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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

Online bookstore: www.victorybaptistpress.com

Have You Made New Resolutions For 2008?

The following is only a partial list of the seventy resolutions of Jonathan Edwards, committing himself to a God-centered life lived in harmony with others. (Written in 1722)

Being sensible that I am unable to do any thing without God's help, I do humbly intreat Him by His grace to enable me to keep these resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to His will, for Christ's sake.

Resolved, That I will do whatsoever I think to be most to God's glory, and my own good, profit and pleasure, in the whole of my duration.

Resolved to do whatever I think to be my duty, and most for the good and advantage of mankind in general.

Resolved to do this, whatever difficulties I meet with, how many and how great soever.

Resolved, Never to lose one moment of time, but improve it the most profitable way I possibly can.

Resolved, Never to do any thing, which I should be afraid to do, if it were the last hour of my life.

Resolved, To be endeavoring to find out fit objects of charity and liberality.

Resolved, To maintain the strictest temperance in eating and drinking.

Resolved, Never to do any thing, which if I should see in another, I should count a just occasion to despise him for, or to think any way the more meanly of him.

Resolved, To study the Scriptures so steadily, constantly and frequently, as that I may find, and plainly perceive myself to grow in the knowledge of the same.

Resolved, To strive to my utmost every week to be brought higher in religion, and to a higher exercise of grace, than I was the week before.

Resolved, To ask myself at the end of every day, week, month and year, wherein I could possibly in any respect have done better.

Resolved, Never hence-forward, till I die, to act as if I were any way my own, but entirely and altogether God's.

Resolved, I will act so as I think I shall judge would have been best, and most prudent, when I come into the future world.

Resolved, Never to give over, nor in the least to slacken my fight with my corruptions, however unsuccessful I may be.

Resolved, After afflictions, to inquire, what I am the better for them, what good I have got by them, and what I might have got by them.

Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Victory Baptist Press Is Now Printing The RVG Spanish Bible

The issue of which version of the Spanish Bible is the best is of such great importance that I am giving all the space used for my personal notes to tell our readers why VBP is now printing the Reina Valera Gomez (RVG) Spanish Bible.

For over fifty years the Scofield Reference Bible, first published in 1917 by the Oxford University Press, was the most popular study Bible in existence among fundamental, Bible-believing Christians. In 1967 the study notes were revised, but the editors also tampered with the text. They made many critical changes, but the change most often referred to by fundamentalists was Daniel 3:25. When the three Hebrew children were cast into the furnace of fire, King Nebuchadnezzar looked in and said, "Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like **the Son of God.**" The 1967 edition of the Scofield Bible changed the words "**the Son of God**" to "**a son of the gods.**" The critics of our English King James Bible would say that "**a son of the gods**" was only the description the king gave the fourth man in the fire. That is a ridiculous view because the gods never had sons, and if they had of, their sons would not have had the power to deliver from the fire. Without a doubt, the fourth man in the fire was a pre-incarnate appearance of "**the Son of God**" not "**a son of the gods.**"

Because of that one critical change, most fundamentalists rejected the New Scofield Reference Bible, and rightly so.

In 1980, Brother Jack Wood, then pastor of the Shady Acres Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, showed Brother Humberto Gomez the same verse (Daniel 3:25) in his Spanish Bible. It had the same wording as the New Scofield. From that time on Brother Gomez began making notes of other errors as he found them and hoping for the day when some qualified person would produce a Spanish Bible that was reliable in all parts and yet maintain the accuracy and beauty of the Spanish language. Finally, in the year 2000, Brother Gomez dedicated himself to the task. With the help of twenty years worth of personal notes, and many willing contributors, by 2003 all the known errors in the Spanish New Testament had been corrected, and Brother Gomez approached us about printing it. We went to the border and spent an entire afternoon having Brother Gomez show us verses in different Spanish Bibles with errors, telling us how he had translated the verses and why he did it.

We were very impressed with what we saw, but I wanted to give it a more thorough test. To be sure of getting a non-prejudiced view, we printed just a few copies and distributed them among other Spanish speaking Bible believers that did not know Brother Gomez. Dr. D. A. Waite, president of the Dean Burgeon Society and editor of the Defined King James Bible, was the first person we contacted. Dr. Waite requested ten copies to distribute among people that he knew and, after they scrutinized the text, he found one error. It was an oversight on Brother Gomez's part and he immediately corrected the verse. Dr. Waite has since become a friend of Brother Gomez and a strong supporter of the RVG Spanish Bible.

The second person we contacted was Dr. Rex Cobb of the Bible Translators Institute. Brother Cobb compared 220 verses in eight different Spanish translations and came out with a strong endorsement for the RVG. Since then men like Dr. Phil Stringer, Dr. Stephen Zeinner, Dr. Micky Carter, and

a host of others, including good missionaries too numerous to name, have endorsed the RVG. Through the many endorsements, we are convinced that the RVG is the best Spanish Bible in existence.

We immediately printed 30,000 New Testaments and 200,000 John/Romans. The Old Testament has now been completed and another printing ministry has already printed 35,000 paperback copies of the whole RVG Bible, and Brother Gomez, at great expense, has had hardback, bonded leather and genuine leather copies printed two times. Also, Chick Publications and two tract printing ministries that I know of, have begun using the RVG in all of their Spanish tracts, and I presently know of two other printing or scripture distribution ministries that are considering going to the RVG exclusively.

The 30,000 New Testaments and the 200,000 John/Romans that we printed were provided to missionaries free of charge and in the spring of this year VBP plans to begin printing a paperback edition of the RVG complete Bible which will also be provided for free distribution. All the scriptures in the eleven different languages that VBP has printed have always been given without charge, and we will continue the same policy. In the mean time, we have purchased a good supply of the hardback and genuine leather editions that we didn't print, and are selling them with 100% of the profit going directly back into scripture printing.

I trust that our readers, and especially our financial supporters, will understand that the purpose of these notes is not to change or influence any of the good hispanic ministries that use other versions of the Spanish Bible. My only purpose in writing is to let the reader know why VBP believes that the RVG is the best Spanish Bible available.

Thank you for your prayers and support, and may the Lord give you a great 2008.

In Christ,
Jim Fellure



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Welcome to a new year! This seems to be the time of year people both reflect on the past as well as look forward to the future. It seems that even God set it up that way by starting the Jewish New Year at the time as the Passover (Exodus 12). That was certainly a time to remember God's blessings of the past. My Passover was in the Summer of '73 or '74 when I climbed a tree and told God I was sorry for being a sinner and asked Jesus to come into my heart and save me. There is a lot of water under the bridge since then, but God has been faithful all the way.

Some more recent blessings from the past year were seeing God supply our needs over and over again, not always on our timetable, but His. One of the things that Victory Baptist Press needed this past year was labor, and God supplied. One young

man, Jacob Jefferson, was brought to us as a result of some sin in his life. He got mixed up with the wrong crowd and got caught doing some things he should not have been doing and as a result was sentenced to community service. He has an uncle in our church and asked about doing his time in the print shop. I have had a few teenagers for this same reason in the past, and it has never been a great benefit to me. I told his dad I would let him work one day, and if he had any kind of attitude or did not want to do anything I told him, to please have him serve his time elsewhere. It turned out that Jacob was an excellent worker and even volunteered more time than was allotted by his judge. On top of that we were able to go through the scriptures with him and he got some assurance of his salvation. With his help, we were able to get all of the Luganda Gospel of John printed and a good portion of it bound and ready to go to Uganda, Africa.

Seedline International took about half of the Luganda project to collate and bind in their shop and are nearly finished with them. We also had a lot of help from our own church folk with this project. We had a difficult time getting the covers to feed through our collator, so many of our people took them home to collate and brought them back to be stitched and trimmed, so we should be sending nearly 450,000 Gospels of John to Uganda shortly.

During her Christmas break from Crown College, my daughter Sarah has been helping me print the next truckload of paper. I do have another helper in the shop, Bro Mark Yorey, but his main responsibility is

to print books for the bookstore and for others who do some self publishing. Much of his time is taken up with that, so these other workers have helped tremendously.

It is good to reflect on God's goodness. It helps build faith for the future, and we are going to need a lot of it this year. There is a metal building to put up. All the equipment will need to be moved and realigned. A whole Bible is on the agenda. There are some logistics that must be worked out for that, but God is able. Also, this month I will be spending about a week in Mesa, AZ, getting some folks out there started in a new printing ministry. They are where we were in 1984 when this ministry was started. They have a burden to get the word of God out and some equipment they are not even sure how to turn on. It is going to take some faith and work to get this work off the ground, but God did it for us and I am sure He can do it for them. Please pray that God will bless their work.

On a personal note, I had to go back to the Chicago area in December to bury my mother. She had had an aggressive brain tumor, but God was merciful in that she died with no pain. It was also a blessing to hear that she told my other siblings when the doctor gave the bad news about her brain tumor, and that there was nothing that could be done about it, that she was trusting Jesus as her Saviour. I owe a lot to my parents for teaching me how to work and live within my means. I trust that I will be seeing her, and an increasing number of other acquaintances in Heaven not so long from now.

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

"Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?"

(2 Corinthians 13:5)

Eternity is a long time to think
about where you went wrong

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.



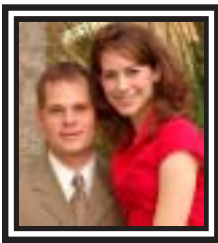
RICK & MELINDA REED have been field representatives for Victory Baptist Press since October of 1996. Brother Reed gave up a very comfortable and secure employment position in order to help send the glorious Gospel of Christ around the world through this ministry.

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



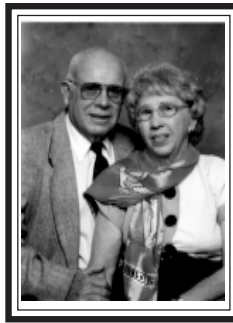
MARTIN AND ANNE FULLER left a full-time ministry and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in January, 2002. Brother Fuller attended Tabernacle Baptist College of Greenville, South Carolina, and was on staff there under Dr. Harold Sightler. He also served as an assistant pastor and youth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

Contact the Fullers at 317 Chick Springs Rd., Greenville, South Carolina 29609 Phone (706)294.5832.



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 32572. Phone (850)384.1564.



Ray & Juanita Bowie

“The earth *is* the LORD’S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.”
(Psalm 24:1)

October - November, 2007 Prayer Letter

Praise the Lord for the many saved by the blood of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ since our last letter.

We recently had some very windy weather. On one flight, the wind was so bad we bounced up and down and sideways. But, praise the Lord, many were saved on that day.

Recently, twenty people came down from Gospel Light Baptist Church in Mesa, Arizona, to help pass out books of John and Romans in Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico.

This year we have received 696,000 books of Romans and books of John/Romans. We have received 11,802 New Testaments, 3,600 whole Bibles and 500,000 tracts. When I am not sure of our count it is because boxes vary in count, and then I am careful to be sure that I count short.

Please pray for all our suppliers who help us without charge. Everything we receive comes to us free. All of the help we give our missionaries is free. So anyone that can help our suppliers, please do so.

Prayer needs:

1. Books of John/Romans, New Testaments, and whole Bibles.
2. Souls to be saved.
3. Safety in travel.

Yours For Souls In Mexico,
Ray & Juanita Bowie

NOTE: You may contact the Bowie’s at P. O. Box 4032, Rio Rico, AZ 85648. Ph: (520) 761-8289.

“Give a man a dollar, and you cheer his heart. Give him a dream, and you challenge his heart. Give him Christ, and you change his heart.”

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)

Not long ago, as I was preparing supper one night, I began to think about how the Lord blesses us with the people He brings into our lives. One such person was a dear lady who we only knew for a short time, but who made a great impact on me.

About five years ago, my husband received a phone call from a young woman who had been to a local funeral home to make arrangements for her mother who was dying of cancer. She was in need of a preacher to visit with her mother and the funeral home director, a member of our church, suggested she call my husband. He set up a time to visit with this dear lady named Marilyn. I am grateful that I was able to go with him and have the opportunity to witness the power of the Gospel in her life.

Marilyn had struggled valiantly for many years with a rare cancer that was literally eating away her face on one side. The physical grossness of the disease had kept her bound to her home, but she had maintained a gentle and accepting spirit. She had experienced many hardships in her life, but she loved her children and grandchildren and treasured every moment she had with them.

As my husband began to share Christ with Marilyn, it was clear that the Holy Spirit was drawing her to Himself as she spoke of seeking God and a relationship with Him. That day Marilyn gladly bowed her head and accepted the Lord as her Savior and the Gospel worked its transforming power in her life. Though her face was covered by bandages to hide the ravaging effects of the cancer, it was impossible to miss the joy and peace that overtook her. Her eyes sparkled with tears of rejoicing.

The ensuing days of Marilyn's life saw her move to a local assisted-living facility, as her daughter and son-in-law had to return to their home out west. I had the great privilege to visit her often and my husband came frequently as well. Though Marilyn was facing her imminent death, the Gospel had produced in her an intense love for the Lord which she always shared with us and others. We were encouraged each time we saw her. Though her "outward man" was decaying, perishing day by day, her "inward man" was being renewed, looking forward to the move to Glory!

Our time with Marilyn was short. In just a few weeks she left to meet her Lord and Savior face to face. I count it a tremendous blessing that the Lord planned it so that we could get to know her and share the wonderful story of salvation with her. She gladly received it and lived her remaining days looking forward to the promise of a home in Heaven with a glorified body. She truly made an impact on me, and I treasure the memories. When I think of those people in my life who have influenced me for good, I have to think of Marilyn. Can't wait to see her again!

Victory Baptist Press Recommends Dr. Jerry Chaney

Dr. Chaney is a missionary evangelist, ministering in many smaller Baptist churches in America who need help. He will go to any size church on a love offering basis. He has ministered in several foreign countries and ministers in over 50 churches a year covering 12 to 14 states. He is available for revivals, Bible Conferences, and camp meetings.

You may contact Dr. Chaney at P. O. Box 6167, Chillicothe, OH 45601 or call him at (407) 399-2019.

NOTE: Dr. Chaney's sending church is Shady Acres Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, where Danny Farley is pastor.

Holiness or Happiness?

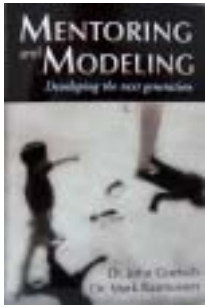
By A. W. Tozer

(1897-1963)

Christ calls men to carry a cross; we call them to have fun in his name. He calls them to forsake the world; we assure them that if they but accept Jesus the world is their oyster. He calls them to suffer; we call them to enjoy all the bourgeois comfort modern civilization affords. He calls them to self-abnegation and death; we call them to spread themselves like green bay trees or perchance even to become stars in a pitiful fifth-rate religious zodiac. He calls them to holiness; we call them to a cheap and tawdry happiness that would have been rejected with scorn by the least of the Stoic philosophers.

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.



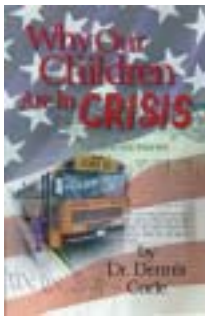
Mentoring and Modeling

by Dr. John Goetsch
and Dr. Mark Rasmussen.

God's Word challenges us to "train up a child in the way he should go." Today's parents, pastors, youth workers and teachers are training tomorrow's generation. Secular society is clearly showing the result of a lack of emphasis on training.

This book will show a number of ways that children can be mentored. Bob Jones Sr. said, "You will be someday what you are now becoming."

180 pages. **\$12.00**



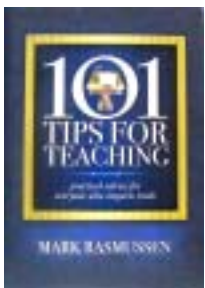
Why Our Children Are In Crisis

by Dr. Dennis Corle.

There can be no doubt in anyone's mind with the events of recent years that our children are in a crisis. The school killings, the moral decadence, and blatant rebellion all point to problems that come from within. Children today are doing things that American children in past generations have never done.

"Why?" is the question that is perplexing our society. The Bible has a far different answer than the solutions we are hearing from the news media and the political left. Examine with me God's answer for today's dilemma.

132 pages. **\$10.95**



101 Tips For Teaching

by Mark Rasmussen.

Written to teachers, parents, pastors, and anyone who imparts truth to others-*101 Tips for Teaching* is a treasury of to-the-point, practical advice from one of America's leading Christian educators! Every page shares an idea that you can put into practice today-in your home, in your classroom, and in your ministry.

205 pages. Hdbk. **\$11.95**



Tom and Me

The story of the life of Tom Sloan, M.D.

by Billie Jean Ashcraft Sloan.

Billie Ashcraft Sloan has written a book about love - the love between a man and his God, and the tender love she shared with that man. It is also the adventure of Tom and Billie's life together as missionaries to Mexico.

Billie is down-to-earth, personal, and valiantly honest as she relates how their relationship blossomed, grew and was severely tested over the years. Readers will be encouraged and inspired by the realization that if God could do so much for and with the life of Tom Sloan, He can do as much for them.

Note: Dr. Tom Sloane graduated to heaven in December of 2004.

138 pages. **\$10.00**



How To Do Personal Work At the Altar

by Dennis A. Corle.

Personal work at the altar is one of the most important tasks in the church. If the personal workers do not do their job correctly, the preaching will be for naught. The personal workers must pick up where the preacher leaves off; he must bring the decision to fruition.

This is a must read booklet for those dealing with people who come forward at the invitation.

18 pages. **\$3.50**



My Friends

by Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.

What an appropriate title for a collection of radio messages by Dr. Bob Jones, Sr.! His style for these radio talks was quite different from the style he used in his sermons. In the radio studios, he was conversational, warm, and friendly.

He was no less forceful than in the pulpit or on the chapel platform, but his style was perfectly adapted for the more intimate medium of radio. The very opening words, "My friend," were themselves disarming.

131 pages. **\$7.00**



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.



Plain Papers on the Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

by C. I. Scofield.

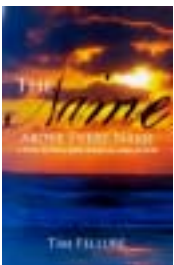
First written in 1899.

No doctrine has been talked about more and understood less than the doctrine of the Holy Spirit. Every page of this book is packed with Scriptures to prove the role

of the Holy Spirit, especially in the life of the believer.

A must read for the serious student of the Bible.

50 pages. **\$6.50**



The Name Above Every Name - A 30-day devotional guide through the names of Christ

by Tim Fellure.

No man ever lived who was called by as 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 the aim of this devotional guide to expound on some of the great titles that can belong to none other than Jesus Christ.

60 pages. **\$3.95**

\$2.37 each when you buy in sets of 10.



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 someone must be in charge.

42 pages. **\$2.95**

\$1.77 each when you buy in sets of 10.

To purchase books online, go to www.victorybaptistpress.com

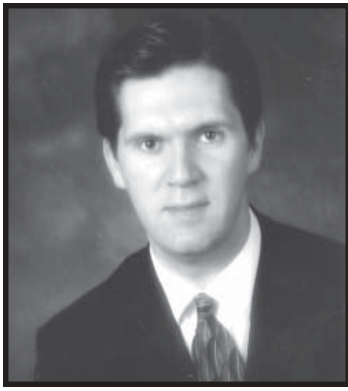
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Pastor Tim Fellure

As It Was in the Days of Lot

Luke 17:28

The world has changed in some ways, but in other ways it has stayed the same. The same sins that were being committed then are being committed now. The same philosophies and beliefs that prevailed then, prevail now. All that has happened is a new name has been given to old lies. When Jesus returns, the time of His coming will be just like it was in the book of Genesis. The times of Revelation will be just like the times of Genesis.

And Jesus is coming again! Because of His delay, men are asking “*where is the sign of His return?*” But He is coming! And the wisest man in the world is the one who takes this life and prepares for when Jesus does return. And though no man knows the day nor hour, we can know the times. We should not be surprised that Jesus could return in our lifetime, for He gave us signposts pointing to the time. He says that when society is like it was then – days of Noah and days of Lot – then know that His coming is at hand.

1) A Similar Rebellion!

When you think of Sodom, you immediately think of vile acts. Sodomy was so steeped in sin that even today the name of the city has become synonymous with one of the most vile sins a man commits. There is nothing good to say about Sodom – even the secular world knows that Sodom stands for sin. And I think the same thing will have to be said about this generation! When the history of this generation is written there will not be one good thing to say about the morals of our society. We live in the midst of a depraved culture – depraved to the very core.

Genesis 18:20 – Now sin is sin and sin is grievous to God, but for God to say it was “*very grievous*” is just like pouring it on. What they were doing was abhorrent in His sight. The particular sin of that city was homosexuality and though homosexuality is acceptable to society, it is abominable to God.

The world pushes their sin but it seems that no particular sin is pushed more than homosexuality. Have you ever wondered why the world is bent on making sure that sodomy is promoted? There is an aggressive promotion of it: it is pushed in our face every day.

But in no uncertain terms, the Word of God denounces sodomy as an abomination in the sight of God. So grievous was this sin, that in the days of the Old Testament the discovery of those who did such things invoked the death penalty. In Paul’s letter to the young preacher, Timothy, he refers to homosexuals as “*them that defile themselves with mankind,*” (I Tim. 1:10). Writing to the church in Corinth, the venerable old apostle wrote that they were “*effeminate,*” “*abusers of themselves with mankind,*” and would not “*inherit the kingdom of God*” (I Cor. 6:10). In the epistle to the Colossians, Paul again wrote that homosexuality was “*inordinate affection*” and was worthy of the wrath of God (Col. 3:5). Peter called it “*filthy conversation*” (II Pet. 2:7), and Jude referred to it as “*going after strange flesh*” saying that those who practiced it would suffer “*the vengeance of eternal fire*” (Jude 7).

2) A Similar Revelation!

God gave a message to Lot and his family and his generation, and it is very similar to the message we preach today. Now I recognize that the angels sent to warn Lot and his family didn’t preach the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, but the message they did bring in principle is the same message being preached today.

Genesis 19:12 – “*Bring them out of this place.*” The first thing the angels revealed to Lot’s house was that judgment was coming upon the cities of the plains because of their awful sinfulness. God must judge Sodom and Gomorrah. The generation was so corrupt that the justice of God demanded it be judged. Some commentators suggest that it would have been an injustice for God not to judge these cities. I don’t know that I care to try to box God in a corner, but judgment was needed. And the message of

judgment is silent in our pulpits. It has been replaced with a feel good message of positive thinking that says God wants you rich and fat. Old-time preachers used to preach judgment was coming. Hell was made hot and sinners made to feel the heat. And how sinners need to know that God is angry with their sin. God has not ignored His justice.

Genesis 19:13-14 – “*Up, get you out of this place.*” The divine revelation was one of judgment, but it was also one of deliverance. There was a warning given, and a way of escape. God was telling the cities through Lot that He was through with their sin. His patience had run out and He was getting ready to judge righteously those cities. But before He sent fire from heaven, He gave Lot and his family a space of grace to escape the judgment.

Genesis 19:17 – “*Escape for thy life.*” God didn’t strike them down in the dark. He warned them to flee from the wrath to come. He gave them every opportunity to escape the wrath. Lot had to come to his senses, realize where he was wrong, get on his feet, turn in another direction, and get away from Sodom. They had to walk away from the place of sin and walk toward the place of deliverance.

3) A Similar Reaction!

Some Laughed! When Lot relayed the message of the angels to his family, “*he seemed as one that mocked*” (Gen. 19:14). They made a big joke out of the warning, poking fun at the message and messenger. I have preached to the same reaction: though perhaps they did not laugh out loud many have sat with no interest in what was being said.

Some Lingered! Lot had to be forced out of Sodom by the angels, lest he wait until it was too late to escape (Gen. 19:16). Perhaps he was not told what day the fire would come and thought he had time to tend to his personal affairs.

Some Looked Back! The awful tragedy of Lot’s wife is that though she left, her heart remained in Sodom. She is a type of the half-hearted profession made by so many today: one who wants the Savior and their sin too. She would turn to God but she would not turn from her idols.

Some Left! Only three persons escaped the wrath of God on Sodom, but thank God those three made it. You may not win an entire city, but if you can win a few it will make a difference in their lives.