

Feazell says U.S. a land of persecution

By CHIP MAY

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MOODY — The United States has become a land of persecution that has turned its back on God, said McLennan County District Attorney Vic Feazell Sunday during a sermon at the Peaceful Rest Missionary Baptist Church in Moody.

Feazell, a former pastor at Dyess Grove Baptist Church in Temple and Elm Grove Baptist Church in Belton, is the subject of a federal grand jury investigation

in Austin for illegal activity during his term as district attorney.

In the past three months, reports have surfaced that Feazell is under investigation by the FBI, the Department of Public Safety and the Waco Police Department. On July 15, U.S. District Attorney Jan Patterson confirmed that she initiated a grand jury investigation of Feazell.

In addition, a series of stories by Dallas television station WFAA-TV (Channel 8) indicated Feazell's office has been lax in prosecuting

DWI offenders. Feazell has labeled the series of reports a "smear" campaign.

Wilbert Austin, pastor of the Moody church, said Feazell's sermon was planned before Feazell began to get so much attention.

"It's not a political thing," Austin said. "Rev. Feazell has been a very dear friend of mine for a long time. This has been in the planning for four or five months."

Feazell said he is invited often to preach at area churches and has been invited to preach next

Sunday at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church in the Downsville community.

He did not mention the investigation specifically during his sermon, but said he is doing what is right for God.

"I'd rather be an oddball for Jesus than go to hell with the rest of the world," Feazell said.

He said the United States is turning its back on God.

"It is always a struggle while we're here on this earth," Feazell said. "I'm afraid we're living in a

country that has lost its vision with God.

"Let me tell you Satan is alive and well and trying to tear up what God has done," he said. "When you're keeping God's law, you're keeping man's law."

Feazell said television has become a tool of Satan.

"With television, Satan got into the home like never before," Feazell said. "Now we can see murder and rape right in our living room. Now they say we're wrong when we don't want to see a bunch of

homosexuals on TV."

"I'm not saying watching television is wrong, but you should censor what you watch," Feazell said. "Don't watch all the trash that television has to offer."

Feazell said the United States has become a land of persecution. If the persecution continues, it will become a land of tyranny, he said.

"Where justice stops, tyranny, dictatorship and oppression begins," Feazell said. "Folks, our country has got to wake up or we'll lose it."