McVeigh case raises ethical and legal questions of execution

By Chad Carlson

McVeigh’s terrorist attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City on April 19, 1995 killed 168 people, including 19 children and injured more than 500. 

Several states have delayed or stopped executions on capital punishment laws.

The execution will be held in an Indiana prison and broadcast on closed circuit television so survivors and victim’s families can witness McVeigh’s final moments. McVeigh’s execution will be the first resulting from a federal trial in nearly four decades.

Amnesty has interviewed several death row inmates who appeared encouraged by the death penalty.

They argue that the death penalty itself may be inspiring murders instead of discouraging them.

McVeigh to speak at commencement

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“This will be a very memorable day for graduates and all who attend,” said Dr. David Dockery, president of the university.

Chuck Colson will be addressing Union’s graduating class as the commencement speaker for the graduation ceremonies.

“Chuck Colson is one of the most articulate spokespersons for issues of truth and justice in the world today. It will be a blessing to have him on the Union campus,” said Dockery.

Colson is a syndicated columnist, the author of 38 books, an international speaker and a commentator on “BreakPoint,” a nationally syndicated daily broadcast.

Colson gained notoriety as one of former President Richard Nixon’s advisors during the Watergate scandal. Colson was once considered a man “incapable of humanitarian thought,” according to the Prison Fellowship Ministries web site.

This all changed with Colson’s conversion to Christianity in August of 1973 shortly before he pled guilty to charges filed for his involvement with the former president.

Colson served seven months of a federal prison sentence and from this experience developed Prison Fellowship shortly after his release.

Recently Colson authored “How Now Shall We Live?” which addresses the concept of worldview.

Colson asserts that our beliefs about the world, mold how we live our lives. He believes as Christians we must not only pursue a personal faith, but a biblical worldview as well.