot's Progress *Magazet*



Good Reading for students and friends of Patriot University



Announcements for Patriot University Students

***You can now order online at
www.patriotuniversity.com***

You may now order courses securely with a credit card through our web site, as well as by phone or mail. You will find “Plan A” and “Plan B” order forms for both undergraduate and graduate students for your convenience. Patriot University accepts **DISCOVER CARD**, as well as **Visa** and **MasterCard**. Transactions are posted immediately, and will show up as *Patriot University* on your credit card statement.

Have you sent us your current **Email** address? We are updating our email list with plans of adding an e-newsletter sometimes this Summer. Also, let us know if you are interested in **online** course materials and other online services. Our email address is **patuniv@amigo.net**

LAST CALL!

***Patriot University Commencement Exercises in
Colorado Springs***

June 6, 2001

***If you plan to come, and have not yet let us
know, please phone immediately.***



Would This Building Make Patriot University a *Real* School?



President James A. Garfield once said that his ideal university was a log with Mark Hopkins, a master teacher, on one end and a student on the other. A school on a log?

There is a perception today that a school is not a school without an impressive multi-billion dollar campus.

As “proof” that Patriot University is not a “real” school, someone even went to the trouble of coming all the way to Alamosa, Colorado to take a photo of our house. Then, this photo has been widely published as the location of Patriot University.

Since our house is on the same property and shares the same mailing address as College Heights Baptist Church—where our offices are located—some of our enemies felt this was good ammunition to use against us. Well, our tri-level parsonage is not adequate for Patriot University offices. But what if it was? Does anyone really believe that the style and size of buildings determines the value of what goes on there?

Some of our students have studied with schools that boast huge, beautiful buildings. And yet these students have testified that they did not learn nearly as much with those schools as they have at Patriot.

Tens of thousands of home schools have proven that the *building* is not what makes quality education.

Buildings are buildings. If we don’t need a cafeteria and dorms, then why would God want us to have them? Why should any school have forty-seven classrooms if they only use ten? Here in Alamosa, we operate *External Studies* or *Distance Learning* programs; this requires offices, not stadiums.

It is true that some External Studies programs put a picture of an impressive eight-story office building on their material with the caption “Home of ____ University.” They’re telling the truth; that’s where their offices are located. But they may not be telling you that they simply rent a few rooms on one floor of that building...and that only four of the 164 windows in the picture are being used by their school.

Does Patriot University need to use such marketing tactics? Would having our offices in a huge office building be important enough for you to pay two or three times more for tuition and fees? At this time, *College Heights Baptist Church* in Alamosa and *Hilltop Baptist Church* in Colorado Springs graciously furnishes the building space we need at no charge. This helps us to offer you the best tuition value in America.

What is true education? Is it buildings, budgets and boastings? Must we pattern after schools with elaborate buildings to be considered a real school?

God is blessing Patriot University! New enrollments during the first quarter of this year are up 52% over last year and more than 200% over 1999!

But we suspect the attacks against Patriot University actually have little to do with physical buildings and more to do with the building we are seeking to do in lives with God's Word. In fact, at least one vicious article condemns Patriot for being "one of those schools that takes the Bible literally."

We confess our guilt to that accusation. "We believe the whole Bible, not a Bible full of holes."

The most important trait of a good school is how well a student *learns*. And God has taught us that just *any* learning is not enough. In some of the most prestigious universities in America you may take courses on how to gamble or produce pornography. Is this what quality education was meant to be?

Remember the words of Martin Luther:

"Any school or university that is not unceasingly occupied with the Word of God must indeed become corrupt!"

—Lonnie Skinner

Help us Look for New Students!

Did you know you can help your university, yourself and someone else by telling others about Patriot University?

When a new student enrolls in Patriot University, your school can expand, becoming stronger and more credible. The new student benefits from Biblical studies that lead to spiritual growth. You can feel good for the service you have given AND we offer a \$50 credit voucher to be used toward your tuition and/or book fees. (*Bible institutes and family members excluded from voucher offer*).



Wit and Wisdom on Preachers & Preaching

Unhappy with Your Pastor? Try this Chain-letter:

“Simply send a copy of this letter to six other churches who are tired of their ministers. Then bundle up your pastor and send him to the church at the top of the list. Add your name to the bottom of the list. In one week you will receive 16,436 ministers. At least one of them should be a dandy. Have faith in this letter. One man broke the chain and got his old minister back!”

“God is on the lookout for a man whose heart is perfect toward Him. Will you be quiet enough to hear Him, brave enough to proclaim Him, and honest enough to obey Him?”

“It is not the business of the preacher to fill the house. It is his business to fill the pulpit.” —Vance Havner

Richard Baxter praised those preachers who “preached as never sure to preach again...as a dying man to dying men.”

“When I am angry I preach well and pray better.”
—Martin Luther

“Preaching that costs nothing accomplishes nothing.”
—John Henry Jowett

One pastor never prepared for his sermon during the week. On Sunday morning—while the church was singing the hymns—he’d sit on the platform desperately praying: “Oh, Lord, please give your message, Lord give me your message.”

One Sunday, while frantically praying for God's message, he heard the Lord say, “Ralph, here’s my message: *You’re lazy!*”

How to Help Your Pastor Be a Better Preacher!



Are you in the habit of complaining about your pastor's preaching?

Here's how you can help to eliminate that criticism.

→ Begin to pray for your pastor as he prepares his messages. Ask God to guide him in the selection of his texts, in the development of his themes, and in the application of his topics. Pray that he may be given fresh insights into the meaning of God's Word. Pray, too, that he may be able to discipline his mind in the study of the Bible and of other helpful books. Pray for your pastor both at home and in church prayer meetings.

→ Start taking a greater interest in what your pastor does preach. Take notes of his messages, follow him in your Bible as he refers to various passages of God's Word. Then express appreciation for help received through his sermons. Go back over the notes, deliberately recalling the main emphases of his message.

→ Suggest to him some topics you would like to hear messages about. This can include subjects or books of the Bible. Most preachers appreciate suggestions of that nature. Ultimately the preacher must decide what he should preach, but ideas from his congregation will be of definite help in guiding his selection.

→ Find out if he is too busy doing other things at the request of the church so that his time for study and prayer is definitely limited. While a preacher should not be shut up in his study all week, neither should he be "on the go" Monday through Saturday on behalf of his congregation. No man, unless he is a genius, can enter the pulpit on Sunday morning and feed God's sheep after a week away from his study. Use your influence to see that he gets more help, thus enabling him to prepare your Sunday "meals."

→ Make sure he has adequate tools for his study of the Word. Some churches, recognizing the costliness of books, include a pastor's book fund in their budget. That is one way to give him the opportunity to read good books on those subjects basic to his preaching ministry.

→ Be imaginative, and think of other ways of encouraging your pastor in his preaching. You do not need to idolize him, but you should inspire him by your help and support.

—Selected

You Can Do It...IF You Think You Can!



I was raised on a little farm in the country. My people were big people. When I read in the Bible of the giants of Anakim, I think of some of my cousins. They were big, long-legged boys with long arms that did not even look human. They all liked to fight and none of them were scared of anything. That is one of the worst situations a little fellow like me ever got into.

There was a great big ditch that ran down through the farm. We called it a “gully”. When it rained the water would wash it out deeper and wider than ever.

The young boys used to say that if a fellow could not jump that ditch he should not be accepted. Those big, long-legged guys would run and take a leap and sail right across that ditch.

Little, quivering me, short-legged Tom, would still be standing on the other side. My brother was even ashamed of me. He said to me one day, “Now Tom, you can jump that ditch.”

“*I can?*”

“Oh, yes,” he said. “I have been thinking about your situation. Your legs are shorter, but you ought to be able to move them faster. The whole secret is to get a good, fast running start. Watch me, and I’ll show you how.”

He jumped across it and got on the other side. Then he jumped back across. He said, “Now you can do it.”

I said, “I can. I know I can.”

He said, “Alright, jump it!”

I said, “I will. I’m going to.”

I got way back and took a run. He had drawn a line in the red clay to show where I was to leave the ground. I was almost to that line when I said to myself, “You can’t do it!”

Sure enough, I did not do it. I landed in the bottom of that gully, crashing into sharp rocks, thorns and blackberry bushes. If band-aids had been on that farm, it would have taken a wagon-load of them to fix me up.

There I was, floundering around, bleeding all over. My brother just looked at me and said, “What in the world happened?”

“I changed my mind. I said I could, but when I got there I said I couldn’t.”

That is what the Bible is talking about when it says, “A *double minded man is unstable in all his ways*” (James 1:8). You can’t be a good Christian if you think you can’t. But through Christ you “can do all things” that you need to do.

To serve the Lord and be a good Christian, you must *determine* in your heart, make up your mind to do some things that all the power of the devil cannot take from you.

We need Christians who will say, “I am determined and have set my face as Jesus set His toward Calvary. I will not be moved. I have put my mind on serving God.”

“*And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength...*” (Luke 10:17).

—Tom Malone



If you think you are beaten, you are:

If you think you dare not, you don't.

If you'd like to win, but think you can't,

It's almost a cinch you won't.

If you think you'll lose, you're lost,

For out in the world we find

Success begins with a fellow's will:

It starts with a state of mind.

Life's battles don't always go

To the strong or faster man:

But soon or late the man who wins

Is the one who *thinks* he can.

—Walter Wintle

God's Answers May Come Down Strange Avenues



God puts His children with the people and in the place needed for them to develop spiritual graces.

He puts one who is quick, with one who is slow—one who is quiet with one who is talkative. He puts one who is orderly with one who is untidy. He does this that both may learn lessons. Your present environment may just be an answer to prayer.

We pray for patience. God sends those who tax us to the utmost. Why? For “tribulation worketh patience” (Romans 5:3).

We pray for submission. God sends suffering. Why? Because we learn obedience by the things we suffer (Hebrews 5:8).

We pray for victory. Yet the things of the world sweep down upon us in a storm of temptation. Why? For “this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.” (I John 5:4; 4:4)

We pray for humility and strength. Then some messenger of Satan torments us until we lie in the dust, crying to God for relief. Why? So we can learn that His strength is revealed in us by the realization of our own weakness.

We pray for closer fellowship with Jesus. God lets our best friends misunderstand or become indifferent to us. Why? So we may lean on Him rather than others, and so we may learn that love suffers long and is kind; love is not impolite; love is not provoked; love bears, love believes, hopes and endures; love never fails. (Read John 15:9-10; I Corinthians 13:4-8).

We ask to follow Jesus. He separates us from home and kindred. Why? For He Himself said, “Whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple” (Luke 14:33).

So when things happen that we cannot understand remember God is still on the throne. He is making all things work together for our good. He is answering our prayers, leading us to closer fellowship with Him. Praise Him! He is answering even if we don't know it.

—Harry J. Albus

We Are Not Alone

**Fear not: for they that *be* with us *are* more than they
that *be* with them.**
—2 Kings 6:16

In the New York City subway, two youths robbed a well-dressed man who appeared to be asleep in his seat. Suddenly the whole car came alive! The victim turned out to be a decoy, and the passengers who jumped up from their seats were police officers. With lightning speed they converged on the young pair and made the arrest. These officers were “unseen” at first, but they provided ample security for riders on that subway car.

We get a similar picture of protection in 2 Kings 6. In a manner more dramatic than what happened on that subway, Elisha’s servant saw why his master could be so confident in the face of what seemed to be impending disaster. We read that when the Lord opened the eyes of the young man, he saw an amazing sight (v.17). God had arrayed an invisible army “of horses and chariots of fire” all around Elisha, ready to protect the Israelites from the Syrian army.

As God’s children, we can trust Him to defend us as we do His will. Even when the battle seems too great and it appears that we face defeat, we must still trust the Lord. We can be encouraged by remembering Elisha’s message to his servant: “Those who are with us are more than those who are with them.”
We are not alone!
—M.R. DeHann II

A Strong Spirit

*Life can't always be
just like a song—
You have to have trouble
to make you strong,
So whenever you're troubled
and everything goes wrong,
It's just God working in you
to make your spirit strong!*

—Helen Steiner Rice

BIBLE VERSE



The fear of the Lord, that is
wisdom; and to depart from evil
is understanding.

JOB 28:28

What Do You Like Most About Patriot University?

Here's how some of our students have answered that question:

“It’s affordable and the service is excellent!”

“The opportunity to work on and earn nontraditional Christian college degrees! The courses are excellent! The support is great! The chance to grow and learn, as God’s child and servant.”

“Doctrinally sound, adaptable to my schedule, academically and spiritually stimulating.”

“The fact that I can receive a good Bible Education through home study with low fees.”

“The entire program. I enjoy the fact that it is based upon the Word of God, requiring much use of the Word.”

“I appreciate the way it meets my need. As a busy wife and mother Patriot has given me the opportunity to get the education I would otherwise not be able to obtain.”

“Everything! Honestly, we are pleased with everything about Patriot!”

“The staff’s personal and professional proficiency and the fact they are a caring institution seeking to minister to anyone they can.”

“I’m most pleased with the books. What a difference when compared to the secular books I had to use for my B.A.!”

“I am impressed with the quality of the studies and how much I learn from the work.”

“I like being able to work at my own pace, and the good quality of the materials I have received.”

“The cooperative spirit and willingness to work with the student makes earning your education a blessing rather than a battle.”

“The courses are very helpful for *everyday* living!”

“I appreciate the attitude of the school—an attitude of being a servant—especially to those who could not afford an education otherwise.”

“Being able to do the courses while at home and the love-gift tuition, for I couldn’t complete my education otherwise.”

What about you? What do YOU like most about Patriot University? Please write or email us with your comments.



Very
Interesting!



Who Needs Extra Income?

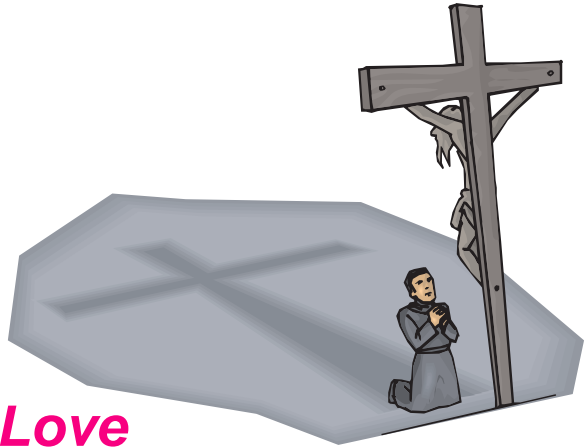
A Patriot University graduate recently called to tell us: "I just made nearly \$500 in one hour after showing a small businessman how to protect his family and business through Pre-Paid Legal. Of course I don't always do this well; but it's not uncommon for me to make a hundred dollars for an hour's work! People need to know about this!"

Do you know someone who needs to increase their income, perhaps to be able to free up some time for ministry or family? If so, perhaps they should check out the *Pre-Paid Legal* business opportunity.

For more information contact Dr. Lonnie Skinner here at Patriot, or go to the following web-site:

www.prepaidlegal.com/go/lonnieskinner

I Know Nothing of Calvary Love



**If I covet any place on earth but
the dust at the foot of the Cross**

IF I BELITTLE those whom I'm called to serve, talk of their weak points in contrast perhaps with what I think of as my strong points; if I adopt a superior attitude, forgetting "Who maketh thee to differ... and what hast thou that thou didst not receive?" (I Corinthians 4:7), *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If I can speak an unkind word or think an unkind thought without grief and shame, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If I am afraid to speak the truth, lest I lose affection, or lest the one concerned should say, "you do not understand", or because I fear to lose my reputation for kindness; if I put my own good name before the other's highest good, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If I feel bitterly towards those who condemn me, (as it seems to me, unjustly), forgetting that if they knew me as I know myself they would condemn me much more, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If I say, "Yes, I forgive, but I cannot forget," as though the God—who twice a day washes all the sands on all the shores of all the world—could not wash such memories from my mind, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If monotony tries me, and I cannot stand the drudgery; if stupid people fret me and little ruffles set me on edge; if I make much of the trifles of life, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

If I covet any place on earth but the dust at the foot of the Cross, *then I know nothing of Calvary love.*

—Amy Carmichael



Carnal Christian ...Still a Baby!

“And I brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, *but as unto carnal, even as unto babes in Christ.* I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for *hitherto ye were not able to bear it, neither yet now are ye able*” (1 Cor. 3:1-2).

The carnal Christian never grows up. He remains a mere “babe in Christ.” The Corinthian Christians should have been full-grown, strong, meat-eating grown-ups. Instead they were immature, weak, milk-drinking infants. They did not measure up in either stature or strength to what they should have.

Nothing on earth can bring more joy to loving parents than a baby in babyhood. But, oh, the indescribable heartache endured by the parents if that precious child *remains* a baby in body or in mind!

Nothing on earth sets the joy bells of heaven ringing as the birth of one into the family of God. But, oh, what pain it must cause the heavenly Father to see that spiritual babe remain in a state of protracted infancy!

Which are you, a spiritual babe or an adult? To answer that question it may be necessary to answer another. What are the marks of a baby?

A baby is helplessly dependent on others. A baby absorbs attention and expects to be the center of his little world. A baby lives in the realm of his feelings. If all goes well, he is pleased and smiling; but he’s extremely touchy and—if his desire is crossed at any point—he quickly and loudly lets it be known. *The carnal Christian bears the same marks.*

Hebrews 5:12-14 shows us that the carnal Christian is still dependent on others. He ought to be far enough advanced to be teaching others. But he is still having to be taught, unable to take the meat of the Word.

Why were the Corinthian Christians still babes? Paul tells us clearly in the first two chapters of I Corinthians. They were following human leaders, esteeming the wisdom of men more highly than the wisdom of God. They were substituting fodder for food and trying to satisfy their hunger on husks.

The average Christian doesn’t go firsthand to the Bible for food, trusting the Holy Spirit to give him the strong meat of the Word. He is looking only to human teachers for his spiritual nourishment and gulps down whatever they give him.

He is a spiritual parasite living on pre-digested food; consequently he is underfed and anemic. In his weakened state he’s open to all forms of spiritual disease. He’s an easy prey for temper, pride, impurity and selfishness. And because of his close relationship to other believers, the result is often an epidemic of sin like that in the Corinthian church. Which are you, still a helpless babe or a mature Christian able to be used by God to help others?

—Ruth Paxson

New Office Hours

The University Offices are open **Monday-Thursday**, except for holiday breaks. *Offices are closed on Friday.*

Please note time zone differences:

Eastern time office hours—11 to 7

Central time office hours—10 to 6

Mountain time office hours—9 to 5

Pacific time office hours—8 to 4

A student may request an evening phone appointment.

God Answers Prayer!

Eighteen-year-old Hudson Taylor wandered into his father's library and read a Gospel tract. He couldn't shake off its message. Finally, falling to his knees, he accepted Jesus Christ as Savior.

Later, his mother, who had been away, returned home. When Hudson told her the good news, she said: "I already know. Ten days ago, at the very time when you tell me you read that tract, I spent the entire afternoon in prayer for you until the Lord assured me that my wayward son had been brought into the fold."

Hudson would become one of the greatest missionaries in church history.



How to Contact

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Equal Justice for all...

That's part of the American dream! Of course that won't actually happen until we get to Heaven, but for **less than the cost of a cup of coffee each day** we can now have some quality legal protection right here on earth.

“At this time in America I think it's important for me to have life insurance, health insurance, car insurance and fire insurance. But I am convinced that Pre-Paid Legal may prove more important than all of them! I thank God that this protection is available for my family!” —Lonnie Skinner

Did You Know...

That you are three times more likely to be taken to court than you are to be in the hospital during the next year?

That 100 million lawsuits are filed in the U.S. each year?

That Satan has stirred certain factions of our society to declare “open-season” on Christian ministries and their workers, and that outrageous legal attacks against Christians are increasing dramatically?

Pre-Paid Legal Services includes:

- ✍ Unlimited Toll-free Consultation with an Attorney
- ✍ Attorney Letters and Phone Calls on your behalf
- ✍ Contract and Document Review
- ✍ Comprehensive Will Preparation
- ✍ Moving Traffic Ticket Representation
- ✍ Help with Consumer Complaints
- ✍ Trial Defense and Pre-Trial Preparation
- ✍ IRS Audit Representation AND Much More

Do You Have Your Pre-Paid Legal yet?

If not, you can help your Patriot University by getting it through us!

For more information, contact Dr. Lonnie Skinner at Patriot, or you may view a movie at this web-site:

www.prepaidlegal.com/go/lonnieskinner