

Website info

The **OFFICIAL STREET PREACHERS WEBSITE** is to edify, train and exhort the body of Christ in the biblical method of public preaching. The Church today has buried this talent of outdoor unwanted preaching and has emphasized on keeping your faith personal and private without the word 'repent' mentioned. The Bible teaches us to confess Jesus before mankind (Mt.10:32-33) and that is not just a one time repeating a sinners prayer in a enclosed Church, but proclaiming the God of the Bible as bold as lions (Pr.28:1). With the concept of the Holy Ghost to promote JESUS THE CHRIST to a dead and backslidden world as per Acts 1:8; 2Tim.4:2. We find men of God preaching out doors in public places from Genesis to Revelation, so why is this strange-fire to steeple Christianity today? Why do churches have youth ministry, children ministry, married and single ministries, music ministry, the homeless ministry and one can always find a prayer ministry. Maybe somewhere there is even a left handed, red haired, albino, with one droopy eye ministry for females? Yet NO one gets exhorted from the pulpit to go preach in the modern marketplace, as preaching is not a ministry but a commandment, our duty as a believer. God is looking for men to raise up are you willing?

**“Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?”
(Ps.94:16)**



**“And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none”
(Ezk.23:30)**

We as believers should not be ashamed of the God of the Bible or the Holy standard of Christian living as fruit from being born again and we have counted the cost to preach in public to unwanted ears. This is what has been coined as “Confrontational Evangelism” to take a message of repentance to those in the street that need to heed what God says and confront

them boldly. We fearlessly expose sin and confidently offer the remedy to mankind and demanding fruit meet for repentance. For the very word "PREACH" in Hebrew, Greek or just using the good old Webster's is to publicly proclaim, yell and herald coupled with countless examples in the Bible of men doing just that.

THE VERY WORD 'PREACH' IN HEBREW OR GREEK AND EVEN GOOD OLD FASHION WEBSTER'S IS TO RAISE THE VOICE OUT LOUD:



God did not tell Noah 'just build me a boat' God told Noah how to build that ark, how long, how high and what wood to use. **NOAH DID IT GOD'S WAY.**

God did not say 'just build me a temple with four walls' He gave several chapters of exact instructions on how to build that Temple. **IT WAS BUILT THE WAY GOD WANTS IT DONE.**

I could go on with countless stories of the WAY GOD WANTS IT DONE, but the point is made, there can be a way and there is a way God wants it.

.....there is a way God wants to get His message preached in public, **RAISE THE VOICE.**

Not a tract table, not singing, not giving free coffee or water, not invited people to Church to hear an evangelist, not street skits nor befriending sinners but God's way.

DON'T JUST DO IT, DO IT THE WAY GOD WANTS IT DONE.

"Who will rise up for me against the evildoers? or who will stand up for me against the workers of iniquity?"

-Ps.94:16

"And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none"

-Ezk.23:30

As we have many verses in the Bible to confirm this and countless examples to authenticate this as sound doctrine.

“Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets”



.....and again.....

“Doth not wisdom cry? and understanding put forth her voice? She standeth in the top of high places, by the way in the places of the paths. She crieth at the gates, at the entry of the city, at the coming in at the doors”

Wisdom should be crying out in open air, outside the walls of religious meeting houses as this style of communication has a long history going back to the prophets of the Old Testament.

GATES:

A popular artery or watering hole for Old Testament prophets to preach was the GATES of any city. Gates were very busy places, the hub, being the site of business transactions (**Gen. 23:1; 2 Kings 7:1**), community meetings/city hall (**Gen. 34:20; 2 Sam. 19:8; Prov. 31:23; Lam. 5:14**), court decisions (**Deut. 22:15; 25:7; Ruth 4:1; 2 Sam. 15:2; Amos 5:15; Zech. 8:16**), public executions (**Deut. 22:24**), public mourning (**2 Sam. 18:33**), daily chores (**2 Sam. 23:15; 1 Kings 17:10**), religious meetings/idolatry (**1 Kings 22:10; 2 Kings 23:8; 2 Chron. 18:9; Acts 14:13**), a place for beggars (**Psalms 69:12; Prov. 22:22; Amos 5:12**), and wartime negotiations (**Isaiah 22:7; Jer. 1:15**).

The book of **Jeremiah**, more than any other, gives clear verses and examples of OPEN AIR PREACHING. Jeremiah's ministry at the gates is mentioned in **Jeremiah 7:1-2; 11:6; 17:19-20; 22:1-2; 36:10**. This was the best place to get a message to the most people, to "all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem that enter in by these gates...."

The Old Testament is rich with accounts of PUBLIC PREACHING, here is just a few and see BIBLE for more details.

NOAH WAS AN OPEN-AIR PREACHER and did not keep his belief in God personal and private, he was a **'preacher of righteousness'** as per 2Peter 2:5, public preaching what is moral and the coming judgment to unrepentant ears. Noah was not ashamed to proclaim God.

AMOS WAS A STREET PREACHER! **"They hate him that rebuketh in the gate, and they abhor him that speaketh uprightly"** (Amos 5:10)

ISAIAH WAS A STREET PREACHER! God told Isaiah to **"CRY ALOUD; SPARE NOT; LIFT UP THY VOICE LIKE A TRUMPET, and show my people their transgressions and the house of Jacob their sins"** (Is. 58:1) and notice where he preached **"they lay a snare for him that reproveth in the gate..."** (Isaiah 29:21)

JEREMIAH WAS A STREET PREACHER! **"The Lord said unto me, Proclaim all these words....in the streets...."** (Jer.11:6) and **"Thus said the Lord unto me, Go and stand in the GATE of the children of the people, whereby the kings of Judah come in, and by the which they go out, and in all the GATES of Jerusalem; and say unto them, Hear ye the word of the Lord, ye kings of Judah, and all Judah, and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem that enter in by these gates: Thus saith the Lord..."** (Jer.17:19-20)
"The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord, saying, Stand in the GATE of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all ye of Judah, that enter in at these gates to worship the Lord" (Jeremiah 7:1-2).

An interesting point about these men is that most of them spent most of their time not reaching those in other countries, or the most reprobate sinners, but God's "chosen people" who had scriptures and priests, as they entered the house of God to worship the LORD!

"Thus saith the Lord; Go down to the house of the king of Judah, and speak there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, O king of Judah...and thy people that enter in by these GATES"
-Jeremiah 22:1-2

"Then read Baruch in the book of the words of Jeremiah in the house of the Lord...at the entry of the new GATE of the Lord's house, in the ears of all the people"
-Jeremiah 36:10

The PROPHETS of GOD in the Old Testament were not concerned about offending people as they proclaimed an unwanted message in public without passing out literature, using a tract table, inviting everyone to a religious meeting, there was no free meals or coffee and they did not entice them with music. These methods have some limited value, but what was the MAIN method of outreach in the Bible?

OPEN-AIR PREACHING.

What is the most effective way to reach the most people at the least expense?

PUBLIC PREACHING.

What is the method that most ACCURATELY REFLECTS THE REAL CHARACTER OF GOD?

OUTDOOR PREACHING.

And lastly what is the one method that receives the least amount of teaching, encouragement and promotion in the Body of Christ?

STREET PREACHING!!

We are the armpit of the body, everyone wants to be a big blue eye or a nice fingernail, but who wants to be the armpit?

“For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God”

1 Corinthians 1:18



The word of the Lord came to me, saying, Go and cry in the ears of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the Lord...”

-Jeremiah 2:1-2

In **JUDGES** when Jotham had a message to get to a crowd of people in Shechem (who wanted to kill him), how did he do it? Not with literature, or invitations to religious services, or any other “subtle” methods. **“Jotham went and stood in the top of Mount Gerizim, and lifted up his voice, and CRIED, and said unto them, Hearken unto me, ye men of Shechem, that God may hearken unto you”** (Judges 9:7). Jotham found a safe place from which they could all hear him, and **LIFTED UP HIS VOICE**. Jotham was an open air preacher (1300 B.C.)

JONAH, is a good example in the OLD TESTAMENT of a foreign missionary, as GOD sent him to warn Nineveh. Did he rent a hall and invite people to come to a scheduled meeting, enticing them with “special music” and Gospel entertainment? No. Jonah was charged to **CRY OUT** to Nineveh. The BIBLE says Nineveh was **“an exceeding great city of three days journey”** (Jonah 3:3); it took 3 days just to walk around it, (Diodorus confirms that Nineveh was 60 miles in circumference and Herodotus records that a day’s journey was 20 miles). Jonah 3:4 says **“Jonah began to enter into the city a day’s journey, and he CRIED, and said, Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown”** Jonah went “a day’s journey” into Nineveh, a city of 3 day’s journey, and **CRIED**. He was **PREACHING** as he was walking, i.e. **OUTDOORS**. Jonah was a **STREET PREACHER**, walking the streets as he preached his message of judgment and truth.

Now before we move into the New Testament I would like to make a distinction between preaching, testifying, teaching, and witnessing, because not all is the same.

A) Witnessing is how you interact with sinners on a daily basis. Jesus had many commands and examples on how to show kindness and love to those who don't know Him. He ate with them and showed compassion on them. He lived an example..

B) Let me also make a distinction between preaching and teaching. Preaching is primarily what is done for the benefit of the lost whom we are attempting to reach with the Gospel. Whereas teaching is primarily the Word as it is given to those who are saved and are being edified and matured by it. While those may not be hard-and-fast definitions, they are generally accurate and will be sufficient for the sake of my points on preaching.

C) Now testifying is to acknowledge openly what Jesus has done to you, as Paul testified of his conversion 3 times in the book of Acts. There are events that we do not get a chance to preach nor witness but only to have our banners testify a message to an event or a crowd of people.

D) Now with that said, let us look at preaching. Preaching is a specific function that God uses to warn sinners of His impending judgment and it's results, and to offer the gift of salvation through repentance and belief in the redemptive work of Christ on the cross. The most popular method of preaching today is the type popularized by Billy Graham. Those of us who are street preachers call it the "God Loves You and Has a Wonderful Plan For Your Life" preaching. Sinners are told that "Jesus loves you. He accepts you just the way you are and you need to invite Him into your heart right now. That's all you have to do to be saved and sealed. Believe and repent later is what is required as this is only done to promote how many people said a 'prayer' and why you need to support their ministry.

What becomes of these thousands and thousands of "converts" over the years? You might think that after all these thousands of sinners coming forward, we would have had a major revival in the U.S. by now. What gives? The answer may surprise you. According to the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, only about 10% of those making a profession of faith at a Billy Graham crusade are regularly attending church members one year later. That's right. Just ten percent and I say that is too high. What's the problem? Is it the messenger, or is it the message? The Bible has a pretty basic model for preaching to the unsaved. It can be summed up in three words, 'REPENT and BELIEVE' is how it was done as per Matthew 21:32, Mark 1:15. But the order today is reversed for the sake of numbers.

John the Baptist said if you wish to be baptized of him "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" then he added "Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance." THAT would be like stopping someone who is walking down the isle towards an altar after hearing a call to salvation and saying to this person "show me how serious you are about Jesus and maybe I will led you into a prayer." John wanted fruit, he wanted evidence of their repentance.

REPENT was the first message Jesus preached. REPENT was preached on the Day of Pentecost and it is consistent within the book of Acts. As we do not find anyone preaching "Jesus loves you just as you are" or "God loves you" ANYWHERE IN THE BOOK OF ACTS, nor do we find it preached in public by Jesus in a four gospels, but the message of repentance is consistent.

"And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matt 3:2

"From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Matt 4:17

"And saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel."

Mark 1:15

"And they went out, and preached that men should repent."

Mark 6:12

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Luke 13:3

"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."

Luke 13:5

"Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

Acts 2:38

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;"

Acts 3:19

"And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent"

Acts 17:30

"But shewed first unto them of Damascus, and at Jerusalem, and throughout all the coasts of Judaea, and then to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God, and do works meet for repentance."

Acts 26:20

JOHN the BAPTIST was the first PREACHER in the NEW TESTAMENT and he open-aired. He was a voice crying in the wilderness, not as in weeping but crying out loud and I doubt he would be invited to many Baptist Churches today. Simply by his dress of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins, not to mention calling people names like **"generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come?"** And when he preached on Jesus he said anything about love but; **"he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."**

Wow, is this the way to start a New Covenant? Was John having a bad hair day or something, maybe his message should be more positive, perhaps music and entertainment? John was an OPEN AIR PREACHER and his message was simple: **"In those days came John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, REPENT YE, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand"** (Mt.3:1-2; Mk.1:4; Lk.3:3). Matthew reads that; Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan came out to hear John preaching (Matthew 3:5-

6). John was baptizing people in the river Jordan, which was a hub. He did not baptize people in a small creek in the back woods but a place of heavy traffic, with large crowds. Where people repented of their sin in that body of water as this was a main artery and let us not forget that John rebuked the king for his sin and was jailed for such. JOHN THE BAPTIST WAS A STREET PREACHER!

JESUS CHRIST was an open air preacher. In all the 4 Gospels we find Him working with large crowds that followed Him and how do you communicate to large crowds, but raise your voice so they can hear you. Here are a few examples in the Gospels where He ministered with MULTITUDES and again how can one speak to multitudes without raising the voice? (see Matt. 4:25; 5:1; 8:1,18; 12:15; 13:2,34; 14:14; 15:10,30-35,39; 17:14; 19:2; 21:8,11.....). The Gospel of John records **"In the last day, that great day of the feast, JESUS STOOD AND CRIED, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink."** Jesus raised His voice not once but twice in John chapter 7. One of the most famous sermons delivered by Jesus was OUTDOORS. That would be the sermon on the mount (Matthew chapter 5-7). In Luke 6:17 he preached to a "great multitude" in "the plain" or outdoors. The "Olivet discourse" (Mt.24) was delivered on the Mount of Olives or outdoors. His parables were mainly preached to "great multitudes" or by "the sea side." He even sat in a boat once and taught the multitude on the shore and just how could Jesus teach and preach to these people without raising His voice? Jesus fed thousands of men not including women and children twice, then taught them. How could this happen without Jesus not raising His voice? Connect the dots, JESUS OPEN-AIR PREACHED!

Just to be clear, we are not saying that everyone needs to stop witnessing and preach outloud, however we do it and we encourage it! As the main method of outreach found in the Scriptures is open air preaching.

JESUS not only did it, but He commanded His disciples to preach in public:

"What I tell you in darkness, that speak ye in light, and what ye hear in the ear, that preach ye upon the housetops"

"Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven"

Jesus said **"for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh"** therefore IF the Spirit of God dwells in your heart as many believe, it would be confirmed by your words for your mouth. As you should be able to preach one on one or one on one thousand.

Lastly they were commissioned by Jesus to **"Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel TO EVERY CREATURE."**

AND WE KNOW THERE ARE MANY CREATURES THAT NEED TO HEAR THIS MESSAGE!



The Apostles in Acts were no strangers to outdoor out loud preaching as per the Day of Pentecost where Peter being filled with the Holy Ghost **“lifted up his voice”** (Acts 2:14). Stephen also was a public preacher as he proclaimed a salty message in Acts 7. In Acts 17:17 we find Paul **“disputed in the market daily.”** Why the marketplace? As with the GATES, location, Location, LOCATION, for the crowds are there. The early Christians had no church buildings so their sermons were preached outside of the four walls. Yes, the apostles’ evangelism often involved “DISPUTING” and judgment, not just preaching GOD’s love as per see Acts 6:9; 9:22,29; 11:2; 15:2,7; 17:2; 18:19,28; 19:8,9; 28:23; see also Neh. 13:11; 17,25; Proverbs 28:4; Ephesians 5:11; I Thessalonians 2:2; Jude 3,9; see also examples in Matthew 22; John 7,8).

The **EPISTLES** exhort the Church to PREACH and let their light shine, here are a few verses: **“And how shall they preach, except they be sent?....”**

“Whom we preach, WARNING EVERY MAN and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in CHRIST JESUS”

“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine”

“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear”

“Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus”

WHO WILL ARGUE THAT OPEN-AIR PREACHING IS NOT BIBLICAL? NO ONLY DOES THE VERY WORD 'PREACH' MEAN TO RAISE YOUR VOICE, WE HAVE COUNTLESS EXAMPLES OF MEN CRYING OUT, RAISING THEIR VOICE AND PREACHING IN PUBLIC. IT DOES NOT STOP THERE AS WE HAVE A HISTORY LIKE NOT OTHER MINISTRY, FOR EXAMPLE:



The Anabaptist has a history of Baptist continuing the acts of the Apostles (see TRAIL OF BLOOD by J.M. Carroll) for full of examples of men preaching outdoors as they were persecuted for their boldness and put to death. **THE ANABAPTISTS WERE STREET PREACHERS!**

PETROBRUSSIANS, followers of Peter of Bruys, made enemies of the Papists as they preached open air in France in the 1100s. **THE PETROBRUSSIANS WERE STREET PREACHERS!**

WALDENSES in France in the 12th century sold their possessions and gave the money to the poor, and travelled by twos through the villages of Europe, reading the Scriptures to multitudes in their own language, and preaching in the markets. The Pope launched Inquisitions against them to stamp them out. **THE WALDENSES WERE STREET PREACHERS!**

HENRICIANS, followers of Henry of Lausanne, also preached in the street of southern France in the 12th century. They preached against images and infant baptism. **THE HENRICIANS WERE STREET PREACHERS!**

Raymund Lully another shining light from the followers of Francis was (or Ramon Lull, or Raymundus Lullus, 1232-1315). He had a burden to preach to Muslims on their own turf: he wanted to travel to North Africa and evangelize in the streets of a Mohammedan town. His dream came true when he was in his sixties, when he traveled to Bugia in North Africa and "found his way to a public place, stood up boldly, and proclaimed in the Arabic language that Christianity was the only true faith." He was promptly arrested and deported. He returned, however, when he was in his eighties, and "came forth into the open market and presented himself to the people as the same man whom they had once expelled from their town. ... Lull stood before them and threatened them with divine wrath if they still persisted in their errors."

This time Raymund Lullus was stoned to death by the mob. He died a martyr, preaching in the streets of a Muslim town, in 1315. RAYMUND LULLY WAS A STREET PREACHER!

The Dominicans were founded by Dominic (1170-1221), who traveled with Diego and journeyed from town to town conducting open air debates. Some Dominican preachers were again so popular that they had to preach outside the church to accommodate the crowds that came to hear them. Such a Dominican preacher was Vincent Ferrer (1350-1419). DOMINICANS WERE STREET PREACHERS!

Before Luther and the Protestant Reformation came along, the groundwork for their success was laid by several groups that rose within the Catholic Church and questioned papal authority to the point of getting excommunicated. Three such groups arose in France in the 12th century and were started by STREET PREACHERS. **The Henricians** were started by Henry of Lausanne (died 1148), **the Petrobrussians** by Peter de Bruys (died 1126). They worked together denouncing romanist doctrines like infant baptism and transubstantiation (both were eventually condemned as heretics and martyred.). They also rejected Church buildings, and "preached on the streets and in the open places." THE HENRICIANS AND PETROBRUSIANS WERE STREET PREACHERS!"

The Waldenses were started by Peter Waldo, a wealthy merchant in Lyons, France in the 12th century. One day he asked a theologian what he should do to gain eternal life. He was answered with the words of Jesus to the rich young ruler, to sell his possessions, give the money to the poor, and follow Christ. Waldo took this literally, selling his business, giving away his wealth. Together with his followers, they traveled by twos, preaching in the streets, reading passages of Scripture which they translated themselves into the common language. According to Foxe's Book of Martyrs the Inquisition was originally launched against the Waldenses. THE WALDENSES WERE STREET PREACHERS!

LOLLARDS were taught by John Wycliffe(1330-1384) in England "the morningstar of the Reformation" preached in the streets and marketplaces against the errors of popery. Wycliffe translated the first English Bible and influenced all later Reformers. The Papists dug up his dead body from its grave, condemned him as a heretic, burned his body, and threw the ashes into the Thames river. THE LOLLARDS WERE STREET PREACHERS!

John Hus was told by the archbishop of Prague to stop preaching and asked the university to burn Wycliffe's writings. Hus refused to comply, and the archbishop condemned him. Meanwhile, Hus preached against the sale of indulgences, which were being used to finance the pope's expedition against the king of Naples. The pope excommunicated Hus and placed Prague under an interdict-roughly meaning that the entire city was excommunicated and could not receive the sacraments. To relieve this situation, Hus left Prague, but he continued to preach in various churches and in the open air. Formally condemned, he was handed over to the secular authorities to be burned at the stake on July 6, 1415. On the way to the place of execution, he passed a churchyard and saw a bonfire of his books. He laughed and told the bystanders not to believe the lies circulated about him. Arriving at the place of execution, he was asked by the empire's marshal if he would finally retract his views. Hus replied, "God is my witness that the evidence against me is false. I have never thought nor preached except with the one intention of winning men, if possible, from their sins. Today I will gladly die." The fire was lit. As the

flames engulfed him, Hus began to sing in Latin a Christian chant: "Christ, Thou Son of the Living God, have mercy upon me." JOHN HUS WAS A STREET PREACHER!

William Farel (1489-1565), who paved the way for John Calvin to come to Switzerland, and has been called "the pioneer of Protestantism in Western Switzerland," was a STREET PREACHER. "He turned every stump and stone into a pulpit, every house, every street, and market-place into a church."

The Presbyterian Church was founded in Scotland by John Knox (1513-1572), who started out as a bodyguard for a STREET PREACHER named George Wishart. After Wishart was martyred in 1546, Knox took over as leader of the reformation. Wishart was not allowed to preach in the churches and so preached in the market-places and fields. John Knox accompanied him on his preaching tours, sword in hand, to protect him from violence." Later, when the Church of England was established in Scotland, Protestant preachers were banned from their pulpits and became field preachers, proclaiming their message in the open air. Some of these Scottish Presbyterian field preachers included Richard Cameron (1648-1680) and Donald Cargill (1619-1681). THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WAS STARTED BY STREET PREACHERS!

George Fox began his outdoor preaching with a limited education, without any special training, and without special advantages of any kind. He so preached that men got the shakes. The name Quaker was attached to Fox and his followers because of the quaking of the men who came to scoff but stayed to pray. Though he made others shake, no man could make him shake. Walking bare-footed through the crowded market at Litchfield, England, this man in the leather suit upraised his hands and voice, shouting, "Woe unto Litchfield, thou bloody city! Woe unto Litchfield!" He feared neither man nor the consequences of his tirade. At first the crowd was amused, then serious, then terrified. No religious or political reformer was ever imprisoned as many times as George Fox, and oh, what prisons! But his times in prison were missionary labors. Not in solitary confinement, he always had a congregation. But he made converts. His fame spread and people came in crowds to hear him. FOX WAS A STREET PREACHER!

William Penn in 1670 Penn fell into trouble by preaching in the street in violation of the Conventicle act. He was promptly arrested with Captain William Mead and taken before the lord-mayor, who sent them to the Old Bailey. In the remarkable trial that followed, the jury, who were kept for two days and nights without food, fire, or water, brought in a verdict of not guilty, for which each jurymen was fined forty marks and sent to Newgate, while Penn and Mead were also fined and imprisoned for contempt in wearing their hats in presence of the court. They appealed to the court of common pleas, where the decision of the lower court was reversed, and the great principle of English law was established, that it is the right of the jury to judge of the evidence independently of the dictation or direction of the court.

The Methodist Church, co-founded by George Whitefield (1714-1770) and John Wesley (1703-1791) is an example of this period. These two were Anglicans, but being banned from speaking in churches since they were not "licensed," they took to FIELD PREACHING, boldly proclaiming GOD'S WORD to large crowds in streets and markets. Whitefield spoke to estimated crowds of up to 20,000 people in the open air. They traveled throughout England and the American colonies, and were instrumental in the GREAT AWAKENING, a mighty revival that

swept the colonies in the eighteenth century. THE METHODIST CHURCH WAS STARTED BY STREET PREACHERS!

George Whitefield stated: "I believe I never was more acceptable to my Master than when I was standing to teach those hearers in the open fields." ... "I now preach to ten times more people than I should, if had been confined to the Churches." Also from John Wesley: "I am well assured that I did far more good to my Lincolnshire parishioners by preaching three days on my father's tomb than I did by preaching three years in his pulpit." ... "To this day field preaching is a cross to me, but I know my commission and see no other way of preaching the gospel to every creature". A friend of Whitefield and Wesley's started a great revival in Wales called the Welsh Revival. His name was Howell Harris, and is another example of a man known to be a FIELD PREACHER. WHITEFIELD WAS A STREET PREACHER!

Gideon Ouseley was another great Methodist outdoor preacher at this time was (1762-1839). He traveled on horseback and preached several times a day, without dismounting, in streets, fairs and markets throughout Ireland. Methodists were also instrumental in America's second Great Awakening, typified by outdoor Camp Meetings, started in 1800 by James McCreedy, and also featuring the preaching of Peter Cartwright (1785-1872) and Lorenzo Dow (1777-1834). The REFORMED churches, PRESBYTERIAN churches, and METHODIST churches, and the MODERN MISSIONS MOVEMENT were all started by STREET PREACHERS!

William Taylor was a Methodist was asked "Why do you preach in the streets and highways?" His answer was BECAUSE IT IS A DUTY ENJOINED BY THE LORD JESUS CHRIS AND IT IS SUPPORTED BY DIVINE AND APOSTOLIC PRECEDENT AND EXAMPLE, CONFIRMED BY DIVINE ATTESTATION

A great **Baptist Revival in Scotland** was the result of the FIELD PREACHING of Robert (1764-1842) and James (1768-1851). Haldane and Rowland Hill (one of the founders of the Religious Tract Society, and an early advocate of vaccination). They were Anglicans, but converted to Baptists when the established Church forbade their field preaching. Robert and James left their business and sold their estate to devote their time to preaching the Gospel.

WILLIAM CAREY, the 'father of modern missions,' went to India and preached in the streets of the brothel district of Calcutta. His assistant, Chamberlain, would go to the Ganges river and preach to crowds of Hindus there. One of their converts was a British sailor, Robert Flockhart, who returned to Scotland and preached in the streets until his death. THE MODERN MISSIONS MOVEMENT WAS STARTED BY STREET PREACHERS!

AMERICAN COLONISTS who were Baptists impressed Jefferson and Madison with their views on religious freedom. Baptists were often jailed in Virginia, where they would preach to crowds outside through the window of their jail cell. Jefferson used to enjoy pulling up a camp stool and listening to Baptist outdoor preachers. (Encyclopedia of Religious Freedom: "Baptist Dissenters in Virginia") BAPTIST HAVE ALWAYS OPEN AIR PREACHED, UNLIKE TODAY.

THE HALDANE brothers, who along with Rowland Hill founded the Religious Tract Society. These Baptists started a great revival in Scotland in the 1800s as they preached outdoors.

SPURGEON, the 'prince of preachers' and pastor of the Metropolitan Tabernacle in London, started out preaching in the streets and taught open air preaching to his pastoral students. As Charles Spurgeon testified: "No sort of defense is needed for preaching out of doors, but it would need very potent arguments to prove that a man had done his duty who has never preached beyond the walls of his meeting-house. A defense is required for services within buildings than for worship outside of them" and "It would be very easy to prove that revivals of religion have usually been accompanied, if not caused, by a considerable amount of preaching out of doors, or in unusual places" **CHARLES WAS A STREET PREACHER!**

Dwight L. Moody (1837-1899) was a well known preacher in the Chicago area. The Moody Bible Institute bears his name. "One of his regular practices in the late sixties was to exhort the passersby in the evenings from the steps of the court house. Often these impromptu gathering drew as many hecklers as supporters" **MOODY WAS A STREET PREACHER!**

The Salvation Army started out doing a lot of **STREET PREACHING!** William Booth would pointed to sinners and called them specifically to repentance. When William Booth preached the first of nine sermons in that tattered tent, he did so under the name of the East London Christian Mission; Thirteen years later, it became the Salvation Army. William and Catherine realized that they had to meet more than spiritual needs: the physical needs were just too great. And that is what they did.

R. A. Torrey said Open-air meetings are portable, you can carry them around. It would be very difficult to carry a church or mission building with you, but there is no difficulty about carrying an open air meeting with you. You can get an open-air meeting where you could by no possibility get a church, mission hall or even a room. You can have open-air meetings in all parts of the city and all parts of the country. You can reach men in an open-air meeting that you can reach in no other way. I can tell of instance after instance where men who have not been at church or a mission hall for years have been reached by open-air meetings. The persons I have known to be reached and converted through open- air meetings have included thieves, drunkards, gamblers, saloon-keepers, abandoned women, murderers, lawyers, doctors, theatrical people, society people, in fact pretty much every class.



WHY has the modern Church aborted this method of preaching, knowing great exploits happened with out door preachers even with different theology, from Francis of Assisi, John Bunyon, Charles Finney, Billy Sunday, Holy Hubert and Brimstone Billy? The names can go on with numerous examples of holy men proclaiming the Word of God publicly to unwanted and uninvited ears for centuries as this website will resurrect that buried talent again within the body of Christ.



Face it, 'Confrontational Evangelism' is nothing new, it is not a present-day phenomenon nor 'strange fire' but it is growing like a fire today to those with eyes to see. As God used John the Baptist to usher the Son of God, He has now raised up an army of John's worldwide to promote the coming of Jesus in these last days. The Hebrew prophets of old uses this specific method as an example for the New Testament, and inspired those Protestant preachers to open-air preaching during the Great Awakenings. It is both ordained and commanded by the God of the Bible, and therefore we interpret that role to adhere to a solid Biblical example. Over the years I have talked, emailed and personally met men worldwide who have been inspired by this method of preaching from our website, our youtube clips, my example in the theater today and the history of those that proclaimed God in public.

What we find coupled with Biblical preaching is persecution and if we have no fruit of persecution, we have no Biblical preaching. Jesus made it very clear in John 7:7

"The world cannot hate you; but me it hates, because I testify of it, that the works thereof are evil"

So they very reason there is no persecution or is anyone being hated is because they do not testify against the world, they embrace the world. This is our Christianity, raw and unrefined. John the Baptist was jailed for calling the king an adulterous and was later beheaded. Our Lord was put on a cross next to two criminals and died. The person that betrayed him hung himself, while the rest of the 11 ran away. Stephen was stoned to death and all the apostles were killed, save John who was boiled and put on an Island, as most of the New Testament which we consider inspired was written from a prison cell. We were exhorted and admonished that we will be hated, persecuted, beaten, jailed and killed.

When was the last time your Pastor was arrested for preaching Jesus? Most ministers are more concerned about having a good name and trying to get along with everyone. What does the modern-day Church understand about persecution? Maybe a story that was read, a blog or a newsletter, or perhaps they goggled a testimony, or recited a history from the early Church. But a personal testimony, NEVER!



In fact most ministers, Churches and ministries will keep away from someone who has been arrested for the Gospels sake. You are treated like a leper or maybe you deserved getting arrested.

On numerous occasions the preaching's of the Wesley brothers, George Whitefield and many traveling preachers were attacked by drunken, brawling armed men with weapons as clubs, bricks, stones, stink and rotten eggs. There are stories where the mob would procure a bull and drive the tormented beast into the middle of an open-air congregation, or sometimes the mockers would make a noise with bells, horns, drums and pans to drown out the preacher's voice. Sometimes they expended their fury in burning or tearing down the houses and destroying or stealing the furniture and possessions of Methodist followers. It is known that John Wesley himself was in grave danger of being killed while at the hands of mobs in Staffordshire and Cornwall. His brother Charles narrowly escaped with his life in the town of Devizes, in Wiltshire, and Whitefield - said to be "covered with blood and on the point of falling" - was rescued in the nick of time from the brutal fury of an Irish crowd in Dublin. Whitefield also evidences the almost gleeful acceptance of negative reaction to his preaching, just as the early disciples did: "I was honored with having stones, dirt, rotten eggs and pieces of dead cats thrown at me." These stories of crowd persecution are where in today's evangelists?

Over my 30 years of outdoor service, I have been arrested and detained more times than I remember. Have been punched more times that I have lost count, beaten a few times, had gallons of spit on my face, had gallons of drinks poured on me. Been whipped by a whip and rosary beads, tried to light me on fire a few times, had my clothes ripped, been slapped and pushed so often I don't even count them, had a water hose turned on me a number of times, a

few cars that tried to hit me. Had people urinate on my leg and twice had sinners ejaculate on me while I preached.



One reason we lack these stories, is due to the fact we don't preach against sin in public as per John 7:7

This open-air style of preaching is also called **"Confrontational Evangelism"** because it involves taking a message of repentance to the public square to ears that need to hear it and not just with the four walls of a building. It's purpose is to proclaim and declare the word of God to those in need. The message is simple, expose sin and give the remedy, which is belief in Jesus THE Christ, as per Acts 1:8;

"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth"

Confrontational Evangelism is NOT speaking of sin behind a pulpit or writing a letter to the editor or posting on a blog, but confronting sin face to face. We fearlessly expose sin in the street, on the campus or in the marketplace and after the law is given, we can offer grace.

So IF the Holy Ghost is in your body or you are filled with Him, you would be a witness and He would speak from you and use you to reprove the world as per John 16:8.

"And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment"