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LOREN LARSON

Contents

MARCH 2023 | Vol. 57 | No. 3

Evangelist

ON THE COVER

"But the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that fear him, and his righteousness unto children's children" (Ps.103:17). Happy birthday Brother Swaggart!



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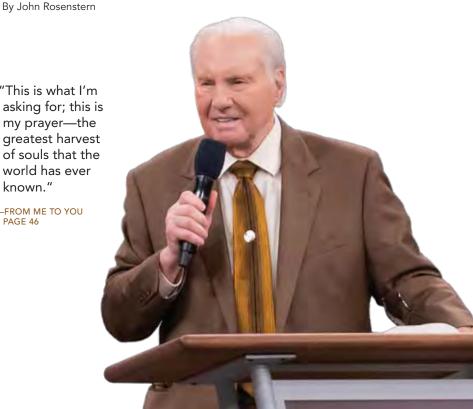
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FEATURES

The Doctrine of Faith, Part I4 By Jimmy Swaggart	There Is No Fear42 By Mike Muzzerall
Again, I will Put My Trust In Him10	Tears Of Korah44 By Dr. Dave Watts
By Frances Swaggart The Comforter16 By Donnie Swaggart	From Me To You46 By Jimmy Swaggart
The Incomprehensible Riches	DEPARTMENTS
Of Jesus Christ, Part III20 By Gabriel Swaggart	SonLife Radio Stations9
The Message Of The Cross Gets To Rome, Part I36	SonLife Radio & SBN Network Programming & TV Stations24
By Dr. Don Paul Gray	Letters From The Audience34
The Roles Of Christ38 By Loren Larson	JSM Ministers' Schedule 50
Time To Reckon, Part II40	

"This is what I'm asking for; this is my prayer—the greatest harvest of souls that the world has ever known."

-FROM ME TO YOU PAGE 46



THE / Line BY JIMMY SWAGGART

There are three words in Christendom, which, when used, stand as a synonym for the entire body of Bible Christianity: gospel, cross, and faith. The word faith is mentioned more than 240 times in the Bible, but only two times in the Old Testament, with the balance being in the New Testament. The words faithful, faithfully, and faithfulness, along with faithless, are mentioned collectively more than one hundred times.



WHAT IS FAITH? The Greek word for faith is *pistis*, and it means, "belief or a belief, which deals with relationships established by trust and maintained by trustworthiness."

The words *into faith* are unique to the New Testament—an invention of the early church that expresses the inmost secret of our faith. This is never done, we are told, in secular Greek. In the New Testament, it portrays a person committing himself or herself totally to the person of Jesus Christ, for our faith is "into Jesus."

Paul said: "For the perfecting of the

saints (to 'equip for service'), for the work of the ministry (to proclaim the message of redemption to the entirety of the world), for the edifying of the body of Christ (for the spiritual building up of the church): Till we all come in the unity of the faith (to bring all believers to a proper knowledge of Christ and the cross), and of the knowledge of the Son of God (which again refers to what He did for us at the cross), unto a perfect man (the believer who functions in maturity), unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ (the 'measure' is the 'fullness of Christ,' which can only be attained by a proper faith in the cross)" (Eph. 4:12-13, The Expositor's Study Bible).

Paul also said: "Examine yourselves, whether you be in the faith (the words, 'the faith,' refer to 'Christ and Him crucified,' with the cross ever being the object of our faith); prove your own selves. (Make certain your faith is actually in the cross and not other things.) Know you not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you (which He can only be by our faith expressed in His sacrifice), except you be reprobates (rejected)?" (II Cor. 13:5, The Expositor's Study Bible).

THE OBJECT OF OUR FAITH The object of our faith must always be the cross of Christ (Rom. 6:1-14, 8:1-2, 11; I Cor. 1:17-18, 21, 23; 2:2).

Inasmuch as the story of the Bible is "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," having faith in the cross of Christ is actually

"Inasmuch as the story of the Bible is Jesus Christ and Him crucified,' having faith in the cross of Christ is actually having faith in the entirety of the Word of God."

having faith in the entirety of the Word of God. We are given a compendium of this in John 1. He said, "In the beginning (does not infer that Christ as God had a beginning, because as God He had no beginning, but rather refers to the time of Creation [Gen. 1:1]) was the Word (the Holy Spirit through John describes Jesus as 'the Eternal Logos'), and the Word was with God ('was in relationship with God,' and expresses the idea of the Trinity), and the Word was God (meaning that He did not cease to be God during the incarnation; He 'was' and 'is' God from eternity past to eternity future).

The same was in the beginning with God (this very person

6 | MARCH 2023 THE EVANGELIST

was in eternity with God; there's only one God, but manifested in three persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit). All things were made by Him (all things came into being through Him; it refers to every item of Creation one by one, rather than all things regarded in totality); and without Him was not any thing made that was made (nothing, not even one single thing, was made independently of His cooperation and volition). In Him was life (presents Jesus, the eternal logos, as the first cause); and the life was the light of men (He alone is the life source of light; if one doesn't know Christ, one is in darkness)" (John 1:1-4, The Expositor's Study Bible).

And then John said, "And the Word was made flesh (refers to the incarnation, 'God becoming man'), and dwelt among us (refers to Jesus, although perfect, not holding Himself aloft from all others, but rather lived as all men, even a peasant), (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) (speaks of His deity, although hidden from the eyes of the merely curious; while Christ laid aside the expression of His deity, He never lost the possession of His deity) full of grace and truth (as 'flesh,' proclaimed His humanity, 'grace and truth' His deity)" (John 1:14, The Expositor's Study Bible). THE LAMB OF GOD As it regards John the Baptist introducing Christ, John wrote: "The next day (refers to the day

after John had been questioned by the emissaries from the Sanhedrin) *John sees Jesus coming unto him* (is, no doubt, after the baptism of Jesus, and the temptation in the wilderness), *and said, Behold the Lamb of God* (proclaims Jesus as the sacrifice for sin, in fact, the sin offering, whom all the multiple millions of offered lambs had represented), *which takes away the sin of the world* (animal blood could only cover sin, it could not take it away; but Jesus offering Himself as the perfect sacrifice took away the sin of the world; He not only cleansed acts of sin but, as well, addressed the root cause [Col. 2:14-15])" (John 1:29, The Expositor's Study Bible).

When you read these verses in John, you're reading, in a sense, the entirety of the message of the Word of God.

As stated, the object of faith must be Jesus Christ and Him crucified. Only twelve verses in the New Testament have God as the object of faith (John 12:44, 14:1; Acts 16:34; Rom. 4:3, 5, 17, 24; Gal. 3:6; I Thess. 1:8; Titus 3:8; Heb. 6:1; I Pet. 1:21).

Why? The reason is clearly expressed by Jesus Himself. He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life; no man cometh unto the Father but by me" (John 14:6). God the Father has revealed Himself in the Son. The Father has set Jesus and what He did for us at the cross before us as the one to whom we must entrust ourselves for salvation. It is Jesus and Him crucified who is the focus of Christian faith.

FAITH IS THE PRINCIPAL OF ALL THINGS THAT PERTAIN TO

GOD Paul said, "Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by the Word of God (refers to creation, along with everything that goes with creation), so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear. (God began with nothing, thereby, speaking into existence the things needed to create the universe)" (Heb. 11:3, The Expositor's Study Bible).

Every person in the world has faith, whether they understand it or not. Everything is built on the premise of faith. That's the reason communism doesn't work—it excludes faith, which takes away the incentive of man. Every millionaire or a billionaire in the world who became such did so by faith, believing that what he or she did would bring forth rewards. Every scientist works on the premise of faith. Whether he understands it or not, he believes that his experiments will produce that for which he seeks. Yet none of this faith is faith that God recognizes, being only a carry-over from creation.

This article continues in the next issue of The Evangelist.

THE PRICELESS CORNER

We have set aside this corner of *The Evangelist* to show God's plan of salvation. If you are unsure where you will go when you die, please listen to what God has said in His Word:

1. GOD LOVES YOU!

"For God so loved the world, that he gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life" (John 3:16).

2. MAN IS A SINNER, AND SIN HAS SEPARATED HIM FROM GOD

"For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not" (Eccl. 7:20).

"For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God" (Rom. 3:23).

3. JESUS CHRIST IS THE ONLY REMEDY FOR SIN

"For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God ..." (I Peter 3:18).

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved" (Acts 4:12).

4. YOU MUST RECEIVE JESUS CHRIST AS YOUR PERSONAL LORD AND SAVIOR

Jesus calls this experience the new birth. He told Nicodemus: "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3).

We invite you now to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as your personal Savior. "But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His Name" (John 1:12).

WE BELIEVE:

- The Bible is the inspired and only infallible and authoritative written Word of God (Ps. 119; Matt. 4:4; Luke 24:27).
- \bullet There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (I John 5:7).
- In the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, in His personal future return to this earth in power and glory to rule a thousand years (Jn. 1:1-4; Eph. 2:13-18; Rev. 19-20).
- \bullet In the blessed hope the rapture of the church at Christ's coming (I Thess. 4:13-18).
- The only means of being cleansed from sin is through Repentance and faith in the precious blood of Christ (Rom. 5:1; Eph. 2:8-9, 13-18).
- Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential for personal salvation (John 3:5-8; Titus 3:5).
- The redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing of the human body in answer to believing prayer (Ex. 15:25-26; James 5:14-15; I Peter 2:24).
- The baptism with the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4 is given to believers who ask for it (Acts 2:4; 10:44-46; 19:1-7).
- In the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by Whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a holy life (Rom. 6:3-14; 8:1-2, 11).
- In the resurrection of both the saved and the lost: the one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation (Rev. 20:5-6, 11.15)

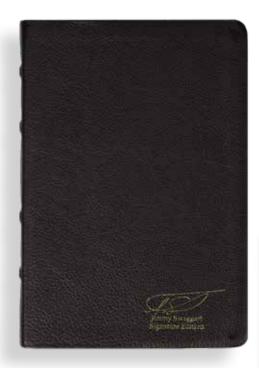
PRAY THIS PRAYER AND MEAN IT WITH ALL OF YOUR HEART: "Dear Lord Jesus, I now realize that I am a sinner. I accept the fact that You died for me on the rugged cross of Calvary. I now open my heart's door and receive You as Savior and Lord of my life. Please take full control of me and help me to be the kind of Christian You want me to be. Amen."

If you prayed this prayer in all sincerity, you are now a child of God. So that we might rejoice with you, we invite you to fill out this coupon and mail it to Jimmy Swaggart Ministries, P.O. Box 262550, Baton Rouge, LA 70826-2550. In Canada, mail to Jimmy Swaggart Ministries of Canada, P.O. Box 1020, Niagara Falls, Ontario, L2E 6V9. We will send you a free copy of Jimmy Swaggart's book *What Must I Do To Be Saved?* This book will help you grow in grace and knowledge.

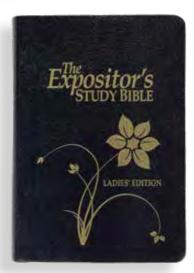
DEAR JIMMY: TODAY I ACCEPTED JESUS AS MY LO AND SAVIOR.	RD
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Manning, SC	88.7 90.9 89.7 89.3 90.1 90.7 91.3 91.1
Manning, SC	88.7 90.9 89.7 89.3 90.1 90.7 91.3 91.1 91.1



ARTICLE BY Frances Swaggart

Not long ago, during a Wednesday night service at Family Worship Center, my husband and the panel were discussing Hebrews 2:13, which begins, "And again, I will put my trust in him." During that discussion, it became clear how our trust in the Lord is revealed in the decisions we make in relation to the perfect will of God.

Again, I Will Put My Trust

MY HUSBAND SHARED some decisions made in our ministry life and, looking back, we realize now that things could have turned out far differently had we not trusted the Lord at those critical moments.

Like the time we were first getting started in evangelistic work. Full-time ministry life was still new to us, and the meetings offered to my husband were from very small churches,

which of course affected our income. So when his Uncle Elmo (Jerry Lee Lewis' dad) came driving up in a brand-new Cadillac with news that Sam Phillips had sent for him, it was enticing. Mr. Phillips owned Sun Records, which was quickly becoming one of the biggest record labels in the world; he had started Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Charlie Rich, Carl Perkins, along with Jerry Lee and a host of others. "Sun Records is starting a gospel line," Uncle Elmo said, "and you will be the very first artist." My husband was more than ready to say yes to this offer, but as he stood there in front of his uncle and in front of that shiny Cadillac, the Lord spoke to his heart and said, "No." Later, in prayer, he asked the Lord, "Why couldn't I accept this offer? It's gospel music. What's wrong with that?" He said the Lord spoke just two words to him: "Trust Me." That was it. No fanfare. Just, "Trust Me." And he did.

There was another specific point in ministry when, after traveling for months across the country, living mostly out of our car, we arrived at our next stop bone tired. While there, we were told of a church that had come available, and the opportunity to pastor it looked so good. If we took the church, we would be able to stay put and have a home. Donnie could attend school in the same district for a full year at a time instead of changing schools nearly every month. My husband went to prayer and told the Lord, "I want this church," but he also had enough spiritual knowledge to say, "I want it if it's Your will. I don't want it if it's not Your will, and I'm not interested in any 'permissive' will. I want Your perfect will." And the Lord told him, "I have called you for world evangelism, and I have not lifted that call." God meant for us to trust Him, and we did.

At these critical moments in our lives, we could not yet see what the Lord had in store. We only knew that He had a calling on my husband and to trust the Lord completely. Later we would learn that when God calls somebody, you never know where that call is going to lead.

We didn't know then that the Lord had plans for my husband to preach and teach the gospel over radio. In those days, radio was dominated by secular programming; you didn't hear ministers. Eventually, when the first preachers did go on air, my husband was

"But if we stay in the will of God, then, no matter what happens, it's going to turn out right."



so appalled at what they were teaching that he said, "I'll never be a radio preacher." God had to change his mind. God had to show him that just because there were some bad apples, so to speak, who were only interested in making a pull for money, that radio could still be used for His glory. We had no idea that the Lord would make possible the *The Campmeeting Hour*, which would eventually air on six hundred radio programs daily. He may have started out saying "I'll never be a radio preacher," but by continually trusting the Lord, my husband wound up being one of the largest.

So we didn't know that radio would happen, but God knew it. We didn't know that television was in our future, or that the *Jimmy* Swaggart Telecast would be broadcast over much of the world, but God knew it. We didn't know that Family Worship Center was in the future, but God knew it. We couldn't see the citywide and international crusades that would touch the entire world, but God saw it. We didn't know that SonLife Broadcasting Network was in our future, but God did. He knew the future for this ministry, and God wanted us to trust Him, to believe Him, and to stand on His Word and His promises.

In those early days, had my husband signed on with Sun Records or insisted on pastoring that church, we believe with all of our hearts that none of these other things would have ever come to pass. Now we may be wrong in that, but that's what we see, because the will of God is so very, very important. If we get out of the will

of God, then nothing goes right. But if we stay in the will of God, then, no matter what happens, it's going to turn out right.

Looking back, we see now how everything was so directed and orchestrated by the Lord. I remember each moment of every decision vividly—and there were many to make. They were not bad choices. They were not sinful choices. They were not fleshly choices. We were trying to do what was best for the ministry, and, at the same time, do what was best for our family. And I thank God that we made the right decisions, because it was not our will that we wanted to see fulfilled; it was the will of God that we wanted to see fulfilled. And, because our trust was in the Lord, we did do the right thing. It's a beautiful thing to trust God. Our trust, then and now, is in the Lord. And the good news is that it's not over yet. What the Lord is doing through this ministry is ongoing because the Lord has His hand on Donnie, and He's got His hand on Gabriel.

I know all of you can look back on your lives and recall your own critical moments when life-changing decisions had to be made. You had to choose, you had to move, you had to go one way or the other, and it was extremely important to make the right decision. Whether you are in full-time ministry or a Christian layperson, it is so important that you make the right decisions. And how do you decide? By trusting God to lead you. Even now, you may be seeking the Lord about a decision, and the Lord is leading you in a direction that you don't understand. I would offer you two words that mean more to me now than ever before—trust Him. **



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This month we are offering eight books that will teach, encourage and bless you, the reader. Spanning topics throughout God's Word—from our sin nature and Old Testament worship, to God's plan for us from Genesis to Revelation—this is solid commentary for your reading pleasure.

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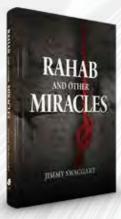
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Rahab And Other Miracles

Rahab, a harlot doomed to die without God and without hope, had heard of the great miracles performed by Jehovah, and they ignited in her a spark of faith. But how did this woman, who had given her life to licentiousness, find grace in the sight of God? In this beautiful testimony of faith, readers will gain a true understanding of how God responds to anyone who dares to believe Him—with miracle after miracle after miracle. 09-174



The Fall Of Man

Adam and Eve were created in the image and likeness of God with abilities to reason, love, and serve their Creator as free moral agents. Their failure to heed God's commandment resulted in the loss of their spiritual lives. In this revelatory book, Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart explains original sin, its deadly consequences, and its only remedy—Jesus Christ and Him crucified.



God's Plan For The Ages

This book by Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart offers a panoramic view of God's eternal plan for mankind. The blueprint begins with God as the creator of a perfect earth and explores the cause and effect of Lucifer's fall resulting in a universal flood—all of which happened before Genesis 1:2. Throughout the seven dispensations addressed in this book-innocence, conscience. human government, promise, law, grace, and divine government (the millennium)—the hand of God can be seen at work guiding His people, keeping His promises, providing a Redeemer, and preparing a new heaven and a new earth for the age to come. 09-148



The Sin Nature

The fall of man resulted in Adam and Eve losing all consciousness of God. They found themselves imprisoned by a completely new nature—the sin nature. The troubles of the world are all caused by the sin nature which rules every person. The work of Christ broke the hold of this deadly yoke and repositioned the believer in Christ. So why do Christians struggle to live for God? Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart explains how victory over the flesh and the Devil can only be maintained through faith in the cross of Christ. 09-157



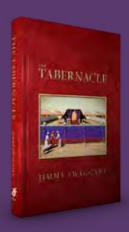
The Holy Spirit From Genesis To Revelation

Many books have been written about the Holy Spirit, but none as comprehensive as this one. Drawing from more than 60 years of Bible study and personal experience in ministry, Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart offers readers a clear understanding of who the Holy Spirit is, His role in the godhead, and His nature as helper and comforter to the church and to the individual believer. Throughout the Bible, the Holy Spirit moves in mighty and marvelous ways to accomplish the purpose of God on earth. **09-149**



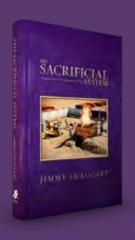
God's Answer To Fear, Depression, And Discouragement

Since the fall, man has coped with fear, depression and discouragement. In the garden of Eden, Adam and Eve fled from God, afraid as soon as they were made aware of their nakedness—their sin. It is a diabolical and demonic spirit, charged by Lucifer, which causes havoc, trouble, heartache, physical illness, and sometimes death—even for Christians. Evangelist Jimmy Swaggart presents believers with the antidote: conviction—grounded in a proper understanding of the cross. 09-133



The Tabernacle

The Tabernacle was given by God to the children of Israel to serve as a pattern for living. Every single part of the Tabernacle — the way it was built, its coverings, its sacred vessels — all, and without exception, speak of Christ and His roles in the atonement for all sin, as the mediator for mankind, and as our intercessor. This thorough study of the Tabernacle will bring about a greater understanding to all believers about the Lord Jesus Christ and everything that has been fulfilled through Him. 09-125



The Sacrificial System

In the Old Testament, atonement was something that had to be done over and over again because the blood of animals could cover but could not take away sins of the people. The thousands of animal sacrifices offered then pointed to the coming Redeemer of mankind who would serve as the one true atonement: Jesus Christ and Him crucified. His sacrifice on the cross of Calvary would take away the sin of the whole world once and for all. **09-126**





The Healer, Songs About Healing

- The Healer
- The Healing Waters
- What A Healing Jesus
- Healer In The House Today
- The Promise
- Reach Out And Touch The Lord
- It Matters To Him About You
- Bring All Your Needs To The Altar
- Touch Through Me
- Rise And Be Healed 02-194



He Loves You, Songs Of The Master's Love

- The Love Of Jesus
- Love Held My Savior
- He Loves You
- No One Ever Cared For Me Like Jesus
- You Won't Leave Here Like You Came, In Jesus' Name
- Then Jesus Came
- Jesus Wonderful Lord
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- His Voice (Makes The Difference) 02-193



There Is A River, Songs About The Holy Spirit

- There Is A River
- Let Your Living Water Flow
- It's Beginning To Rain
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- Sweet, Sweet Spirit
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- A Dancing Heart
- Let's Go Up To The Upper Room
- Come Holy Spirit



Heaven's Sounding Sweeter, Songs About Heaven

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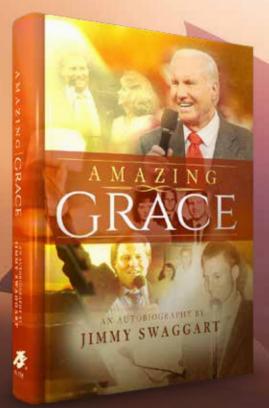
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ARTICLE BY **Donnie Swaggart**

"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you."

-JOHN 14:16-18

The Comforter

IT WASN'T UNTIL the last few weeks of Christ's life on earth that He began to instruct the disciples regarding the coming of the Holy Spirit in a new and dynamic way. In the old economy of God, the Holy Spirit was limited in what He could do in and through the believer because the debt of sin had not yet been paid. When the Holy Spirit came in Acts 2, we see the Lord's followers radically transformed. We see a boldness and an anointing that was lacking prior to His coming. In these verses from John 14, we see the Lord instructing the disciples regarding the purpose of the Holy Spirit in their lives and in ours.

COMFORTER

The word *Comforter* refers to the Holy Spirit and describes His purpose. In the Greek, the word *Comforter* is *Parakletos*,

and it means "one called to the side of another to help." The very meaning of Comforter tells us that what we are to do in the name of Jesus, which is to carry on His work, cannot be done without the help of the Holy Spirit simply because He is God and we are not.

The presentation of the gospel to the world, whether through preaching or through our own personal lives and conduct, cannot have the intended effect without the Holy Spirit empowering, enabling, and anointing us. Never forget that the work of God is not effective through intellectual or philosophical discourse. To be effective, the gospel must have the power of the Holy Spirit to penetrate the hearts of the unsaved.

By use of the word *another* in John 14:16, we are told that Jesus would no longer be



The phrase, "that He may abide with you forever," tells us that the Holy Spirit will not come and go, but He abides forever in our lives and also in the world."

in the world in physical form but instead "another" person of the Godhead would be sent to take His place. When Christ was on the earth, He was limited to being in one place at one time; however, as spirit, the Holy Spirit is everywhere at once.

HIS ABIDING PRESENCE

The phrase, "that He may abide with you forever," tells us that the Holy Spirit will not come and go, but He abides forever in our lives and also in the world. He is with us no matter what is going on in the world. When we are asleep, He is in us and with us. When we are on the job, He is in us

and with us. In the midst of the storms of life, He is in us and He is with us. When the load we carry becomes too heavy, He is there to help us. The many different ways in which the Holy Spirit can help us are limited only by the degree of our lack of understanding and dependence.

SPIRIT OF TRUTH

In John 14:17, the Lord uses another name for the Holy Spirit—"the Spirit of truth." In the Greek, it actually means, "the Spirit of the truth." The Holy Spirit is truth, and He also superintends truth, which is the Bible, God's Word. This tells us that without His

help, we cannot truly understand and learn the Word of God.

In I Corinthians 2:12-14, the apostle Paul writes, "Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."



In John 14:18, the Lord uses the word comfortless, which, in the Greek, is orphanos meaning "orphans." The idea being that in that day, disciples of a particular teacher were looked at as children of that teacher and, upon the teacher's death, they were considered orphans. But in this verse, Christ assures them that they will not be orphans.

Let the Comforter—the Holy Spirit—be all He can be in your life. *

Joys are flowing like a river, Since the Comforter has come; He abides with us forever, *Makes the trusting heart His home.* Like the rain that falls from heaven, Like the sunlight from the sky, *So the Holy Ghost is given,* Coming on us from on high.





GABRIEL SWAGGART COMMENT OF THE PROPERTY OF TH



The Right To Life

If anyone is to protect the unborn, it's the church. Pastor Gabriel Swaggart preaches from Psalm 139:13-14, as the Lord says He has covered us in our mother's womb. Pastor Gabe points out how Scripture tells us we are fearfully and wonderfully made, and how the Lord knew us before we were ever conceived. He offers up the deplorable results of some 60 million abortions in the United States alone since the *Roe v. Wade* ruling legalizing abortions in 1973, and reminds us that this is not a political issue, but a sin issue.



My Prayer For FWC

On his knees in prayer for the church at Ephesus and beyond, the apostle Paul asked that believers be strengthened, rooted and grounded in love, and filled with the fullness of God. In this heartfelt message, Pastor Gabriel Swaggart walks believers step-by-step through Paul's prayer and its application to us individually and collectively as brothers and sisters unified in the body of Christ. 15-733



Say The Word

The centurion who thought himself unworthy asked the Lord—with faith that made Christ marvel—to say the word only, and his servant would be healed. In this moving message, Pastor Gabriel Swaggart reminds believers that regardless of how serious their needs are, physically or spiritually, Jesus Christ is able to meet those needs because with God, all things are possible when we believe.



God's Redemption Plan

15-732

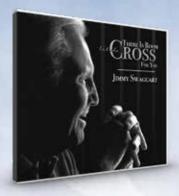
While baptizing sinners, John sees Jesus Christ coming and proclaims, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." In this meaningful message, Pastor Gabriel Swaggart reveals who Christ is, what He is, and what He came to do as the Lamb of God—the perfect embodiment of the sacrificial system and the fulfillment of God's redemption plan.

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 - In The Shadow Of The Cross
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 - Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus
 - · Thank You. Thank You Jesus
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ARTICLE BY Gabriel Swaggart

"Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ; And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord: In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him." —EPHESIANS 3:8-12

The Incomprehensible Riches of Jesus Christ part III of article on ephesians 3

PAUL OUTLINES SOME vital information regarding his call to the Gentiles. He begins by referencing that his call and his ministry are simply through the grace of God. How ironic that this man who set out to destroy the church is now leading the charge for the proclamation of Jesus Christ. Notice that Paul never forgot his past; he maintained a strong awareness of his sin and rebellion against God. Because of this, Paul now considers himself privileged to proclaim the gospel to the masses. Likewise, we should consider ourselves fortunate to be a part of the family of God. For those who have the opportunity to proclaim the gospel, we should realize how special it is to herald such a tremendous message of God's amazing grace.

THE GOSPEL

What we have been given is incomprehensible, unsearchable, and inexhaustible. The gospel of Jesus Christ is such that we cannot put a price tag on it, nor can we fully plunge into its depths. The gospel is the most significant news that anyone could ever hear, for it proclaims the goodness of God given to undeserving man and provides sinful man a way of escape from his sin and freedom unparalleled. The gospel speaks of the grace of God, which is such that He bestowed His righteousness upon those who could not merit it and do not deserve it. Grace is not treating someone as they deserve or more than they deserve. Grace is not mentioning a person's past failures.

Within God's grace, we find all that we

need for life and living (II Peter 1:3), and faith in Jesus Christ expands our knowledge of what life is. This life comes to us through the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ. Before a person comes to Jesus, his life is full of misery and death with no way of crossing into life. But upon accepting Jesus Christ as Savior, a person experiences a new life with new mercies provided by what Christ did for us at the cross.

Humanity's redemption is centered on the cross. Sin was Satan's legal right to hold humanity captive, but when Jesus Christ died on Calvary's cross, He atoned for all sin—past, present, and future—and that legal right was taken out of Satan's grasp. At the same time, the work of Christ on Calvary's cross was a legal work,

"Since that legal debt could not be paid, Jesus Christ became a man to pay that debt so that lost humanity could experience new life."

for it satisfied a legal debt that humanity owed to God but could not pay. Since that legal debt could not be paid, Jesus Christ became a man to pay that debt so that lost humanity could experience new life. For this reason, along with many others, His grace and the riches thereof cannot be fully understood; it is incomprehensible, unsearchable, and inexhaustible, which is why we must make this news known to others outside our four walls.

THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE CHURCH

The existence of the church and its growth have implications that reverberate throughout heaven and the whole spiritual realm. The church becomes a mirror, so to speak, through which the angelic host sees the glory of God. Through the church, the angelic hosts are learning the wisdom of God, for these created beings have never experienced the love and grace of God until it was seen in the church, which was brought about through the sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Due to the work of Christ, these created beings can witness the salvation of a soul and the changing of a life through faith and witness Christ raising a person into a higher position than the angels and into the family of God. This wisdom is now revealed through the church and brings about a new age, the joining together of both Jew and Gentile into one family, which was the ultimate purpose of God from eternity past. This is one of many reasons why God chose Paul to evangelize the Gentile world and help them grow in the knowledge of God's eternal plan.

The salvation of a soul is in accordance

with the eternal purpose of God through Jesus Christ. This eternal purpose was in the mind of God before the foundations of the world were laid (I Peter 1:18). He knew through foreknowledge that He would create humanity and that humanity would fall into sin, separating His highest creation from the Godhead. Yet, despite humanity's sin, the Godhead formulated a plan to redeem humanity. The most crucial aspect of this eternal plan is Jesus Christ and Him crucified. The ultimate price for this plan to come to fruition was high; it meant Christ laying down His life for others, but the effects of the price that was paid are eternal.

Going back to Ephesians 1:3-14, the effects of the cross are: those who place their faith in Christ are now holy, blameless, adopted into the family, redeemed and ransomed, granted wisdom and prudence, the mystery of His will made known to them, an everlasting inheritance bestowed upon them, and they are sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise.

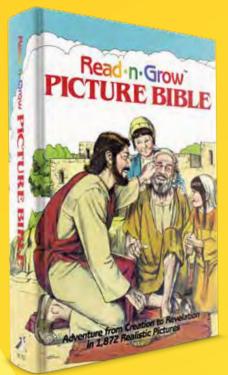
VICTORY OVER SIN

However, one more inexhaustible effect of the cross needs to be dealt with—victory over sin, now! Yes, you read those words correctly—victory now! One of the significant aspects of the finished work of Christ is that every believer can walk in freedom over sin now. Unfortunately, some believers are convinced that victory over sin is impossible while living this present life. They understand that ultimate victory will be experienced when they leave this mortal coil and arrive in the presence of God in heaven. But they don't believe that victory can be

experienced now. Yet, when Jesus died on Calvary's cross, He died not only to save them from their sin but also to deliver them from the grip of sin, which means that every believer has the potential to live a victorious life right now. How amazing to know that our Savior has delivered us from sin and its power through the means of His finished work and that once a believer places his faith in Jesus Christ and Him crucified, the Holy Spirit guarantees that the outcome will be victory. If every believer begins to understand the immutable, inexhaustible work of the cross and the benefits of Christ's finished work, then they will experience complete victory over sin. And, for the record, we are not speaking of sinless perfection but sin not having dominion over the believer. These are two very different belief systems. We don't believe that Christians can achieve sinless perfection here on earth. We do believe that sin doesn't have to have dominion over their lives.

I encourage you to go all in on the finished work of Christ and refrain from being swayed to any other system of belief. It won't be easy, but the results will be worth the effort. We have been given the incomprehensible riches of Christ through faith in His completed work, and we have the opportunity to experience these riches now. We have been given a chance to walk in victory over the world, the flesh, and the devil. Take full advantage of what Christ has accomplished for us, and believe what the cross can do for you. Jesus Christ and Him crucified is the only belief system that works, and the result will always be victory.

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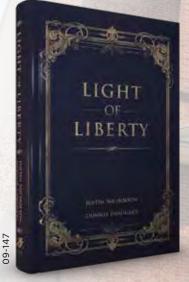
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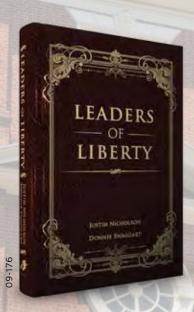
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12:30:00 AM				
1:00:00 AM				
1:30:00 AM				
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2:30:00 AM				
3:00:00 AM	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Family Worship Center - Associate	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast
3:30:00 AM			Pastor Broadcast	
4:00:00 AM			FWC Music	
4:30:00 AM				
5:00:00 AM	FWC Music	FWC Music		FWC Music
5:30:00 AM				
6:00:00 AM	Family Worship Center - Associate	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
6:30:00 AM	Pastor Broadcast	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
7:00:00 AM	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)
7:30:00 AM				
8:00:00 AM	Preachers, Patriots & Providence	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
8:30:00 AM		Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)
9:00:00 AM	A Study In The Word	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)
9:30:00 AM	Family Worship Center Sunday Live			
	Service			
10:30:00 AM				
11:00:00 AM		FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music
11:30:00 AM		A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
12:00:00 PM	FWC Music	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Family Worship Center - Associate	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics
12:30:00 PM			Pastor Broadcast	
1:00:00 PM	Generation of The Cross E/I		FWC Music	
1:30:00 PM				
2:00:00 PM	Family Worship Center Morning Service	FWC Music		The Story Behind The Song
2:30:00 PM	(Repeat Of AM Service)			FWC Music
3:00:00 PM		Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Gabriel Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast
3:30:00 PM				
4:00:00 PM				
4:30:00 PM 5:00:00 PM	FWC Music			
5:00:00 PM 5:30:00 PM	Crossfire Service E/I	Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)
6:00:00 PM		A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word
	Family Worship Center Sunday Evening Live Service	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	FWC Music
7:00:00 PM				
7:30:00 PM				Family Worship Center Live Service
8:00:00 PM	FWC Music			
8:30:00 PM	The Story Behind The Song	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	
9:00:00 PM	Family Worship Center Morning Service (Repeat Of AM Service)			FWC Music
9:30:00 PM	(Reposit of Alli oct vice)	Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)
10:00:00 PM				
10:30:00 PM				Frances & Friends (Re-Air)
11:00:00 PM				
11:30:00 PM	FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music	
11.30.00 1 1				

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Hour (ET)
Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	1:00:00 AM
		Simming Conduction Conduction	1:30:00 AM
			2:00:00 AM
			2:30:00 AM
FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music	3:00:00 AM
T We made	THE INCOME.	The images	3:30:00 AM
Family Worship Center - Associate	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	4:00:00 AM
Pastor Broadcast			4:30:00 AM
FWC Music			5:00:00 AM
			5:30:00 AM
	FWC Music	FWC Music	6:00:00 AM
			6:30:00 AM
A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word	Family Worship Center - Associate	7:00:00 AM
FWC Music	FWC Music	Pastor Broadcast	7:30:00 AM
The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Live)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	8:00:00 AM
			8:30:00 AM
FWC Music	FWC Music	FWC Music	9:00:00 AM
Insight (Live)	Insight (Live)	The Story Behind The Song	9:30:00 AM
Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Live)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	10:00:00 AM
			10:30:00 AM
			11:00:00 AM
			11:30:00 AM
FWC Music	FWC Music	Generation of The Cross E/I	12:00:00 PM
A Study In The Word	A Study In The Word		12:30:00 PM
Family Worship Center - Associate Pastor Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Crusade Classics	Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	1:00:00 PM 1:30:00 PM
Fasioi bidaucasi			2:00:00 PM
FWC Music			2:30:00 PM
			3:00:00 PM
	Crossfire Service E/I	FWC Music	3:30:00 PM
			4:00:00 PM
Donnie Swaggart Broadcast	Jimmy Swaggart Broadcast	Gabriel Swaggart Broadcast	4:30:00 PM
			5:00:00 PM
			5:30:00 PM
Include (Dr. Ala)	In a last 4 (Da. Ala)	The Manager of the Owner (Parkin)	6:00:00 PM
Insight (Re-Air)	Insight (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	6:30:00 PM
A Study In The Word Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	A Study In The Word Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	7:00:00 PM
Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	Frances & Friends (Re-Air)	7:30:00 PM
			8:00:00 PM
			8:30:00 PM
The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	Preachers, Patriots & Providence	9:00:00 PM
The Message of the Cross (Re-Air)	The wessage of the cross (Re-Air)	Preactiers, Patriots & Providence	9:30:00 PM
Crossfire Service E/I	Gabriel Swaggart Broadcast	Family Worship Center Wednesday	10:00:00 PM
CICCOMIC GOLVIOO EII	Cashor Gridggart Broadcast	Night Service (repeat)	10:30:00 PM
FWC Music		FWC Music	11:00:00 PM
			11:30:00 PM
	FWC Music	Crossfire Service E/I	12:00:00 AM
			12:30:00 AM









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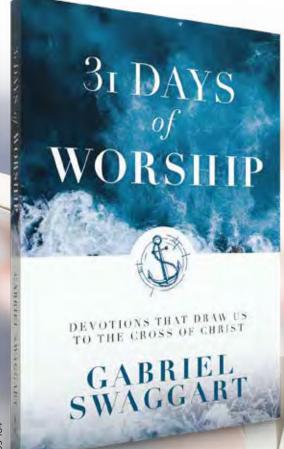
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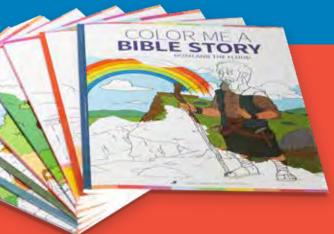
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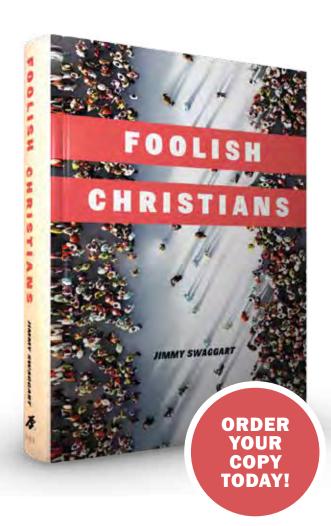
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SBN Bible-thon equips pastor in Nigeria

Beloved Donnie—Greetings in the precious name of Jesus Christ. Compliments of the season to you and all of Family Worship Center members.

I write to sincerely thank you for all you did for us in Nigeria in 2022. Through The Expositor's Study Bibles, we were able to touch so many lives in Nigeria. We organized twenty different "Back To the Cross" seminars



around the country. We distributed over 22,000 Bibles in Nigeria in 2022. So many pastors of major denominations rededicated their lives back to Christ through our seminars. We were able to reach out to pastors in rural areas and Moslem dominated states of Nigeria.

Three major seminaries owned by Baptist, Evangelical Church Winning All, and evangelical churches invited us to minister to their students and to share the ESB. These are platforms, [ordinarily] as a

Pentecostal pastor, I will never have access to them, but to the glory of God, we were able to preach the message of the cross in those places because of ESB. Sir, thank you so much. On behalf of the body of Christ in Nigeria, I say thank you, sir! We shall always be grateful for more of these Bibles. The request for these Bibles has tripled in the

"We distributed over 22,000 Bibles in Nigeria in 2022."

past three months. We are

having requests on a daily basis from all across our Nigeria. We shall appreciate, if we are considered, for more of these Bibles this 2023. Thank you so much.

Yours in Christ,
Paul-Nathan Udeze



"...JSM has become a part of my life and my testimony. Thank you for being my light when I was searching in dark, not knowing what I was looking for!" -south carolina

All letters are current and may have been edited for space.

Dear Evangelist Brother Swaggart, a longtime friend gave me the commentary on Hebrews. It's like a heavy burden came off my shoulders tonight. My eyes have been opened to the truth about the cross! I condemned myself for not doing enough good works to "feel" accepted. But trusting in the cross of Christ has set me free! Thank you. God bless. -Virginia

Dear Evangelist One day in December, I had just sat down at my computer and tuned into SBN, not really aware what was showing at that moment. I am a media member and watch regularly. That day, I just felt so low, with so many things going on, and wanting so much to have a Pentecostal church to worship in like we used to have so many years ago, and it was a soul-saving church also. Pastor Swaggart just looked right into the camera and mentioned about those sitting down and about tears rolling down their cheeks. As he spoke, I started to sob and just shake. And then he mentioned those needs that God could meet, one being a church. I felt as if it was almost a prophetic word. He continued to speak on God specializing in all things possible and that God will do for us what no other power could do. He said to stop complaining and start believing. Knock and the door will be opened. I felt that anointing! Meanwhile, a few miles away, my closest friend was also watching and has been believing and

waiting for a church also. But she started to rejoice. What a great God we serve! He saw my despair that day and God used our brother to speak right into my heart. Glory to God and our Savior Jesus Christ. —Canada

Dear Evangelist My wife and I went through a few churches, never finding God. Then my wife accidentally switched the channel to Jimmy Swaggart's show The Message of the Cross. I was at work, and she told me. I watched that night. We both knew instantly that Holy Spirit led us. That was eight years ago. We are a home church of two, and we are blessed by you all! God bless you. -Washington

Dear Evangelist The media ministry saved my life. It truly saw me through the pandemic and now continues to. I'm disabled, and I recently became a member of the media ministry. I've been a member of a local Pentecostal church for twenty-two years, but our pastor recently passed away, and our little church fell apart. I'm blessed to be able to get to worship with JSM. Now JSM has become a part of my life and my testimony. Thank you for being my light when I was searching in dark, not knowing what I was looking for! God bless you all. -South Carolina

Dear Evangelist I just want to tell you how very much I appreciate SBN, and I'm so thankful that you're there and that I can

trust that I'm going to hear the uncompromised truth of God's Word when I tune in and watch any of the programs and services. Last year, I began to go through a very difficult spiritual trial of my faith and, I feel, oppression as well. At first, for about a couple of weeks, I'd wake up seemingly every two hours during the night, and when I did, I'd turn on SonLife Radio on my phone, and pretty much every time there would be the perfect song being sung by Martha Borg, or BJ Pons, or Brother Swaggart, or the praise team, or a message by Brother Swaggart that would speak directly to what I was going through, and it just ministered to me so much during that time. I'm so, so thankful that SBN is there on my TV or my phone at the tap of a button or an app. God has brought me a long way, and I am ever so grateful. I still feel like I'm going through one trial after another since then, but learning the message of the cross has been a huge help, and I'm trusting the Lord to continue to see me through. I am a media member, and although what I give during the sharea-thons isn't near what I'd like to give, I'm more than happy to help support a truly Christian television ministry such as SBN. I keep you on almost constantly. Even at work, I go throughout the day with SLR playing on my phone the whole time in my work vest pocket. God bless you all, I love each and every one of you. -South Carolina



We would love to hear from you! Please email your comments to info@jsm.org



ARTICLE BY Dr. Don Paul Gray

"For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God."

-I CORINTHIANS 1:17-18

"Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome." —ACTS 23:11

The Message of the Cross Gets to Rome PART I

JUST A FEW days before the ascension of Christ and Pentecost, Jesus charged His disciples: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)

ROME

Some scholars believe that the phrase "uttermost part of the earth" was speaking of Rome. In the first century, Rome was the largest city in the world with more than half a million inhabitants. It seems logical to me that Christ intended for the gospel to be preached in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria, all of the Middle East, Asia Minor, Europe, North Africa, and finally

all the way to Rome—the Imperial City.

At that time, Rome was the largest and most wealthy city in the world. Many political and governmental leaders lived in Rome. Multiplied thousands of Roman soldiers lived there guarding the capital city. From about 60 BC to AD 330, the emperors of Rome all lived there, issuing their edicts and making their political appointments for the entire Roman world.

New Testament scholars believe that Paul wrote the famous book of Romans in about AD 56 while he was in Corinth, Greece. Paul writes in Romans 15:23, "having a great desire these many years to come unto you. Whensoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey."

Later on, while in Ephesus, Luke records, "After these things were ended, Paul purposed in the spirit, when he had passed through Macedonia and Achaia to go to Jerusalem, saying, After I have been there, I must also see Rome" (Acts 19:21).

After completing his third missionary journey, Paul is arrested in Jerusalem and, while under arrest, Luke records these actual words from Christ to Paul: "Be of good cheer, Paul: for as thou hast testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also at Rome" (Acts 23:11). The great apostle Paul knew that the citizens of Rome needed to hear the message of Christ and the cross. He was convinced that whenever and wherever Christ and the cross was preached, the power of God would

"The great apostle Paul knew that the citizens of Rome needed to hear the message of Christ and the cross."

be manifested and lives would be saved. delivered, healed, sanctified, and chains of sin would be broken.

THE NECESSITY AND CENTRALITY **OF THE CROSS**

Christ Himself taught His disciples, "And he that taketh not his cross, and followeth after me, is not worthy of me" (Matt. 10:38).

Luke 9:23 says, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me."

In I Corinthians 1:18 Paul writes, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God."

Notice that Paul couples the doctrine of the cross with the reality of the power of the Holy Spirit. Mainstream liberal

Christianity ignores or no longer believes in the power of the cross, the resurrection, Pentecost, or the second coming. Consequently, they have very little evidence of Holy Spirit conviction in their preaching or in their pastoral ministry.

When you study, carefully, the gospels and the writings of the apostles, you have to admit that the true gospel story—the new covenant teaching of Christ and the apostles—hinges on the central truth of Christ dying for our sins on the tree. The message of the cross is the linchpin of all New Testament theology.

Often in his writings, Paul highlighted the centrality of the cross and the resurrection. Paul longed to preach Christ and Him crucified in Rome. The

attitudes and behaviors

of life that continue to steal, kill, and destroy good people is properly labeled as sin in the Scriptures. And we know that sin leads to death. So what can we preach that will deal powerfully with the sin problem?

Galatians 1:4 speaks of the death of Christ and says, "Who gave himself for our sins."

I John 1:7 says, "The blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." And I John 2:2 reads, "And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world."

The great struggle of all people in this world is directly related to what one church father called "the world, the flesh and the devil." The world attempts to lead

us astray. The flesh is bent toward evil.

The devil and his demonic powers constantly attempt to cause us to make bad decisions just like Eve and Adam in the garden of Eden. The message of Christ and the cross alone deals with the power and influence of Satan, the world, and

the flesh. Sincere faith in the cross and in the power of the Holy Spirit produces a changed life and a victorious life.

The Lord's Supper underscores the centrality of the cross. The ordinance of holy communion, also called the Lord's Supper, has been practiced in the Christian church for more than two thousand years. The classic Scripture taught by pastors thousands of times is what Paul wrote in I Corinthians 11:23-34.

This article will continue in the next issue of The Evangelist.





ARTICLE BY Loren Larson

"And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS." -REVELATION 19:16

The Roles of Christ

FOUR DISTINCT ROLES OF CHRIST

Have you ever considered what roles that Jesus Christ should play in your daily life? Perhaps this question has never been a serious consideration even though you believe you know how important Christ is to you.

Recently, I began to consider four distinct roles that Jesus Christ plays or should play in my own life: His role as Savior, His role as King, His role as Lord, and His role as friend. In this brief synopsis, I would like to attempt to open our eyes to these roles and encourage you to consider each role, your understanding of it, and the depth of your experience in each.

HIS ROLE AS SAVIOR

His role as Savior is by far the most important role that Christ plays in anyone's life. It is the reason why He left heaven and came to earth, was born, and then crucified. In Matthew 1:21 the Bible says, "And she shall

bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins." To save mankind from the dilemma of being separated from God was the key reason for the incarnation. He did this for us. In this role, He saves us from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, and the presence of sin through His finished work at Calvary.

First, every believing sinner who comes to Christ in faith is freed from the penalty of his sin. His simple faith in Christ grants him this coveted position and it allows him to remain in relationship with God, despite failure, while traveling through the learning process of the Christian life. This phenomenon is referred to as justification.

Second, every believing sinner who comes to Christ in faith is instantly sanctified. This means that he has been set free from the power of sin, both internal and external. As believers, we are not called to defeat sin; we are called to walk in the

victory over sin that Jesus has afforded us. He alone saves and sanctifies. Then it becomes our responsibility to walk by faith in His finished work so the evidence of that victory might be manifested in our everyday lives. His work is done while our understanding and application of that



"As believers, we are not called to defeat sin; we are called to walk in the victory over sin that Jesus has afforded us."

work is progressive.

Finally, one day, the true saint will be glorified. The very presence of sin and all things sinful will be forever eliminated. This is what Jesus does and will do in His role as Savior.

HIS ROLE AS KING

Throughout the course of human history, many men have attempted to claim the title of "King of kings." While some were certainly noteworthy and impacted a large segment of humanity, none ever achieved complete sovereignty over the entirety of the world. This does not stand true for Jesus Christ. As a result of His sacrifice for mankind, God elevated Christ Jesus to a status that will never be equaled or undone. In Philippians 2:10 the Bible says, "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth." Jesus is not only the monarch of man's world, but He

is also the overriding ruler of all things in heaven, all things upon the earth, and all things under the earth.

I fear that, at times, the church fails to see Him in this role. We fail to honor Him in the way that He deserves. Yes, He is a personal Savior, but do we recognize Him daily as the one and only supreme King? We should tremble before Him and acknowledge Him as the sovereign King of all the ages. He alone has attained this status and will maintain it forever. He is always worthy of reverent worship and bended knee. He truly is the King of kings.

HIS ROLE AS LORD

As Lord, Jesus presides over the church as highest-ranking Head and Master. We should understand that we are not our own; we have been bought with a price. I wonder how many ministries or Christian efforts are truly under the leadership and lordship of Jesus Christ. Many are seeking

ministries that benefit themselves more than the furtherance of Christ's kingdom. Are we truly careful to seek His will over every ministry decision that we make? Are we following the specific detailed instructions of our Lord and Savior? In John 13:13 Jesus said, "Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am." If He is truly the Lord of all that we are, then our lives must be submitted to His directions, His will, and always under His guidance. We are not saved to live life separated from the commands and directives of our Lord and Master. Are you following His lord-ship today?

HIS ROLE AS FRIEND

Although this will be the last role of Christ mentioned, it is far from trivial. The comfort that is gained by acknowledging Jesus Christ as friend is sometimes the most needful influence in a believer's life.

When we see that He loves us, not just as an object of His ministry, but as a dearly beloved friend, we can gain the confidence that we need to move forward through every circumstance. When our hearts are hurt by the circumstances that life presents, it is His comforting hand alone that heals the broken heart and sets at liberty those that are bruised. How often have we desperately needed and then received the comfort of His love, the comfort of His friendship? Have you forgotten that you have a friend that sticks closer than a brother? Do you believe that this too is one of the major roles of your Savior, your King, and your Lord? He truly is that blessed friend!





ARTICLE BY John Rosenstern

"As believers, our spiritual growth is intrinsically tied to our understanding of the finished work of the cross. Proper instruction of the cross is the foundation of discipleship."

Time to Reckon PART II

AS WE LEARN the truths of the cross, the more we understand how to cooperate through faith with the Holy Spirit as He produces in us the life of Christ. We cannot reckon to be dead "indeed to sin" without experiencing the deep, inner crucifixion of the cross as it applies to the self-life. We must count on having died to sin (the sin nature and its former power and dominion) and are always delivered unto death (II Cor. 4:11). This is what Jesus meant when he said, "If any man come after me, let him deny himself [abilities and willpower], and take up his cross daily, and follow me" (Luke 9:23).

Prior to the cross, we were incapable of living out life victoriously over the power and dominion of sin. Because of the cross, we now have the Holy Spirit dwelling in us and quickening us to have the life of Christ ruling in us, providing that our faith is in

the finished work of the cross. The Holy Spirit works exclusively by and through the cross.

As believers, we are fully responsible to reckon—to take account—on the fact that our union with Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection was ours as well. When He died for our sin, we died to our sin. As our substitute, Christ died to pay the penalty of sin and, as our representative man, He died to break the power of the sin (nature) from ruling and reigning in us. When He was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we were also raised in newness (source) of life. The new source of life for us is the Holy Spirit. We count on being alive to God in Christ, and the Holy Spirit causes, "the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh." (II Cor. 4:11).

DEAD TO SIN

Throughout his epistles, the apostle Paul explains the tenants of the new covenant. He would liken himself to be its "master builder." The revelation and understanding he supplies to us came to him by revelation from God. To better understand the benefits of the new covenant, we must understand its purpose. The penalty (wages) of sin is death. Jesus Christ's death on the cross paid the penalty for sin and redeemed us from the curse of sin-eternal damnation. Sin was, and is, our biggest problem. Acts of sin are the manifestation of the principle of sin (sin nature) reigning in our lives. Due to Adam's fall, every person born has a sin nature, made in the image and likeness of Adam. Prior to being born again, sin ruled and reigned in our lives producing wrongful desires and sinful actions. Thanks to the cross of Jesus Christ, the power of sin was broken. No longer is the sin nature to rule and reign in our lives. We have been liberated from the tyranny of sin by the cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Romans 6:6 tells us that the sin nature was destroyed. We are no longer slaves to sin and its compulsion to commit acts of sin, but we are now, by virtue of the cross, become slaves to righteousness to fulfill our new nature, a divine nature that is now made after the image

"We have been liberated from the tyranny of sin by the cross of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

of Jesus Christ. We must understand that Romans 6 has to do with the tyrannical reign of the principle of sin, not its symptoms. The sin nature was not annihilated but "destroyed," which, in the Greek language, means "made of no effect, put down, annulled or rendered inoperative." Please notice that Paul did not say the sin nature was removed. In fact, it will not be removed until glorification—the time of the resurrection. First Corinthians 15:53 says, "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality."

WHAT TO RECKON

Reckoning can only benefit us if we know what to reckon. Beginning in Romans 6, Paul instructs us on what we are to know. As an example of reckoning, I recall years ago when I was close friends with a professional athlete. He struggled with various types of substance abuses, most notably were sports-enhancing

drugs-anabolic steroids. He suffered severe health side effects from the substances he used throughout his career. After his health failed, he became a voice of warning, especially to young people, to avoid the temptation of taking illegal and banned sports-enhancing substances to improve their athletic careers. "The risks are too high to play roulette with your health," he would say. I attended one of his post-career seminars titled, "Just Say Know to Drugs." He told his audience that simply saying no to illegal sports-enhancing drugs and substances was insufficient to discourage athletes from taking them (and their parents who desired their children to "go for the glory"). The short-term results and subsequent rewards for using steroids could make or break an athlete's career path. He believed in educating his audience on the consequences of using these harmful substances. Notwithstanding, after explaining the perils and risks of sports-enhancing

drugs, which for athletic performance were deemed illegal without a doctor's prescription and banned substances in professional sports, he also talked about proper nutrition and training as effectual alternatives to get the results they desired. He closed by saying, "You now have the tools and knowledge to make a decision on whether or not to use sports-enhancing drugs. By using them, you may get short-term results, however, you also risk having permanent health side effects, and possible premature death. Or choose the path that can save your lives and give you longevity." He taught his audience the facts and then how to reckon properly on the facts.

Romans 6:11 says, "Likewise, reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord." This is an amazing truth, but we must not stop here. We are very much alive as a new creation. Because we died to the old Adamic and sinful nature in Christ at the cross, we are alive to a new source of life—the Holy Spirit. Death was the means; new life is the goal.

Paul would use our union with Jesus Christ in his death, burial, and resurrection as the beginning of what we should know (Rom. 6:1-10). First, we must learn that by union with Christ at the cross, we have freedom from the power of sin. But unless we learn the answer to the bondage of the principle of law, we will be right back in the defeat of Romans 7, no matter how hard we reckon. Law reveals sin and produces bondage. 3

This series continues in the next issue of The Evangelist.

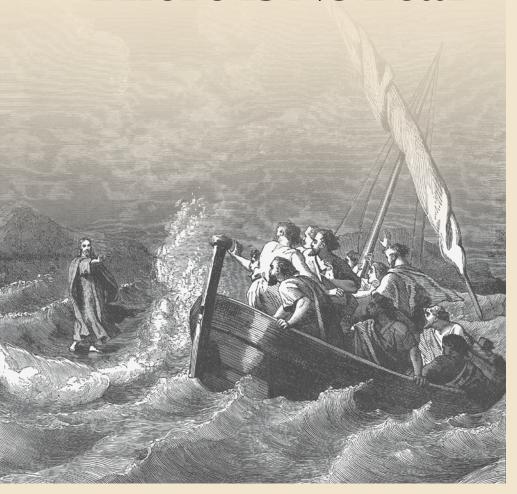




ARTICLE BY Mike Muzzerall

Wickedness and lawlessness abound in our time. Scarcely can one view popular news sources without having his spirit assaulted by the ungodly acts of those who deny God and His standard of righteousness.

There is No Fear



HOW IS IT POSSIBLE that modern civilization has digressed to such a vile state? One of the key reasons is, "There is no fear of God before their eyes" (Rom. 3:18).

THE FEAR OF GOD

Fearing God is essential in living a holy and acceptable life. Unless we live with the knowledge of an accountability to God, there is no incentive to resist the desires of the flesh. The results are found in the modern mantra, "If it feels good, do it!" In other words, "There is no accountability. There is no God."

FEAR VS. DREAD

There is a God, and we are to fear Him. A godly fear acknowledges who He is and His divine authority to bless the righteous and judge the wicked. It understands that as the Creator of heaven and earth, all of creation answers to Him. Dreading God, on the other hand, indicates a religious spirit manifested in an incorrect understanding of who God is and His desire for mankind.

THE BEGINNING WISDOM

Proverbs 9:10 tells us, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." Throughout the Scriptures, there is a

"Having a knowledge of God's Word today helps us to share Christ with others."

continuous comparison between the righteous and the wicked. The righteous are presented as being wise and the wicked as being foolish.

THE SPIRIT OF GOD

The fear of the Lord begins the process of wisdom, and the Holy Spirit adds to that understanding. Jesus said that the Holy Spirit will "reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: Of sin, because they believe not on me; of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more; of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged" (John 16:8-11).

With godly wisdom produced through godly fear, we understand that there is a penalty for sin. "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord" (Rom. 6:23).

THE ROLE OF FEAR IN SALVATION

The fear of God brings a discontent in our soul. We no longer feel secure in our ability to live life on our terms without impunity (punishment). For some, fear produces a cessation to sin. They attempt to stop what they now know as evil. However, this does not automatically mean that they are saved. If they never sinned again, they still are liable for the sins already committed. Therefore, they need a Savior.

THROUGH JESUS CHRIST

"For by grace are ye saved through faith;

and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast" (Ephesians 2:8-9). Our salvation is clearly based on believing in the completed work of Calvary and not through our own works. Jesus' death on the cross was full payment for sin. "And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have *I written unto you that believe on the name* of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (I John 5:11-13).

Jesus is the only hope for a world where there is no fear of God.



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ARTICLE BY Dr. Dave Watts

In Numbers 16:1-35; the Scriptures tell us about a rebellion that was led by a man named Korah. Korah was a Levite, this meant that he was a person of privilege among the Israelites and that he was specifically chosen from among God's people to serve in the priesthood from the tribe of the Levites.

Tears of Korah

KORAH WAS CHOSEN from among God's chosen people but was still not happy with his position and place when he compared it to Moses and Aaron.

In our modern context, we fall into a dangerous trap when we begin to compare ourselves with others. Korah was so discontented that he began to spread his discontent among 250 of his fellow Hebrews who were men of influence.

Early in my own ministry, I was frustrated at the lack of growth in the church I served as lead pastor. I used to drive by the largest church in my town and see the parking lot packed full of cars on the way to my church, which had about fifty regular attendees. I began to grumble and complain about this to the Lord, but He quickly chastised me. I felt particularly convicted of my attitude toward the lead pastor; I did not have a friendly relationship with him due to a number of issues.

The Lord spoke to my heart and told me to pray for that church every time I drove by it, that He would bless it in every way.

Korah and his men brought forward a list of complaints, and they sought to have things their own way. Korah began to poison the mob with thoughts such as, "Moses is no better than anyone else," or "Everyone in Israel is God's chosen, not just Moses and Aaron." They suggested that they could be holy priests and didn't need to obey their spiritual authority because they believed that Moses and Aaron were no better than anyone else. (As you can tell from my personal story, jealousy is such an ugly thing when we allow it to take hold in our lives and ministries.)

At this turn of events, Moses was very grieved and fell to the ground. God spoke through him and set up a day of retribution. Every one of Korah's 250 complainers were invited to attend a ceremony before

"Every Christian needs to submit to the spiritual authority that God has placed in his or her life."

the Lord at the Tent of Meeting with a censer filled with incense to burn before the Lord. On the day of reckoning, all those gathered together would witness the wrath of God.

Then God tells Moses to move everyone away from the grumblers and their tents. Moses then plainly states, and I paraphrase, "This is how you will know that the Lord has sent me to do all these things and that it was not my own doing."

Numbers 16:29-35 says: "If these men die the common death of all men, or if they be visited after the visitation of all men; then the LORD hath not sent me. But if the LORD

make a new thing, and the earth open her mouth, and swallow them up, with all that appertain unto them, and they go down quick into the pit; then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the LORD. And it came to pass, as he had made an end of speaking all these words, that the ground clave asunder that was under them: And the earth opened her mouth, and swallowed them up, and their houses, and all the men that appertained unto Korah, and all their goods. They, and all that appertained to them, went down alive into

the pit, and the earth closed upon them:

and they perished from among the congregation. And all Israel that were round about them fled at the cry of them: for they said, Lest the earth swallow us up also. And there came out a fire from the LORD, and consumed the two hundred and fifty men that offered incense."

The rebellion of Korah and his followers shows us how comparison and jealousy can bring about ingratitude and dissatisfaction in the life of a believer. When we take our eyes off the finished work of Calvary and set them on our own desires, we

open ourselves up to a spirit of grum-

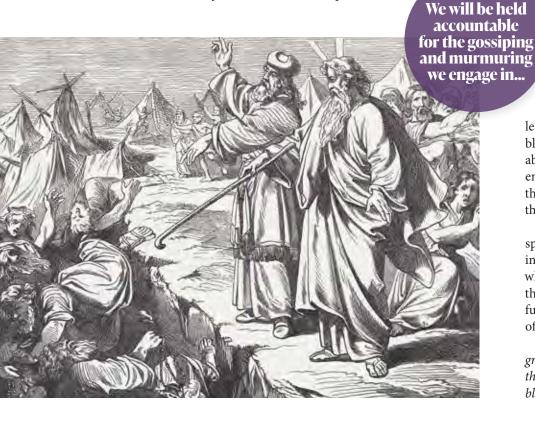
bling and complaining that always brings us harm.

Out of a heart of jealousy and discontent, Korah incited rebellion in the hearts of his followers against God's chosen leadership.

When we foster rebellion and discontentment against God's chosen leadership, He is not pleased and will not bless our efforts. We will be held accountable for the gossiping and murmuring we engage in—gossiping and murmuring that turns the hearts of others against those whom God has placed in leadership.

Every Christian needs to submit to the spiritual authority that God has placed in his or her life. If we don't agree with what they are doing, then we can leave their authority. But we must be very careful about tearing down a man or woman of God and the work of God.

James 4:6 tells us, "But He giveth more grace. Wherefore He saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble."





FROM ME TO YOU | Jimmy Swaggart



"THOU ART OLD AND STRICKEN IN YEARS, AND THERE REMAINETH YET VERY MUCH LAND TO BE

POSSESSED" (JOSH, 13:1).

Lbelieve the Lord has said almost the same words to me: "You are old and stricken in years, but there remains yet many more souls to be saved."

I WILL BE 88 ON MARCH 15

I still feel that we have many more years yet to go, and I praise the Lord for that. In one sense of the word, I feel like my best days are yet ahead. I say that because of what God has called us to do, and I speak of world evangelism. I believe the greatest moving of the Spirit, as it regards salvation of souls, is just ahead.

The other day in prayer, the Lord made fresh to my mind what I refer to as the parable of three loaves. I will paraphrase it in my own words: A man went to a friend at midnight and awakened him. He said, "A friend on his journey has come to me, and I have nothing to set before him." In other words, he was expected to give the man a meal, but there was nothing to give, and it was midnight. The man within told him, "My children are with me in bed, and the doors are locked. Come back tomorrow, and I will

"...don't quit asking; don't quit seeking; don't quit knocking. Keep believing. The Lord has promised that He would answer."

give you whatever you need." But the man said, "I cannot come back tomorrow, I've got to have it now." In this parable, found in Luke 11, Jesus said, "Though he will not rise and give him, because he is his friend, yet because of his importunity he will rise and give him as many as he needeth." Christ continues, "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Luke 11:8-9).

In other words, don't quit asking; don't quit seeking; don't quit knocking. Keep believing. The Lord has promised that He would answer.

GOD IS A BIG GOD

You've heard me say this many, many times. My grandmother taught me to pray. She said to me, not one time but a number of times, "Jimmy, God is a big God, so ask big." I can see the look on her face even now; I can see the anticipation in her eyes. She also told me, "Jimmy, the Lord will take me home, and I won't see it, but you will see it—the greatest harvest of souls the world has ever known." This is what I'm asking for; this is my prayer—the greatest harvest of souls that the world has ever known.

Some months ago, the Lord gave this parable of the three loaves to me. I've lived on it from then until now. My faith is in what He said and what my grandmother said: "Jimmy, God is a big God, so ask big." Let me ask you a question, are you asking big?

Back to the parable. In Luke 11:8, the word *importunity* means "persistence." In other words, the man was not to quit asking. He was to continue asking, that is, until the Lord arose and gave him as much as he needed.

FOR ME AND FOR YOU

I do believe this great word is not only for me, but it's for you as well: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you" (Luke 11:9) And then the Lord said, "For everyone that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh, it shall be opened." What a promise!

I want you to pray for us, that God will give us a harvest of souls, and I want to pray for you, that God will give you the desires of your heart. I don't know what it is that you want or need, but the Lord knows, and He is able.

Somebody said that Abraham quit asking before God quit giving. I'm talking about Abraham asking for Sodom and Gomorrah to be spared. Abraham asked God, "Peradventure there be fifty righteous within the city: wilt thou also destroy and not spare the place for the fifty righteous that are therein?" The Lord answered him and said, "If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, then I will spare all the place for their sakes" (Gen. 18:24, 26). Abraham repeated his question to God going all the way down from fifty people to ten. Again, Abraham quit asking before God quit giving, as someone said, and it is a powerful statement. Would God have spared Sodom and Gomorrah had Abraham continued asking? I can't answer that; I don't know. But I do know that Jesus gave this parable about asking hundreds of years after Abraham's petition to the Lord regarding Sodom. I also know that many Christians, if not most, quit asking before God quits giving. Jesus gave us the parable of the three loaves and the experience of Abraham for this very purpose and reason. So don't quit asking. Keep believing and, to be sure, God is able to do whatever it is that we ask.



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I invite you to come and be with us for our 2023 Resurrection Campmeeting next month. The dates are April 5-9, and let me tell you, we are anticipating one more time in the Lord as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ! The angels said, "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen." And that's exactly what we'll be singing about and rejoicing over in this campmeeting—He is risen! So make your plans to be with us in Baton Rouge on April 5-9, you will be blessed, that I guarantee.

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- How Long Has It Been?
- When I Lift Up My
 Head
- To Be Used Of God





My Shepherd

- Follow Me
- · God's Been Good
- Here Is Love
- He's All I Need
- I'm Going Home
- Just A Simple Word
- It's Not The First Time
- My Shepherd
- One Pair Of Hands
- The Rock Medley

Come See A Man

TARA MONTPETIT

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ministermeetings

JSM Ministers' Evangelistic Schedule



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February 24-26, 2023 Palm Harbor, FL

Pastor Joe Peterson Christ Church of Palm Harbor 1111 Indiana Ave., Palm Harbor, FL 34683 727.784.5829

info@jsm.org

www.christchurchpalmharbor.net Email: pastorjoepeterson@yahoo.com

FRI 7 PM SAT 7 PM **SUN** 10 AM & 6 PM

March 24-26, 2023 Bradenton, FL

Pastor Bill Bailey Happy Gospel Church 1915 53rd Avenue East (Hwy 70) Bradenton, FL 34203 941.756.6942 www.happygospelchurch.com Email: happygospel@aol.com

FRI 7 PM SAT 6 PM SUN 10 AM

MAY 26-28, 2023 The Hague, Holland

All other information TBD



DAVE & CHARLA SMITH

225.768.4507 dsmith@jsm.org

March 31-April 2, 2023

Hayden, AL

Pastor Dallas and Kim Smith Message of the Cross Family Worship 88 Bangor Hollow Road, Hayden, AL 35079 205.704.9196

FRI 7 PM (Dave) SAT 6 PM (Charla) SUN 10 AM (Dave)



DR. DAVE WATTS

225.768.3890 info@jsbc.edu

March 24-26, 2023

Cuba, MO

Pastor Mike Mounce At the Cross Family Worship Center 60 Christina Lane, Cuba, Missouri 573.885.1384

FRI 6:30 PM **SAT 10:30 AM & 6:30 PM SUN** 10:30 AM



MIKE MUZZERALL

225.768.3890 info@jsbc.edu

March 5, 2023 Crowley, LA

Pastor Kerry Doucet Crossway Fellowship Church 395 VFW Drive, Crowley, LA 70526 337.783.6524

SUN 9:30 AM (Bible Teaching) SUN 10:30 AM (Sunday Service)

March 11, 2023

Crosby, TX

Pastor David Cavazos At The Cross Worship Center 19322 Dallas Road, Crosby, TX 405.923.5576

SUN 10 AM & 3 PM (Super Saturday Youth & Children's Rally) SUN 10:30 AM (Adult Service)

All meetings subject to change. Please visit www.jsm.org/jsm-ministers for most current schedules.



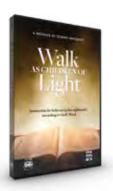
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Walk As Children Of Light

In this riveting message, Pastor Donnie Swaggart challenges believers to stand for righteousness and reflect the truth of Jesus Christ while upholding two moral pillars: traditional marriage as God ordained, and the sanctity of human life. As the world we live in continues to darken, born-again believers are exhorted to wake up, redeem the time, and walk wisely as children of light. 15-728



That Others May Live

In this special tribute, Pastor Donnie Swaggart shares a heartfelt message that honors the sacrifice of servicemen and women who died defending the freedoms of the United States of America. Teaching from John 12:24, Pastor Donnie ties their fullest measure of devotion to the greatest sacrifice ever known to humanity—Jesus Christ and Him crucified. 15-727



The Eyes Of The Lord Are Upon The Righteous

In this riveting message, Pastor Donnie Swaggart shares the life-saving testimony of Evangelist and Missionary A.N. Trotter, who died in a plane crash in Africa and was prayed back to life by his nurse, Deda Butler. 15-724



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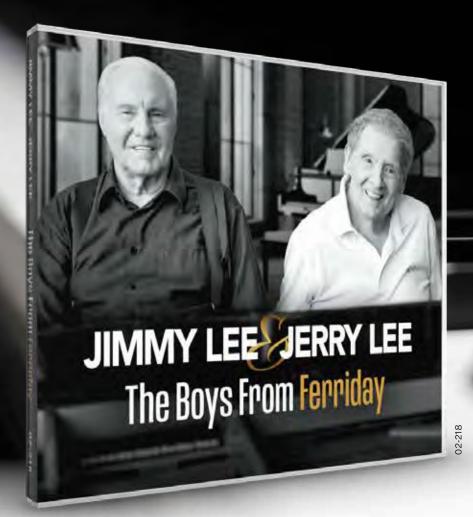
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