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Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of the Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida

Founder Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935 - 1994) - Pastor Tim Fellure - Editor & VBP Director Jim Fellure

The Newsletter is the official publication of **Victory Baptist Press** and is sent free of charge to those who request it. The main purpose of the Newsletter is to promote missions with an emphasis on the printing and distribution of the Word of God. While we may not agree with every statement printed from outside sources, we will make every effort to keep the paper as free from error as possible. To receive the Newsletter send your complete mailing address to: P. O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572-0766. Phone: 850-623-2505. Fax: 850-623-3502 e-mail: news@victorybaptistpress.com

Web: www.victorybaptistpress.com

GONE FISHING!

Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fishermen. And, lo, there were many fish in the waters all around. In fact, the whole area was surrounded by streams and lakes filled with fish. And the fish were hungry.

Week after week, month after month, and year after year, those who called themselves fishermen met in meetings and talked about their call to fish, the abundance of fish, and how they might go about fishing. Year after year they carefully defined what fishing meant, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing is always to be a primary task of fishermen.

These fishermen built large, beautiful buildings for local fishing headquarters. The plea was that everyone should be a fisherman and every fisherman should fish. One thing they didn't do, however. They didn't fish.

In addition to meeting regularly, they organized a board to send out fishermen to other places where there were many fish. The board was formed by those who had the great vision and courage to speak about fishing, to define fishing, and to promote the idea of fishing in faroff streams and lakes where many other fish of different colors lived. Also, the board hired staffs and appointed committees and held many meetings to define and defend fishing, and to decide what new streams should be thought about. But the staff and committee members did not fish.

Large, elaborate, and expensive training centers were built whose original and primary purpose was to teach fishermen how to fish. Over the years, courses were offered on the needs of the fish, the nature of the fish, and how to approach and feed fish. Those who taught had doctorates in "fishology." But the teachers did not fish. They only taught fishing.

The fishermen also built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy night and day producing materials solely devoted to fishing methods, equipment, and programs, and to arrange and encourage meetings to talk about fishing. A speaker's bureau was also provided to schedule special speakers on the subject of fishing.

After one stirring meeting on, "The Necessity of Fishing," one young fellow left the meeting and went fishing. The next day he reported that he had caught two outstanding fish. He was honored for his excellent catch and scheduled to visit all the big meetings possible to tell how he did it. So he quit his fishing in order to have time to tell about the experience to the other fishermen. He was also placed on the Fishermen's General Board as a person having considerable experience.

Imagine how hurt some were when one day a person suggested that those who didn't fish were not really fishermen, no matter how much they claimed to be. Yet it did sound correct. Is a person a fisherman, if year after year he never catches a fish? After all, were they not following the Master who said, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men"? (Matthew 4:19) Is one following if he isn't fishing?



Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Dear Brethren,

This is the early morning hours of April 25th, and I am writing these notes from my motel room in Georgetown, Kentucky, where I am preaching a mission conference. I awoke this morning at 3:00 a.m. with the burden of printing and distributing the printed word as heavy on my heart as it has ever been. I trust that as you read this you too will feel some of the burden that I feel to get the Gospel to a perishing world. God has put us into one of the most important ministries that could ever be: the printing and distribution of the scriptures, but we are not doing nearly as much as needs to be done.

When Brother Tom Woodward started Victory Baptist Press back in 1984, he surely didn't realize that God was using him to launch a ministry that would literally reach around the world with the Gospel in its purest form. Brother Woodward graduated to heaven in 1994, but the work has continued to grow, supplying more missionaries with the printed word each year, but to continue the growth and success of this ministry, we must continue to raise additional financial support.

Pachuca, Mexico, is a city of 700,000 people with only two Gospel preaching churches. This year, we have already printed and shipped 40,000 Spanish John/Romans, each with a beautiful, four color patriotic cover and information imprinted about the

church missionary Adam Thompson has started. Plans are to pass all these out in Pachuca in one day during the celebration of Mexico's Independence Day in September. Several others and I plan to go help with the distribution.

A good missionary in Uganda, Africa, says there has never been a mass distribution of the Gospel in that country in their native language. He and some other missionaries have translated the Gospel of John into Luganda, with plans for VBP to print it and ship it to them. Then they will distribute it among the twenty-two million souls of that country. One book of the Bible doesn't seem like a lot to give to the people, but when I think about the wonderful truths they will learn from that one book, it becomes a very big and important project.

We currently have requests for scriptures from missionaries in eight foreign countries, speaking five different languages, and more requests come in every week. Just this past Sunday night, a missionary showed slides of a recent trip to Malawai, Africa. Several slides showed different Bible conferences in that country where the local pastors had gathered. The missionary said less than half the pastors in those meetings had their own personal Bible. Of course, he wanted to know what we could do to help provide Bibles.

There also needs to be more Portuguese scriptures printed for Cape Verde, Africa, Mozambique, Africa, and Brazil. More Tagalog needs to go to the Philippine Islands. Many thousands of whole Spanish Bibles need to go to Peru, Paraguay, Argentina, Mexico, and to the Spanish speaking churches here in the US, not to mention the many requests we get for Spanish and English scriptures for the prison ministries. Already today, I have gotten an email from a missionary asking for Spanish New Testaments for the California prison system and another good missionary has called asking for Spanish scriptures for Cuba.

Victory Baptist Press has continued with the policy of not charging for the scriptures we print. This ministry is depending on the

STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE ACCEPT the Holy Scriptures contained in the Old and New Testaments as being the verbally inspired Word of God and being perfectly preserved in the King James 1611 Bible. We do not believe it can be corrected or improved upon in any way. It is the final rule of faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE in the triune God, who is eternally in three persons (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

WE BELIEVE in the deity of Christ - His virgin birth, His sinless life, His death for the sins of the world, His bodily resurrection, His exaltation at God's right hand, His personal, imminent, and premillennial return.

WE BELIEVE all men are sinners and are guilty before God; in need of a Saviour.

WE BELIEVE that men are born again through repentance and faith in Jesus Christ; that they become the children of God, eternally saved; that the Holy Spirit dwells within every believer to guide and help him in his testimony and service.

WE BELIEVE in the bodily resurrection of the just and the unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved in Glory, and the everlasting conscious punishment of the lost in hell. We believe that all believers have a responsibility to get the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ into all the world.

regular financial and prayer support of those of like faith who believe in what we are doing. Many of you have been receiving this newsletter for many years, and many are already faithful supporters, but if no one has ever presented Victory Baptist Press to your church, or if one of our field representatives

...continued next page



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thank you once again for your prayers and support for this ministry, and for me in particular. At times it seems as if it is a struggle to get anything done here, and without your help both financially and prayer-

fully, there is no telling how much harder it would all be.

Since our last newsletter we have shipped out over 42,000 scripture portions, the vast majority of those headed to Mexico. We have also put together several thousand Spanish John/Romans with just a plain cover that are available for distribution along with several thousand Proverbs booklets.

Victory Baptist Church has been in the planning stages for at least a year of a pretty major building project. It looks like it will finally get under way this summer, starting with a new print shop. While I do look forward to having things a little more spacious, and hopefully more streamlined, I do not look forward to having to pick all this equipment up and moving it. Our web press weighs about 38,000 pounds, the heaviest part being about 15,000 pounds. God helped us get it moved all the way from Texas, so I am sure He can help us move it a few hundred feet.

On a personal note, I was awakened one night a few weeks ago, to find out that my father, Leonard J. Berg, passed away of an apparent heart attack. He was a good Roman Catholic and died at 84 years of age trusting his religion. Please pray for my mother as now she has no one to fuss at and care for.

On a happier note, our daughter Sarah will be graduating from high school this month and headed off to Crown College of the Bible in Powell, TN. For now, she will be majoring in music ministry and is scared about the whole thing. I looked forward to going off to Bible school when I graduated from high school, but I guess guys are different. She just wants everything to stay the same. The older I get, the more I realize that that just can not be in this life, except for one thing; and that is the word of God. Thank God for allowing me just a small part in the preservation of His unchanging word.

May God bless you,

Albert Berg

“He that handleth a matter wisely shall find good:
and whoso trusteth in the LORD, happy is he.”

(Proverbs 16:20)

editors notes...

or I have not been there in a long time, I personally would be grateful for the opportunity to present VBP to your church. I appreciate the good pastors that use me in revival meetings, Bible conferences, and mission conferences. I enjoy preaching the special meetings and plan to keep doing as many as possible. However, our greatest need is to present the printing ministry in new churches. You may think you cannot support another mission work financially, but missionaries have been preaching for years that the prayer support is more important than the money, and all Christians can pray.

I can usually fit new meetings in line with other meetings already booked. I make absolutely no financial demands in the meetings where I preach and will go to any size

fundamental, Bible-believing church in the continental United States.

If you would allow me to come to your church and share my burden with your people, contact me at (850) 384-4402. P. O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572. email: jfellure@victorybaptistpress.com.

By the grace of God, together, we can make a difference in a perishing world.

Thank you for your prayers and support.

Jim Fellure

NOTE: Through the prayer request of a friend, news got out that I was having a bout with cancer. All that happened was the removal of skin cancer on my nose. They got it all the first time around and that was all there was to it. I appreciate the phone calls and prayers, but I do not have cancer. Praise the Lord!

NEWSLETTERS AVAILABLE IN BUNDLES

Bundles of each issue of this bimonthly newsletter will be sent without charge to those requesting it. Pastors could make it available to their members, especially our supporting churches. Just let us know how many of each issue you would like to have.

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE VICTORY
BAPTIST PRESS FIELD REPRESENTATIVES**



BILL AND VICKI RICHBURG left a full-time ministry in South Carolina and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in January of 1999. Brother Richburg has pastored churches in West Virginia, Virginia, and South Carolina.

Contact the Richburgs at P. O. Box 508, Six Mile, South Carolina 29682. Phone (864)868.9988/(864)506.2380.



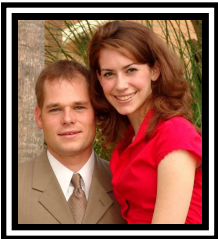
RICK & MELINDA REED have been field representatives for Victory Baptist Press since October of 1996. Brother Reed gave up a very comfortable and secure employment position in order to help send the glorious Gospel of Christ around the world through this ministry.

Contact the Reeds at 12207 Buckhorn Cemetery Rd., Moody, Texas 76557. Phone (254)853.9353.



MARTIN AND ANNE FULLER left a full-time ministry and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in January, 2002. Brother Fuller attended Tabernacle Baptist College of Greenville, South Carolina, and was on staff there under Dr. Harold Sightler. He also served as an assistant pastor and youth director, and pastored for twelve years in Texas.

Contact the Fullers at P.O. Box 474, Grovetown, Georgia 30813. Phone (706)556.8369.



Paul and Rachael Edes: Paul has been in Victory Baptist Church since 1991. While attending Oklahoma Baptist College in Oklahoma City, he met Rachael, and after graduation in May of 2005, they were married and started their service for the Lord together. We are glad to have this fine,

dedicated young couple as field representatives. Contact the Edes at P. O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32577. Phone (850)384.1564.

"The reason some folks don't believe in missions is that the brand of religion they have isn't worth propagating."

— unknown



Ray & Juanita Bowie

"Great is the LORD,
and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God,
in the mountain of
his holiness."
(Psalm 48:1)

Praise the Lord for the many who have called on the Lord to be saved by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, and have repented of their sins since our last letter.

We have had some cold, windy weather. With strong gusty winds some of our flights have been very rough. Praise the Lord we have some well trained bush pilots with a lot of experience. On some flights my stomach becomes a little woozy. On one flight the cross wind blew so hard, we missed the runway about 6 feet. At the last minute the pilot just turned the plane and between gusts of cross wind landed very smoothly. The pilot said any time you can walk away from a plane landing you had a good flight. Any time a plane can fly again after our flight you have had an excellent landing.

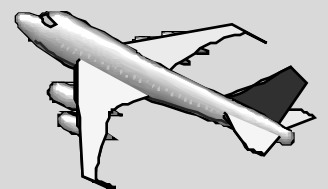
A man in prison in Coborca, Sonora, Mexico for murder, will never leave the prison until death. He was saved and baptized in prison. He played a small accordion that was about to fall apart. It had some broken and cracked keys but still worked. Someone up north donated a very nice accordion to replace it. The accordion is used in all of our prison services for music.

So far this year we have received 216,440 books of John and Romans. 15,000 books of Romans. 4,670 New Testaments. As I write this prayer letter we are out of John and Romans in Spanish and have only a few New Testaments.

Praise the Lord for all of our suppliers and Seedline who keep on picking up supplies and shipping to us.

Your For Souls in Mexico,
Ray & Juanita Bowie

**Robert & Leonor
Schmidt Willing To
Help Ministries With
Low-Rate Air Fares**



Brother Bob Schmidt and his wife, Leonor, are faithful members of Victory Baptist Church. They are travel agents and do their best to get the best flight rates available for the brethren. Brother Bob says they can do especially well with overseas flights.

Ph: 702-437-9999 - email: bobleonor3@bellsouth.net



Blessings & Benefits

by Mrs. Pam Leake

*Blessed be the Lord, who daily
loadeth us with benefits, even the
God of our salvation. Selah.
(Ps. 68:19)*

In a recent conversation with my daughter, she shared some questions her four-year-old twin sons had asked on the way home from church and her attempt to explain some difficult concepts to them. Such concepts as death, sin, eternal life, and just who God is are not easily grasped by adults, much less four-year-olds. I began to think about how I would present these ideas to a child, and, as often happens, one thought lead to another, which lead to another, and off my mind went in another direction.

I considered what I knew about who God is and who Jesus Christ is, and, as verse after verse came to mind, I realized that I, myself, had difficulty grasping the awesomeness and infiniteness of my God and Savior. Why, He is the Creator of everything, and He did it with a word! He rules the universe and in the hollow of His hand has measured the waters. He designs each snowflake, keeps the seasons in order, sends the winds to the four corners of the earth! He sees each sparrow that falls, knows the number of hairs on my head, keeps the tears of the saints in a bottle! He has wrought salvation for every man, and in doing so, left Heaven's glory, took on humanity, and died an agonizing death to pay for man's sins. Yet, He conquered death, won the battle over the grave and hell, and went as the King of Glory to sprinkle His blood on the Mercy Seat in heaven on my behalf! How great and mighty He is, and yet (though it nearly defies comprehension) He deigns to dwell within ME, speaking to ME, comforting ME, leading ME! Who am I that He is mindful of ME?

Though I've been saved twenty-five years, I don't know that I'll ever understand it, but, hallelujah, what a mighty God we serve! Pardon me, while I go shout awhile!

MEMORIALS

Victory Baptist Press recently received
memorial gifts from:
an anonymous donor
in memory of
Myrtle Sweet

*"Blessed are the dead in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours;
and their works do follow them."*

GOD HAS NO OTHER PLAN

There is a legend that recounts the return of Jesus to glory after His time on earth. Even in heaven He bore the marks of His earthly pilgrimage with its cruel cross and shameful death. The angel Gabriel approached Him and said, "Master, you must have suffered terribly for men down there." He replied that He had. Gabriel continued: "And do they know and appreciate how much you loved them and what you did for them?" Jesus replied, "Oh, no! Not yet. Right now only a handful of people in Palestine know."

Gabriel was perplexed. He asked, "Then what have you done to let everyone know about your love for them?" Jesus said, "I've asked Peter, James, John, and a few more friends to tell others about me. Those who are told will tell others, in turn, about me. And my story will be spread to the farthest reaches of the globe. Ultimately, all of mankind will have heard about my life and what I have done."

Gabriel frowned and looked rather skeptical. He well knew what poor stuff men were made of. He said, "Yes, but what if Peter and James and John grow weary? What if the people who come after them forget? What if way down in the twentieth-century people just don't tell others about you? Haven't you made any other plans?" Jesus answered, "I haven't made any other plans. I'm counting on them." Twenty centuries later, He still has no other plan. He's counting on you and me. High on God's, "To Do" list is the evangelization of the world. His early disciples adopted His priorities and devoted themselves to reaching the world. Christ counted on them, and they delivered. Have we done as well? ...copied

Ever Have One of Those Days?

Did you hear about the teacher who was helping one of her kindergarten students put his boots on?

He asked for help and she could see why. With her pulling and him pushing, the boots still didn't want to go on, she had worked up a sweat. She almost whimpered when the little boy said, "Teacher they're on the wrong feet."

She looked and sure enough, they were. It wasn't any easier pulling the boots off than it was putting them on. She managed to keep her cool as together they worked to get the boots back on -- this time on the right feet.

He then announced, "These aren't my boots." She bit her tongue rather than get right in his face and scream, "Why didn't you say so?" like she wanted to.

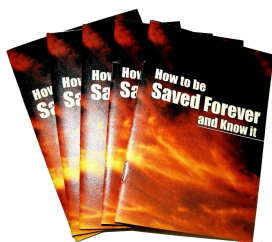
Once again she struggled to help him pull the ill-fitting boots off. He then said, "They're my brother's boots. My Mom made me wear them." She didn't know if she should laugh or cry. She mustered up the grace to wrestle the boots on his feet again.

She said, "Now, where are your mittens?"

He said, "I stuffed them in the toes of my boots..." -copied

Victory Baptist Press Bookstore Sales

Victory Baptist Press Bookstore is a ministry of Victory Baptist Press. Any profit made from the sale of our competitively priced books, goes toward the printing of more scripture portions. These scripture portions are free at our door as the Lord provides. This is just one more way we get the word of God to a lost world.



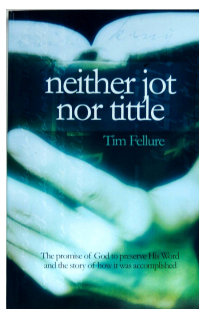
How to be Saved Forever and Know It

by Jim Fellure.

A twenty-one page, pocket-size tract that is an excellent witnessing tool. It gives a clear-cut presentation of salvation using scripture and illustrations in an easy-to-understand manner.

Minimum order-twenty five. We will imprint your church information (at no additional cost) on the back page with orders of 100 or more. (Include your info.)

1-99/\$0.25 each - 100 or more/\$0.15 each



Neither Jot Nor Tittle

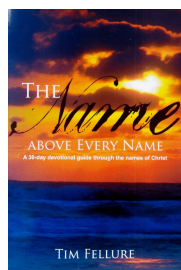
by Tim Fellure.

Now more than ever, there is a need for fundamentalists to arise and defend the authority and integrity of the Scriptures. *Neither Jot Nor Tittle* declares the promise of God to preserve His Word and tells the story of how it was accomplished.

188 pages. **\$12.00**

Order in sets of ten for \$7.20 each. A 40% discount.

OUR BEST OFFER: Order by the case (26 books) for \$6.00 each. A 50% discount.



The Name Above Every Name

by Tim Fellure.

No man ever lived who was called by so many names as Christ. The Muslim has exhausted his knowledge of Allah when he learns the 99 names of his god in the Koran, but the more than 700 titles given to Christ in the Scriptures are only a portion of the names worthy of our Savior. It is impossible to know every name or to comprehend the full treasure of truth contained in each. It is the aim of this 30-day devotional guide to expound on some of the great titles that can belong to none

other than Jesus Christ.

4 1/4" X 6 1/2". 60 pages. **\$3.95**

Order in sets of ten for \$2.37 each. A 40% discount.



Authority, Who's in Charge

by Tim Fellure.

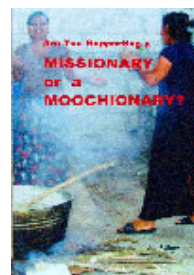
Our world desperately needs to rediscover a respect for and submission to duly-appointed, God-ordained authority. If we are to have unity in our churches, peace in our homes, security in our communities, progress in our schools, and productivity in our places of employment then someone must be in charge.

4 1/4" X 6 1/2". 42 pages. **\$2.95**

Order in sets of ten for \$1.77 each. A 40% discount.

Are You Supporting A Missionary or a Moochionary

by Jim Fellure.



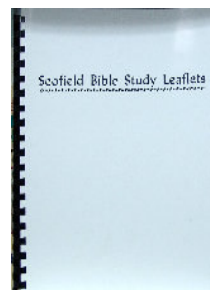
A straight forward shot at sham missionaries that are bleeding off mission money that should go for more productive causes. The problem and the cure are both

dealt with in a very convicting and instructive manner.

163 pages. **\$9.50**

Order in sets of ten for \$5.70 each. A 40% discount.

OUR BEST OFFER: Order by the case (32 books) for \$4.75 each. A 50% discount.



The Scofield Bible Study Leaflets

by Dr. C. I. Scofield.

The leaflets from which these outlines were produced were found in the library of Dr. W. O. H.

Garman (1899-1983)...Dr. Garman was a minister in western Pennsylvania for sixty years, and used his own copyright 1915 set of Scofield outlines in combination with "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth" (also by C. I. Scofield) in teaching the fundamentals of the faith to believers.

101 outlines, also a dispensational chart and a seven-page article supporting baptism by immersion and a twelve-page history of the Scofield Bible.

Comb-bound, 8 1/2" X 11" page size.

\$20.00

Order in sets of ten for \$12.00 each. A 40% discount.

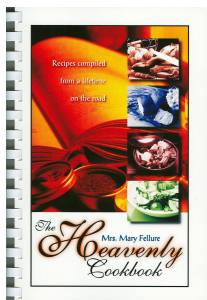


Remembering The Price

by David C. Gibbs, Jr.

Fascinating stories about many brave and courageous Christians that have suffered, or given their lives to preserve our freedom. A heart searching and convicting book.

144 pages. **\$10.00**

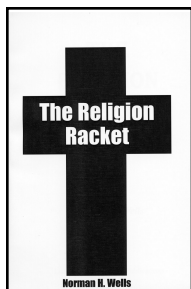


The Heavenly Cookbook

by Mary Fellure.

These 469 recipes were gathered from many pastors' wives while traveling across America with Bro. Jim representing VBP.

180 pages. **\$12.00**



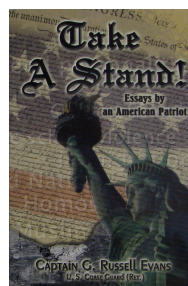
The Religion Racket

by Norman H. Wells.

This book reveals religion in its true light; as a failure that uses deception to lead people away from the truth.

119 pages. **\$7.00**

Order in sets of ten for \$4.20 each. A 40% discount.



Take A Stand:

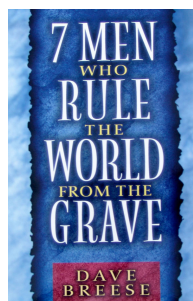
Essays by an American Patriot

by Captain G. Russel Evans.

With liberal groups attempting to seize new territory every day, how should concerned Americans respond to the issues which threatened our nation's heritage and sovereignty? G. Russel Evans insists that it's time to lay aside political correctness

and take a stand!

180 pages. **\$9.00**



7 MEN WHO RULE THE WORLD FROM THE GRAVE

by Dave Breese.

Charles Darwin, Karl Marx, Julius Wellhausen, John Dewey, Sigmund Freud, John Maynard Keynes, Soren Kierkegaard - Though their bodies lie cold and dormant, the grave cannot contain the influence these seven men have had on today's world. They continue to rule

because they have altered the thinking of society. They generated philosophies that have been ardently grasped by masses of people but are erroneous and antiscritptural.

Dave Breese warns us of the dangers of believing unreservedly the ideas of these seven men. He also reminds us of the only man whose life and words we can trust completely-Jesus Christ.

235 pages. **\$11.00**

To see a larger selection of books or order online, go to
www.victorybaptistpress.com



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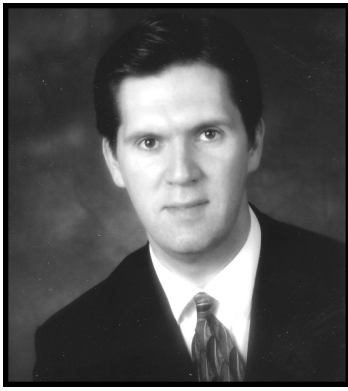
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Pastor Tim Fellure

Daniel, Teach Us to Pray

Daniel 9:1-23

Daniel 9 is one of those phenomenal chapters in your Bible. The first part (vv. 1-23) contains **Daniel's Prayer**, while the second part (vv. 24-27) contains **Daniel's Prophecy**. The prophecy at the end of the chapter is in answer to the prayer at the beginning of the chapter.

This prayer is a model prayer. Reading this chapter is like being in Daniel's chamber and listening in on this great prophet as he pours his heart out to God. If you don't know how to pray, you couldn't learn from a better example than Daniel. Read the five prayers he prayed in this book and pray like he prayed.

The greatest need of our churches is prayer. Prayer will draw you close to God and keep you in tune with His will. We can survive without organization, but we cannot thrive without prayer. We can exist without music and bigger buildings, but we cannot exist without prayer.

Most of us would be embarrassed if our prayer life was opened up for all to see. Look at my standards but not my prayer life. Look at how many tracts I passed out this week but not my prayer life. Look at how faithful I am to church but not my prayer life. Look at the kind of music I listen to and the material I read but not my prayer life.

Daniel's Prayer Was Saturated With The Word Of God!

(Dan. 9:1-2) What prompted Daniel's prayer was something he read in the book of Jeremiah (Jer. 29:10-12). He read where

the Lord told Jeremiah that after 70 years of Babylon captivity, God would visit His people again *"...in causing you to return to this place."* Daniel knew Jerusalem had fallen in 605 B.C. – he was now in the first year of King Darius, King of the Medes. Historians place the year as 538 B.C. which means Daniel had been in Babylon now for 67 years. When he read this, he realized that if God was going to let Israel return to Jerusalem after 70 years, that meant something big was going to happen in three years. This prompted him to pray.

Daniel was prompted to pray from reading the Bible, and his prayer was saturated with the Bible. There are, at least, five phrases in this prayer that are taken from elsewhere in the Old Testament (Ex. 34:6; Lev. 26:40; Deut. 28:64; Ps. 44:14; Jer. 25:11).

George Mueller was known as one of the greatest prayer warriors. One of the secrets to George Mueller's prayer life was that he saw an inseparable link between prayer and the Bible. He said that the greatest help to him in staying focused in prayer was to turn the Bible into a prayer. Buying a book of prayers and reading them is a poor way to pray. Reading some canned prayer in the back of the hymnal is not effectual prayer. But the Bible is a book of prayers that worked for the men of God who prayed them, and they will work for you; if you pray them from the heart. You may think this strange, but a good way to talk to God is to read your Bible to Him. Make the Word of God your prayer. Go through your Bible and mark the prayers that other men prayed (Ps. 25:1-7; 51) and you pray them to God. Would you give your wife a card that someone else had written?

David's Prayer Was Marked With Confession Of Sin!

(Dan. 9:4-15) Twelve verses of Daniel's prayer is a confession of sin. He doesn't make excuses for where Israel is; instead, he admits the nation has gotten just what it deserved.

True confession always starts with the general and then proceeds to the specific. Notice that Daniel said in 9:5, *"...we have sinned and committed iniquity."* That's

general. But then he begins giving some specific examples of how they had done this. The more he prays, the more specific he gets. Where did we ever get the idea that we could simply pray a prayer of blanket confession? *"Oh Lord, forgive all my sins and forgive the sins of my nation while you're at it. Okay, amen, that's all."* It's important to get *specific* with God, because in confession you aren't informing God of your sins, you are *agreeing* with God specifically of things you have thought, done, and said that are wrong.

Daniel's Prayer Was Made From A Heart Of Humility!

(Dan. 9:3) Daniel takes off his beautiful oriental robes and jewelry and puts on a simple robe of rough burlap called sackcloth. He then takes ashes and covers his body from head to toe. The term *"sackcloth"* is used forty-six times in the Bible and is often used with ashes. These two things were Oriental symbols of deep grief and mourning. Basically, when you put on sackcloth and ashes, you aren't comfortable and you don't feel clean. It is an outward symbol of your inner pain and agony.

Fasting is another act of humility that enhances prayer. When you refrain from eating food, you are denying the flesh so that you can be more focused on spiritual matters. It is a way of saying to the Lord that the spiritual is more important to you than the physical. Fasting gets the attention of God. Daniel prays humbly. He does not bang on the gates of Heaven with his proud and loud demands. He approaches God as a humble servant seeking the favor of the King.

Daniel's Prayer Was Ablaze With A Zeal For God!

(Dan. 9:17-19) An amazing thing about Daniel's prayer is that he probably died before the answer to his prayer was fully implemented. There is no record that Daniel ever returned to the Holy Land of his childhood. But he wasn't praying for himself.

Daniel was most concerned with the glory of God; that the name of God not be reproached among the pagan nations. He was not praying for their gain; he was praying for God's glory.