

# first stone newsletter

*"Let him who is without sin cast the First Stone"*  
And Jesus also said, "Go and sin no more." – **John 8**

## MINISTRIES

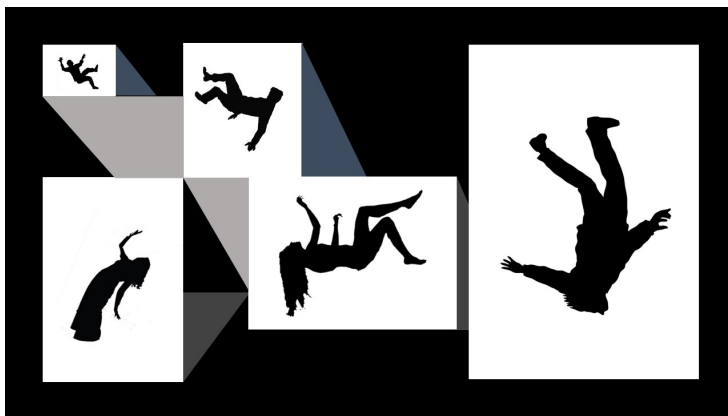


**Stephen Black,**  
Executive  
Director

### Foreword to Preserved From the Great Falling Away

By Stephen Black

David Wilkerson was a mentor of mine in the 80s and 90s. He, along with several others from the ministry staff at Last Days Ministries and World Challenge, warned about the last days. David was a passionate preacher who proclaimed prophetic warnings as a respected man of God. We are seeing many of these warnings coming to pass in our day. Today, in many churches and ministries, we have passionless men who refuse the prophetic voice--unwilling to warn of the narrow way and to rebuke the compromise of our day. David warned that this would be the state of the church. He warned that there would be great groups of homosexuals marching in our streets with vileness previously unseen in the United States. We are now witnessing it. He warned that many would compromise by allowing homosexuality in the church. He also warned



that the church would come under a horrible persecution as a part of the great falling away by homosexuals. We are now starting to witness this vile persecution as it will come from those who support all things

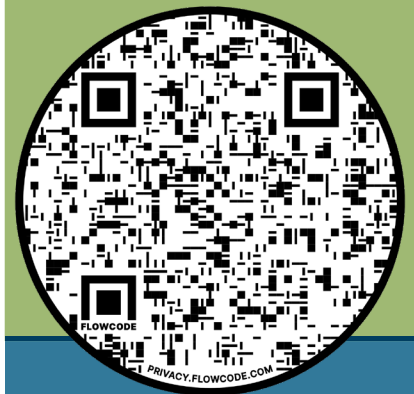
LGBTQ+. It seems very disheartening; however, we can take heart, and have joy **if** we will endure to the end knowing Jesus as our pearl of great

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price! Please read the following article and this newsletter, and pray for First Stone Ministries. We are in interesting days with deceivers as revealed later in this newsletter.

## Preserved From the Great Falling Away

Written by David Wilkerson (1931-2011)

In a letter to the Christians at Thessalonica, Paul speaks of a future event he calls "the day of the Lord." He writes, "Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters, not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come.

**Don't let anyone deceive you** in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs (the falling away) and the man of lawlessness is revealed" (2 Thessalonians 2:1-3).

Some theologians believe the "day of the Lord" Paul refers to here is the final judgment. However, I believe with most scholars that Paul is speaking of Christ's second coming. And Paul states that Jesus' return will not take place until two things happen:

1. Many who once knew God will fall away from the truth of the gospel they've known.
2. The Antichrist, or man of sin, will be revealed.

It should be obvious to every lover of Jesus that a "falling away" is already taking place. Many believers, as well as Christians throughout the past few decades, have grown cold in their love for God. In a scheme to pervert Christ's gospel of grace, Satan is convincing masses of believers they can indulge their sins without paying any penalty. This turns Christ's gospel into a message of licentiousness! (Jude 1:3-4) Tragically, many lukewarm Christians are succumbing to this spirit of lawlessness,

making them ripe to accept the man of sin (the Antichrist) when he comes on the scene, working miracles and solving problems.

You may think, "I would never be fooled into following the Antichrist." But Paul warns that people will be blinded and deceived by their own sin (2 Thess. 2:9-10). Satan will convince the world, just as he convinced Eve, to believe the lie, that God doesn't punish for sin (2:11). "And for this reason, God will send them strong delusion, (a demonic spirit) that they should believe the lie, that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness."

Beloved, it doesn't have to be this way for any of us. God has made a covenant promise to remove all delusion (demonic activity to deceive) from us and give us victory over sin, through the power of Christ's cross. All He asks is that we declare war on our sin, saying, "I won't make peace with this habit. I refuse to abide it. Deliver me, Father, by your Spirit!" When He hears this prayer, He'll send such Holy Ghost power and glory from heaven, the devil won't stand a chance!

Pray right now that God implants in you a great reverence for His word. Ask Him to help you be disciplined in your reading of the scriptures. And ask the Holy Spirit to help you take to heart what you read, take every thought captive (2 Cor. 10:3-5) — to believe that God means what He warns and speaks! His promises are sealed forever!

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**World Challenge**

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



David Wilkerson  
May 19, 1931 - April 27, 2011



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# Laura Beth Perry Is Now Married!



## To God Be the Glory!

The Lord has continued to redeem and restore lives at First Stone and the lives of many others whom He has set free.

**Laura Beth Smalts,**  
**Women's Minister Intern**

Praise God He does not leave us in our sin, and neither does He want to leave us broken. Over the years, through First Stone and other discipleship, God has continued to heal and restore my feminine identity. I began to long to one day be married, but I did not believe it would ever be possible. I thought, *"What man would ever want to marry me with my past of profound sexual sin, with no breasts, and with other scars of my transition still affecting my body?"* Yet, God seemed to be preparing me for the idea that He had a husband for me.

Before I could embrace that reality, God took me through a season of laying down the desire for marriage and surrendering that desire to Him. He said, "Let me be your husband first." Letting go of that desire was one of the hardest things I had ever done, but for the first time in my life I began to be secure in being single. I had always felt insecure about myself if I was not in a relationship. God brought so much healing during

that year, and I was completely content being single. But when I least expected it, He brought Perry Smalts into my life, and within a short time, it was clear to both of us God had brought us together for marriage.



Perry is a godly Christian man who is a bi-vocational music minister and works in insurance. Though he has never struggled with homosexual or transgender feelings, he has accepted and embraced me and all of my past as reconciled to God. I have wept as I feel I have a personal representation of the redeeming love expressed in Hosea, who of course represented the way Christ loves us when we feel so unworthy to be loved.

His Christ-like love continually points me to Jesus and how He loves His bride. The name Perry is French for Peter, which of course means rock. It is

the most fitting name for him. He is incredibly strong, steadfast, patient, and unwavering. Yet he is like a gentle shepherd. I have never been so loved, cherished, and treasured in my life. God is teaching me so much about His love for me, His design of male and female, and His design for marriage.

Perry and I were married on May 14, 2022, at Baptist Temple in Oklahoma City with about two hundred witnesses of God's transforming power and redemption. Many cried as everyone witnessed the miracle of what God was doing in our lives. At the reception, people testified about what they have seen God do in my life. It was an overwhelming time of humble reflection. I am so thrilled to be Mrs. Perry Smalts! The redemption and restoration of my life are beyond anything I ever imagined. If He can do this in my life, He can and will do exceedingly abundantly for you too!

"Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen." Ephesians 3:20-21



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# Deceiver Gains Entry

## Deceived by Hollywood Actor Paul Sanchez: Jim Farrington's Account of the Bizarre Infiltration of First Stone Ministries



**Jim Farrington,**  
**Men's Minister**

Our ministry recently experienced what Jesus instructed us to be ready for in Matthew 10:16: "...be wise as serpents, gentle as doves." What follows is a brief explanation of that life lesson.

On December 20th, I received a voicemail from a man who went by "Paul". In his message, he explained that he was a man who wanted to transition to being a woman. He also stated that his 88-year-old mother (whom he said lives here in Oklahoma City) made him promise to reach out to First Stone Ministries as a Christmas present to her. He communicated that, since he was coming to Oklahoma City for Christmas and the New Year, he wanted to meet.

Our ministry always wants to demonstrate compassion without compromise. Staying true to solid, Biblically-orthodox principles, I endeavored to be compassionate in my responses to this man. Our ministry clearly communicates that we can't heal people, but Jesus can. We don't set people free, but we believe Jesus Christ CAN and DOES bring freedom to those who yield EVERYTHING to Him in FULL surrender to His Lordship. Also, First Stone Ministries does not go looking for people to fix or help. We don't even advertise! We don't need to; we are very busy with the people we are serving.

This was my first encounter with the level of deception that this man operated in throughout the 4 years that I've worked here. To say that this was a learning experience is an understatement. He came across as truly broken (with tears), desperate, and in great need. I believed that he was a man sincerely wanting God's help. He spoke in an emotional and quivering voice declaring, "I come to you on bended knee begging for help. He held this emotional state throughout my entire conversation with him as I shared with him a snippet of all our staff's testimonies, of who we are, what we do, and what we believe. He communicated with fervor how comforting it was to hear truth. I even prayed with him while he acted the part of a sincere Christian. From what I encountered in our interaction, his need was real, and

he was sincere in wanting our help.

Then, First Stone Ministries was closed during the last two weeks of December. So after the holidays, I responded to a message he had left for me. He communicated that he was going to be in town later than he first planned. I arranged a meeting for him with Stephen, Laura Beth, and myself.

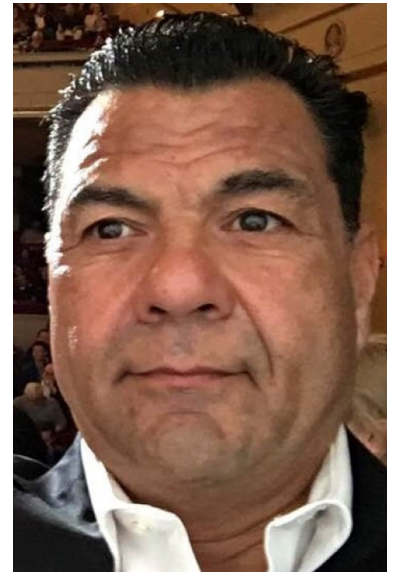
As part of my ongoing training, and because I was the initial contact, Stephen asked me to lead the meeting. Leading a meeting of this nature was new, a first time leading for me.

Unfortunately, I missed a couple of important boundary-setting steps that are necessary to cover in an initial meeting. For example, it is imperative to cover what the offer of ministry is and is not, and that First Stone offers an unapologetic offering of Biblical Pastoral Care, not a psychological-based offering.

Our guest, Paul, reiterated that he could have just told his mom what she wanted to hear and continued to practice deception regarding his desire to transition into a female. Throughout our conversation with Paul and the present staff of Stephen, Laura Beth, and me he appeared to be sincere. Yet, I took note of some discrepancies in his communication—namely, the story he told me on the phone was different in some ways than what he told us as a group. He also left out other significant parts of his story.

It seems that this great actor forgot some of his "lines," but what a great deceiver he was! Paul Sanchez, as we've uncovered so far, is not a man in need of ministry. Rather, he is a "professional" actor who used his training to deceive us and to gain intel for some "flick" on which he's working. No doubt he was coached on what to say and how to say it in preparation for meeting with us. This entire situation was so grievous. He made a mockery of the Truth, of people who are genuinely in need, and of God and His beautiful ways. This was truly akin to blasphemy.

The next day our staff arrived at the office and were met by a film crew (one large camera and two people taking video with their phones) and voices calling out to elicit some kind of



Paul Sanchez



response—cameras rolling! This is when we knew for certain that the previous contacts had been an act!

His operation has hurt me and tempts each of our staff to approach anyone who calls the ministry with suspicion and doubt. I am saddened by this blatant evil. I am deeply saddened that, in my attempt to serve someone well—to love, and to pastorally care—that I was duped into believing this man's act.

I believe that we all need to prepare for darker days of deception ahead. I prayed so earnestly with him and for him. I prayed into what I believed was terrible pain and distortion. I spent personal time praying for him.. How tragic it is to learn that he intended to deceive all of us at First Stone Ministries for his monetary gain and the promotion of LGBTQ+ pride.

In my reflection over the following days about the ways that Jesus was mistreated and ultimately betrayed, I was grateful for the facet of connection it has between the Lord and me. He knows and understands and I can look to Him for what I need to deal with this. I'm certain, quite certain, that this will NOT be the last time a betrayal like this, or worse, will take place. This just causes me to love Jesus more deeply and more reverently as I ponder what He must have felt in His own experience of betrayal. I know I can draw from His life as a result. For that I can say that I'm grateful even for the pain and discomfort of being misrepresented and misled by this deceiver and those he

represents or for whom he feels he represents. I'm so thankful for Jesus liberating me from that madness.

This experience has not deterred me from living out 2 Cor 1:4-7, "to comfort people" because ALL are still worth fighting for! I know that I come from a sincere place of integrity and compassion, and I'm asking God for a more consuming, passionate love for what He is passionate for and what He died for.

These deceivers claim to be people of tolerance, kindness, integrity, and good morals, yet they operate in such deception, and darkness and ultimately worship at the altars of sexual perversion. Yet, I land victorious in Jesus Christ my Lord, for what the enemy of my soul meant for evil, God turns into good.

This was a good experience for me to learn although it was hard coming from such a deceptive person. I learned some things and from now on I will be watching more closely with my eyes wide open, listening for the Holy Spirit. We continue to believe the best and to walk out love! I am so grateful for the leadership of First Stone Ministries. I'm grateful for the Lord Jesus giving Stephen Black the wisdom to discern from the beginning that this man was possibly a fraud. This wisdom comes from the love of the Holy Spirit in direct answers to our prayers for Jesus to protect us.

Stephen asked me to tell this story as a warning. Yet, we know that God will be with any ministry that loves Jesus Christ and loves people sincerely by telling the Truth and living the Truth without compromise. This is what we do at First Stone Ministries! We love people well!

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# In Loving Memory...

**Robert Jeffrey Janes**

**August 16, 1956 – April 10, 2022**

The Lord took Jeff home on April 10, 2022, at 65 years young. He was the eldest son of Arthur and LuAnn Janes. Jeff was also raised by his step-father, Bob Hester. At the young age of 19, Jeff became an Evangelical Quaker minister in Norman, OK. He attended Southwestern Bible College in Oklahoma City to study Christian ministry and counseling. His heart's desire was to pursue the Lord all his days. Jeff was also ordained by the Pentecostal Holiness Church, and he preached at various localities; foreign and domestic. Jeff was brought up in his dad's restaurant business, then later he became a chef at the exclusive White House Restaurant in Oklahoma City.

In 1991 Jeff became director of First Stone Ministries, operating on a shoestring budget. He began counseling and teaching in the evenings and farmed and sold tomatoes at The Penn Square Mall farmer's market. The ministry work was hard yet rewarding. Jeff's genuine love for people, his selfless giving, and deep mercy helped bring First Stone into a full-time pastoral-care ministry for relationally and sexually broken people. As a result, First Stone Ministries became very successful and became a thriving, full-time organization with several staff members.

Jeff desired to start a counseling ministry in Israel in 2000. He raised enough funds to minister for 2 years in Israel before kidney disease forced him back to Oklahoma. Thankfully, on September 11, 2003, Jeff received a kidney from an amazing donor, Kive Kerr. Jeff may be one of the longest-surviving kidney transplant patients in Oklahoma. Jeff returned to First Stone part-time as Director Emeritus serving through 2005.

He was more than just a workmate; he was truly a best friend, mentor, and encourager and brought unceasing joy to the entire staff and volunteers. Jeff was a pastor to hundreds of people who participated with First Stone and received one of the highest ratings of quality pastoral care—ranking at 91% in the

First Stone Ministries Effectiveness survey that was published in 2018.

Jeff loved God. People and animals were his friends. A dear friend said of him, "He had a wonderfully godly spirit, and he was seriously funny, too!"



In recent months, Jeff began to struggle with several, severe health issues. He was facing some long-term treatments, and it seemed he would have a difficult struggle ahead of him. God had other plans and called Jeff home to Himself—to a heavenly place of rest and complete wholeness.

Our hearts are heavy at First Stone Ministries as we strongly love our brother Jeff and are deeply saddened and affected by his passing. Jeff will be missed; however, we know that he loves Jesus Christ and His perfect ways and is celebrating in God's presence along with thousands who have gone before us.

Jeff is survived by his wife of 18 years, Rejina Warner Janes; daughter, Mechelle Renee Janes; brother, Gregg Janes and family; dad, Bob Hester; and brother, Steve Hester, and family. He was preceded in death by both of his parents.

Jeff's wife, Rejina will need financial help transitioning from Jeff's Social Security Disability to widow's benefits. [A Go Fund Me](#) has been set up by her friends for that purpose.

In lieu of a memorial service, the family chose a small graveside service.

## Links

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For more information about each staff member, including links to any blogs, please visit [firststone.org/staff](http://firststone.org/staff).  
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These deceivers claim to be people of tolerance, kindness, integrity, and good morals, yet they operate in such deception, and darkness, and ultimately worship at the altars of sexual perversion. Yet, I land victorious in Jesus Christ my Lord, for what the enemy of my soul meant for evil, God turns into good.

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From "Deceiver Gains Entry" by Jim Farrington (Page 4)