

R V COURT

A Tribute

David C F Wright DD

Reginald Victor Court was a committed Christian well-known in evangelical and brethren circles.

His last home address was at Ludbrook Drive, Whitwell on the Isle of Wight.

He was born in Ealing in 1905 and left school at the age of twelve to become a messenger boy for the Admiralty. He had become converted to Christianity at the age of ten in 1915.

At the end of the first world war, he became a clerk dealing with the problems of the poor, rising through the ranks to become senior executive officer with the National Assistance Board.

He became the secretary of an evangelical church in Hounslow for seven years.

He joined the Brethren in the 1930s and subsequently moved to Hampton where he was both secretary and treasurer of the assembly there.

Within two years of his retirement, Mr Court travelled the country as a full-time Christian worker and preacher, a task he undertook for twelve years.

A holiday on the Isle of Wight, where he had spent his honeymoon, led him and his wife, Margaret, being invited to move to the Island to help with the newly-formed assembly at Alpine Road, Ventnor. His wife often called her husband Daddy, a term of endearment,

After his wife's death in 1989, he continued to preach at brethren assemblies and evangelical churches. The couple had two sons, David, who died in 1991 and John who travelled in the USA as a lecturer.

After the assembly at Shanklin, some four miles away, had created a division and the appalling character assassination of a brother there, Mr Court told the Shanklin assembly that he would not take any more services there until they put right the serious wrongs they had committed. All other senior brethren on the Island did likewise. Without naming anyone or anywhere, Mr Court wrote an article about the dangers of gossip which was published in the magazine, Precious Seed.

This article is on this site in the ministry section [*Keep the door of my lips.*](#)

He was a rather serious man. At first, he may have seemed aloof but he was merely reticent and not unfriendly. He did not get involved in gossip or chat. He preached faithfully and was a fine expositor of the Bible.

I remember one Wednesday evening he came to our prayer meeting and Bible study to speak.

The prayer meeting was the first half hour and when he went to the front to speak he looked ill. He explained that he had prepared his address but had to stop the car on the way as he was overcome with the notion that he had to change his address and speak on a particular subject 'burning in his brain' and felt compelled to give this second address which he did. Not everyone approved but what he said was correct and according to Scripture.

His detailed ministry on Jonah and the Judgment Seat of Christ were memorable.

When there may have been a variety of opinions he would state what he thought with the phrase, “I judge that...”.

He would often have interesting comments such as, “In spite of inflation, the wages of sin are still the same!”.

Mr Court eventually went into St Marys Hospital, Newport. My last visit to him produced an interesting comment. A nun came to his bedside while I was there and asked if he needed any spiritual help and eventually said God bless you. He replied, “He always has. We have been partners for over 70 years. He will not let me down now”.

He died in 1992 aged 86.

His funeral was at Alpine Road, Ventnor conducted by Ray Mackrell of Totland followed by internment.

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