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**SPECIAL EDITION:**  
**Born OF the Spirit—  
Borne Along BY the Spirit**  
Thirty-five Years of FaithSearch International  
Ministry

[www.faithsearch.org](http://www.faithsearch.org)

# The Lion and the Lamb

By Dr. Don Bierle

In his creative series, *The Chronicles of Narnia*, C.S. Lewis portrays a lion (Aslan) who in love gives his life as an atoning sacrifice, by being killed on a stone table. In resurrection power, Aslan conquers evil and its consequences forever. Everyone acquainted with this series can't help but love the peaceful, sensitive, patient, all-knowing, righteous, and victorious lion. (But "he's not a tame lion," the author reminds his readers.)

Of course, C.S. Lewis is depicting the fictitious Aslan in the role of the real-life Jesus Christ. Unlike the Narnia world of "make-believe," Jesus was a man who entered earth's history through birth from a real mother. He grew in wisdom and stature in a real family, in a real school, and in a real town with other real people. As the apostle



Photo by Wolfgang Sauber

Gothic revival stained glass window depicting the Lamb of God (ca. 1890) in Kájov, Czech Republic.

## New Testament Field Trip to the Holy Land

# Jesus: "Who do you say I am?"

FaithSearch International is conducting our first ever Holy Land tour, and you're invited. For twelve days, from **April 30 to May 11**, we'll see the land of the Bible.

The tour is designed to bring your Bible to life and to reflect on the research reviewed by Dr. Don Bierle in his book

*Surprised by Faith* and in the FaithSearch Discovery presentation. These are the primary elements of our worldwide ministry of proclaiming the Gospel with evidence. God has used them to lead over seventy thousand people to make faith commitments to follow Jesus.

Touring with FaithSearch, you will explore firsthand some of the compelling evidence which establishes the New Testament as the **most reliable document of antiquity, bar none**. The structure is designed to allow Dr. Bierle to develop the "field trip" idea (as presented in his book) with Israel as the setting in which to "gather" the evidence.

**Space is limited** so don't delay. Registration details are on our Web site: [www.faithsearch.org](http://www.faithsearch.org), or you may call our office: 953.401.4501. The tour is being conducted in cooperation with Golden Eagle Travel and Tours, Excelsior, MN.



Visit the remains of the third or fourth century synagogue in Capernaum. This synagogue was built on the site (literally on top of its foundation) of the one in which Jesus often preached during His ministry.

John later wrote, "...we have heard... we have seen with our eyes... and our hands have touched... the Word of life" (1 John 1:1).

A popular worship song has captured very simply this truth of the Christian faith, "How Great is our God—sing with me... Lion and the Lamb, Lion and the Lamb." Indeed **Jesus is identified in a paradox of being both a Lion and a Lamb** in Scripture.

## The Lamb

Jewish tradition and prophecy was settled that the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) and was to be first revealed from the "tower of the flock"—a special shepherd's watch which lay close to Bethlehem along the road to Jerusalem. A rabbinic rule provided that any lamb, born in a flock from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, must be presumed to be for Temple sacrifice.

No wonder the angel God sent to that hillside near Bethlehem had a message of such joy for all the people: "...today in the city of David there has been born for you a  
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# FAITHSEARCH

This *FaithSearch* newsletter is published by *FaithSearch* International, an interdenominational, donor-supported, 501(c)(3) organization, based in Minnetonka, MN, USA, and committed to proclaiming the Gospel with evidence to all peoples everywhere. This is done through outreach and training events, media resources, and discipleship programs. *FaithSearch* International is not denominationally affiliated.



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## CLASSIFIEDS

### GOLF 2014!

The second annual "Explore the Evidence" Golf Classic held at Dahlgreen Golf Club was a **great success**. We had sunny skies and temps in the low 70s.

There were some memorable shots; both good and bad, but fun was had by all. We were blessed with increased participation and utilized some of the monies for technology and marketing materials.

Please consider joining us next year on **Friday, September 12, 2014**. We are planning to honor fire fighters next year in remembrance of our 9-11 week time frame.



The winning team at the 2013 Golf Classic (L to R): Rolf E., Shawn M., Chris K., and Jon L..

Save the Date: Saturday, May 17, 2014

## FaithSearch 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Benefit Dinner and Silent Auction

Plan now to join us on **May 17, 2014**, for an evening of good food, great fellowship, friendly bidding, delightful entertainment, inspirational reports, and spiritual challenge. Friends of *FaithSearch* will gather in support of the proclamation of the Gospel with evidence and to celebrate **thirty-five years of faithful ministry**. Watch for more details about the dinner and program, and consider inviting some friends to join you!

#### WHEN AND WHERE

Saturday, May 17, 2014

5:00 p.m.

Grace Church

Eden Prairie, MN 55347

#### Calling for Donations for our Silent Auction

In recent years, we have added the fun and excitement of a silent auction to our Benefit Dinner. There are great values to be had, and the friendly competition for a good cause has been enjoyable.

We plan to continue this tradition in 2014, and are eager to engage others in making this event an even greater success. Do you, or someone you know whom you could recommend to us:

- **Own a business** which could donate items or services for our Silent Auction?
- **Know someone** who could donate items or services?
- **Have the "moxie"** to ask for donations from businesses and people in your networks for donations?



Guests enjoyed browsing the diverse array of items at the 2013 Silent Auction.

We'd love to hear from you! Give us a call at 952.401.4501 or E-mail us with details ([info@faithsearch.org](mailto:info@faithsearch.org)).

#### 2013 FaithSearch Benefit Dinner

Last year over 160 people joined us for this evening event. International, award-winning, illusionist **Adrian Van Vector** amazed us with his tricks. We heard inspirational stories (*no tricks!*) from our evangelists, about both the **response from** and the

**ongoing need** for the proclamation of the Gospel with evidence. President **Dr. Don Bierle** and emcee **Dr. Irv Woolf** each challenged participants to *step up and make a difference* in the eternal destinies of people by making a sacrificial financial investment in the ministry. (*If believers in Jesus don't give to the cause of telling people about the hope of the Gospel, who will?*)

As a result, God provided \$43,875 from our guests toward our annual budget of \$539,500! Our silent also auction provided fun and friendly competition, and raised

more than \$6,000 in addition to those gifts. We thank the Lord for the generous giving of our friends.

We hope to see YOU at our 2014 Friends of *FaithSearch* 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Benefit Dinner! Plan now to attend, save the date, and to invite your friends.

We hope  
to see  
**YOU**  
there



Dr. Don Bierle addressed the audience at the 2013 Benefit Dinner, introducing the headquarters staff (on platform) and evangelists (ringing the stage) who together conduct the ministry of *FaithSearch* International.





Dr. Don Bierle

## If It's Good Enough...

...for the Apostles of Jesus... They established in Scripture the subject for effectively presenting the Gospel of salvation to the unbelieving world: **Jesus' life, teaching, and miracles.** While the apostles could appeal to their *firsthand knowledge* of Jesus as evidence, two thousand years later we must point to the *New Testament account* of those events.

In today's culture of skepticism, it is effective to use historical and archaeological evidence to establish the New Testament as an **accurate, eyewitness record** of the facts concerning Jesus. Through this "Gospel with evidence" proclamation, the Holy Spirit removes skeptical resistance, and the satisfied mind of the unbeliever is set free to embrace Jesus for salvation through faith. **God ordained this approach through the apostles,** and has brought thousands to Himself through this same approach during thirty-five years of *FaithSearch* ministry as well!



Soctt Boeser

## Transforming Truth

Is it possible that God, the creator and sustainer of all things, has what you're looking for? I was raised in a traditional religious type church, **struggling to keep up a religious image** so others would see me as a good person. I often gave up trying because it was exhausting work.

People seeking to know God must begin with knowing Him for who He revealed Himself to be, and subsequently the plan and purpose He has for His creation. We were made, first and foremost, to be in an intimate, covenant relationship with God. Many people have no idea what this means or how to obtain it.

**The Gospel with Evidence PowerPoint® presentation can open the eyes of your mind and heart,** so you can see and know the God of the universe, and enter into an authentic, personal relationship with Him through Jesus. When the grace of the Lord Jesus transforms your heart, your life can be a bastion of joy and peace as well as a beacon of light and hope to others. **Now that is a recipe for transforming the world!**



Reuben David

## Historically Verifiable

I often hear critics say, "Christianity is a blind faith," meaning that believers cannot support their claims about the person of Christ.

While Jesus existed in eternity, He also came into history as a person, born in a specific location. He is referred to as Jesus of Nazareth; In that one reference I see Jesus Christ rooted in history and geography, as well as in eternity. That's why I like to share the Gospel with evidence: **the life and times of Jesus on this earth are historically verifiable.** The French emperor Napoleon Bonaparte said, "Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, and myself founded empires [upon] force. Jesus Christ founded an empire upon love; and at this hour millions of men would die for Him."

Indeed, there are millions right now who risk their lives for the sake of their faith in Jesus. **It would not make sense to risk your life for a legend.** The Gospel lives on evidence.



Joe Komarek

## Just the Facts

I loved watching reruns of the 1950s crime drama, "Dragnet." My favorite line as a kid was hearing Sergeant Joe Friday say, **"All we know are the facts, ma'am."** At *FaithSearch* International, too, we deal with the facts. Facts and truth statements are the building blocks to bring refreshing illumination and freedom to people awash in a culture of relativity.

I love sharing the Gospel with Evidence because it presents the historical, archeological, and scientific facts of the Christian faith in a logical and balanced way. Jesus said that truth sets people free (see John 8:31-32). When people follow His teaching, they can be free, their lives change, and they produce fruit.

As a "Dragnet" fan, perhaps I should paraphrase the program's introduction each time I present: "The story you are about to hear is true. **The evidence has NOT been changed to protect the misinformed.**"



To All Peoples Everywhere



Adrian Van Vector

## Plain and Simple

I was raised in a secular home, and never thought to ask whether God exists. I didn't learn much about God until I met my first Christ follower as a teenager. Then I began to discover the importance of a well-thought-out worldview.

In my early 20s, as a follower of Jesus, I was surrounded by contradictory, emotional, or "blind faith" religious ideas ("you just need to believe" or "if you feel it's true in your heart", etc.) **I had questions and wanted the hard truth... I found solid answers supported by facts.**

I love to share the Gospel with evidence. Coming to a lasting faith for any other reason is just too subjective. Had I received those "blind faith" answers when I first believed I wouldn't know how to evaluate or defend my faith. **I believe because Christianity is TRUE, plain and simple.**



Oleg Voskresensky

## Know It All?

I love teaching teachers and training trainers! It is the most challenging and yet the most blessed aspect of proclaiming the Good News. *Teachers, by definition, already know it all, have seen it all, and have taught it all.* They have been asked tough questions and are ready with smart answers.

They already know the best way to present the material and to keep an audience's attention. They can tell immediately whether you are valid or fake, and if your message is even worth their time.

The fortress of the Russian educational system has been challenged many times before. We seem to have discovered a "Trojan horse" to open the gates. "Rational, Historic Foundations of Christian Faith" (i.e. *FaithSearch* Discovery) is **readily accepted and greatly appreciated** by scholars, teachers, and students at all academic levels. They know this most significant part of world history has been removed from their curricula; and the historical, archeological, and paleographic facts excluded. Filling that gap and asking my audience, **"What does this mean to you?"** is the most joyous and rewarding experience!