

*"The Lord gave the  
word: great was the  
company of those  
that published it."*

(Psalms 68:11)

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# The NEWSLETTER

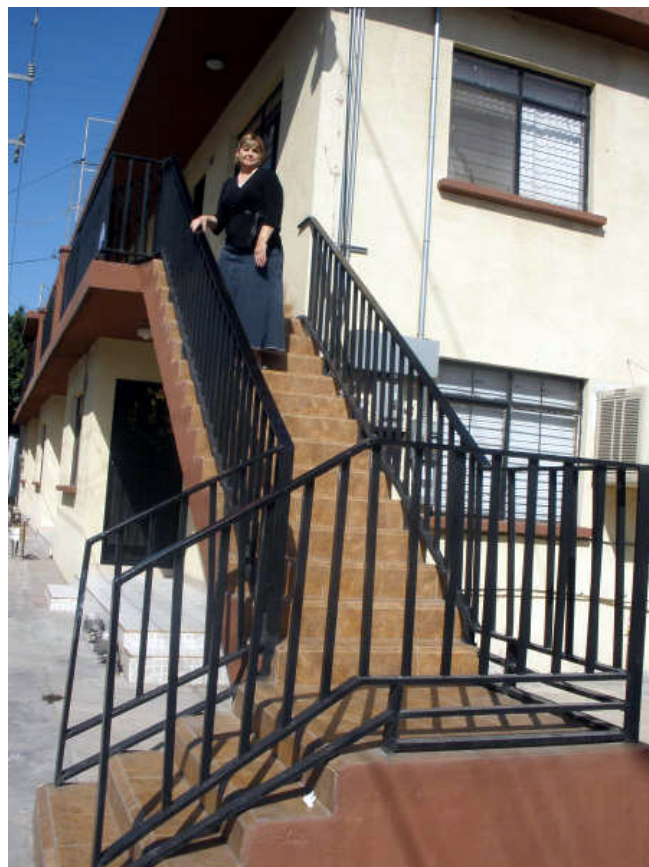
January-February 2009

## Angela Fritz Arellano

*The lady at the top of these stairs is the daughter of veteran missionary, Sonny Fritz, and she is the wife of Mexican missionary, Juan Antonio Arellano.*

*Angela has been going up and down these same stairs for the past twenty-six years.*

*Read their story on page 2 in the editor's notes.*



In this world it is not what we  
take up but what we give up  
that makes us rich.

Henry Ward Beecher (1813-1887)

**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: 850-623-0086 Fax: 850-623-3502 • e-mail: [news@victorybaptistpress.com](mailto:news@victorybaptistpress.com)

*Jim & Mary Fellure*

Dear Friends,

It's always good to have a positive report to give about the VBP ministry.

The year 2008 was probably the most productive year we have ever experienced. The large amount of scriptures printed and shipped and the new equipment and improvements made to and in the print shop all contributed to this great year. We are already getting off to a good start toward doing more in this new year than ever before. Praise the Lord for His goodness toward this ministry.

**Missionary Antonio Arellano  
and his wife Angela  
have a need**

It has been my privilege to preach many times in Monterrey, Mexico, for missionary Antonio Arellano. I have been in services in five of the six churches and in the medical clinic Brother Antonio has started. The attendance in the churches is phenomenal and hundreds of poor, sick people have received free treatment in the clinic, after they have heard a clear presentation of the Gospel of Christ. Hundreds, and maybe even thousands, of people have been saved and had their lives changed through this ministry. I know firsthand that God has used Antonio and Angela in a marvelous way, but not without great sacrifice. During the twenty-six years of pouring their lives into others, Antonio and Angela have never owned their own home. They have lived all of these years in an upstairs apartment owned by Angela's dad, missionary Sonny Fritz.

Three years ago Angela began having intense pain in her feet and knees. She tried different doctors and has been told that she

has rheumatoid arthritis. The pain has worsened until she can barely make it up and down this long flight of stairs.

Two years ago Brother Antonio began building them a house so Angela wouldn't have to climb the stairs. At this time they are still \$20,000 short of the funds needed to finish the house. If they had the money, it could be completely finished within six months.

It would be a wonderful thing if some of our readers would feel some compassion toward this dear sister in the Lord and help with the needed funds to finish their house so she could live on ground level. I have never heard Antonio or Angela complain, but I have heard them say many times that, "God has been so good to us." They didn't ask me to raise money for their need, but I feel impressed of the Lord to plead with our Christian friends to please help. If you will be a part of getting these good missionaries into their own home, send an offering to Victory Baptist Press marked for the Mexico house. We will see that every penny goes directly to the project.

**Victory Services**

We are excited about the Victory services for 2009. Some of our supporting churches have agreed to pass out our Victory Baptist Press brochures to their congregation in at least one service before their Victory service. (These brochures are made available through VBP.) Then during the designated service, they will take a one-time special offering to help us get the Word of God printed and distributed around the world.

It will not always be necessary to have a VBP representative present for the service, but if you wish, I (or a field rep. of your choice) will gladly forfeit any offering to us personally, and will pay our own expenses, in order to be in your service. Even churches that already support VBP on a regular basis could make a **Victory Service** an annual event, and together we could raise thousands of dollars, which would in turn print thousands of Bibles and scripture portions for a lost and dying world. If you are interested, email me at

**STATEMENT OF FAITH**

**W**E 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.

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

**W**E 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.

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

**W**E 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.

**W**E 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.

news@victorybaptistpress.com or call the office at 850-623-0086, and we will send you an information packet and set up a date.

Thank you for your continued prayers and faithful support.

In Christ,  
*Jim Fellure*

## The Print Shop



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The new year is upon us and I hope you have not already broken all your new resolutions. I have solved that problem by never making any. It is not that I never try to better myself, it just seems foolish to wait until New Year's Day to do it. Whatever your plan is, I hope it works for you and that you will be found serving the Lord until Jesus comes.

Things are coming along well for the Spanish Bible. It is completely printed, except for the covers. We have been collating it in sections on our collating machine. There are eleven pockets plus a handfeeding station. The entire Bible has

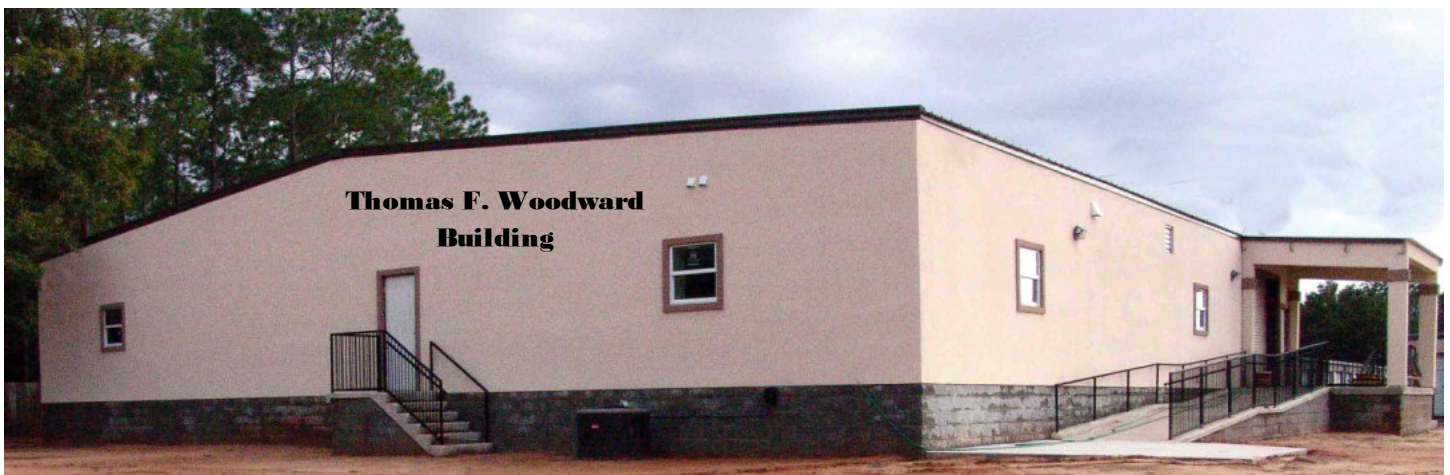
thirty-four signatures which must be put together, so we printed the first eleven signatures, then collated them, stacking them on pallets. Then the same with the second set of eleven and now we are doing the last twelve signatures, utilizing the handfeeding station. Then these three stacks of signatures will need to be collated by hand and put through the glue binder to get a cover put on. After that, the three edges will need to be trimmed. As you can see, there is a lot more to making a book than just the printing. (There is all the pre-press work as well.) Much of the work is tedious and monotonous, and we get tired in doing it, but not tired of doing it. There are only two full-time, paid workers in our shop, but we have had many volunteers. One in particular is worth mentioning, a gentleman named Troy Hardy. Bro. Hardy has been around the block a few times, as they say. He actually goes way back to the beginning of Victory Baptist Church as the first song leader under Bro. Woodward. He has since moved away and in recent years spent a lot of time helping missionaries and nationals in Mexico. When he found out we were going to print the Spanish Bible, he wanted to get some to bring to Mexico and has volunteered almost from

the time we started printing until now. He has been a faithful worker here in the shop for over two months now and wants nothing in return except some Bibles to take to Mexico. We would not be nearly as far along in this project without his help. We thank God for his help and for everyone else that has made it possible to do this work by way of your giving and prayers. By the grace of God there will be over 20,000 people that will receive a copy of the Word of God from this truckload of paper (not to mention the 8,000 Russian New Testaments we printed earlier).

The new print shop is ready to move into. I am sure I will have my hand in it, but Bro. Richburg will be doing a lot of that work while we finish binding these Bibles. Pray for all of us as we make the transition. The big press alone weighs about 38,000 pounds, not something that you want dropped on your toes. Please pray that once we get moved in, God will provide the paper and other materials needed to keep on printing God's Word.

God bless you,

*Bro. Albert Berg*



**Those who support Victory Baptist Press prayerfully and financially are helping send the Gospel of Christ around the world in its purest form.**



## VBP Field Reps



**BILL and VICKI RICHBURG**

P. O. Box 508, Six Mile, SC 29682  
864.506.2380

The Richburgs left a full-time ministry in South Carolina and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in 1999. Brother Richburg now serves as our general field director.



**MARTIN and ANNE FULLER**

317 Chick Springs Rd., Greenville, SC 29609  
706.294.5832

The Fullers became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in 2002. Brother Fuller attended Tabernacle Baptist College of Greenville, SC, and was on staff there under Dr. Harold Sightler. He also served as an assistant pastor and youth director, and pastored for 12 years.

### “Our God in Whom we serve is Able...”

(Daniel 3:17)

As we begin the new year, our attitude toward our Lord is the same as the three Hebrew children in the furnace of fire. We truly do serve a “God that is able.”

As many feel the downturn in the economy and America as a whole has had to tighten the purse strings, let us who take the great commission seriously remember where our blessings are coming from.

As we begin this year of 2009, as always, we go knowing that our God is the same God that met the need for the three Hebrew children and that He is also able to meet the needs of Victory Baptist Press.

Recession or not, by faith Brother Martin Fuller and I will continue to travel as field representatives for VBP expecting God to do marvelous things. In fact, with the new print shop, and added equipment, I believe we can have the best year that we have ever had.

If you are a pastor, please prayerfully consider allowing us to come to your church to present our burden for the printing of the Word of God. We can be reached through the main office of VBP, or you can contact me at 864-506-2380.

We thank all of you for the many years that you have faithfully partnered with us, and we look forward to this new year as we labor together for the cause of Christ.

*Bill Richburg*

General Field Director

PS: The printed page is still the most cost effective way to carry the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ to the world.



*The Bowies*  
**Independent Baptist  
Missionaries to Prisons  
in Mexico**

**December, 2008**

“But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.” (1 Corinthians 2:9)

Praise the Lord for the many calling upon the Lord to be saved by the blood of our Lord and Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ this past year in Mexico.

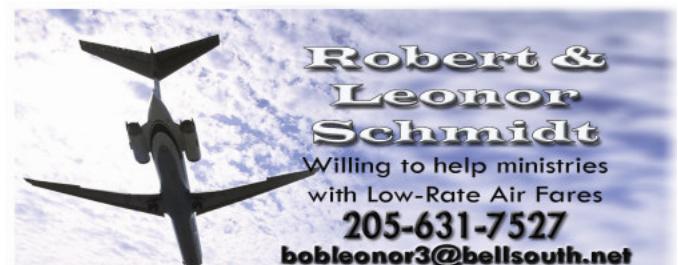
Praise the Lord, we have received over one-million Gospels of John and Romans, and/or illustrated books of Romans, sixty-nine thousand and nine-hundred New Testaments, and two-hundred and seventy Bibles. Altogether, the Bibles, New Testaments, illustrated books of Romans and John/Romans have totaled more than 1,100,000 portions of scriptures this past year.

Since our last letter, a very small man named Victor came to reside in the Caborca, Sonora, Mexico prison. He is in for murder. He is about three feet tall, weighs about fifty pounds, and wears a moustache. God saved him and is changing his life. I gave him the nickname of Pee Wee. He is so small I have him walk in front of me so people will not step on him. I call him my body guard.

Praise the Lord for all of our suppliers. Please pray for them. Everything comes to us free. Pray for our safety as we travel to and from the prison.

Yours for souls in Mexico,

*Ray & Juanita*



BRO. BOB SCHMIDT AND HIS WIFE, LEONOR, 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.

# Possum (Opossum) Ranch

## In The Planning Stages!

In an effort to raise the needed funds to finance the Lord's work the following plan is proposed.



The plan involves leasing at least 100 acres of land and starting a possum ranch. A possum skin can be sold for about \$ 1.00 a skin. If you start with 250,000 possums, a possum will have about twelve babies a year so within one year the original investment of 250,000 possums will grow to 30 million. At \$ 1.00 per possum skin you would gross \$ 30 million harvesting the skins.

The biggest obstacle would be the expense of feeding and skinning the possums. There would probably be a lot of rats converging on the ranch because of the filth created by the possums. If the possums would eat the rats that would take care of the feeding expense. The living rats could eat the carcasses of the skinned possums and that would eliminate the expense of disposing of the skinned possum carcasses, thus keeping the ranch much cleaner.

The next big expense would be salaries for hired possum skimmers. Eventually you could try to get the possum crossed with snakes. Snakes shed their own skin, so perhaps the Possum/Snake creature would skin itself eliminating the expense of hired possum skimmers. We have heard that some snakes shed their skin two times each year. That would be the kind of snakes to use if you wanted the possums to skin themselves twice a year. If the plan worked you would gross \$ 60 million annually.

The big money in this plan is not in the possum skins. The fortune to be made is in selling the idea. Simply apply the **name it and claim it, get rich quick, God told me to do it** jargon of the religious shysters of the day. Learn to whip your listeners into an emotional frenzy with your sales pitch and sell shares in the parent company. You could even start a pyramid organization. Of course, to join the team your potential partners would have to buy a starter kit for a one time low price of \$ 149.95 that only costs you \$ 13.50 to produce, or just take offerings with the promise that for every dollar your listeners give to the Possum Ranch, God will give them \$ 10,000 in return.

Some reader might want to try the Possum Ranch plan, but God has a better way of financing His work on earth—It's found in Malachi 3:8-10.

“Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings... Ye *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, *even* this whole nation... Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it.*”

# Victory Baptist Press Bookstore Sales

*Located On The Beautiful Gulf Coast of Northwest Florida*



*From the desk of  
Mrs. Leann Mueller*

With the beginning of a new year we all make resolutions that we intend to keep, and we hear about making our lives better and how to serve the Lord better. Think about what you are hearing, and don't pass

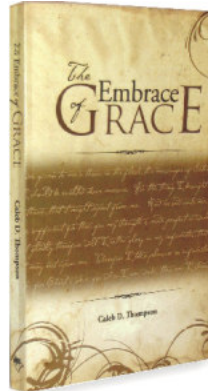
it up as the same old rhetoric. Make a change.

Why do we only feel it necessary to improve ourselves once a year? If we are honest, there is not a day or an hour that goes by that we could not have done better! I truly hope I will look throughout the year at the changes that need to be addressed instead of patronizing myself for a couple of weeks at the beginning of the year, thinking that I will serve better this year without putting forth any real effort

This past year we lost a dear, sweet, saint of God. Mrs. Mary Fellures' mother, Elsie, passed away on October 24. Most of this world never took notice of her, but those of us who did, realize what a treasure we had. She was a godly example of what I hope to be. She was quiet and kind, among many other virtues. (I have a long way to go, but one change at a time will bring me closer.) The stories her family remembers of her are about obedience and faithfulness. She never cut her hair, even at age 94, because her father did not want her to. That is character, and I believe it is sorely lacking in our society. She will be missed for a long time, but I hope that her testimony will stay in our hearts forever. I hope that we will strive to be more like her each day and that we will teach the next generation to be more like this passing generation.

There is no telling what this new year will bring. We can only take account of ourselves and try to change now while there is time. If you do not think you need change in your life, then you are deceiving yourself, but trust me, the others around you are not as easily deceived. Take time to reflect on what the Lord would have of you, not just on January 1, but every day. May God bless your new year with all He has in mind for you. Trust me, it will be better than any plans you may have for yourself.

*Leann Mueller,*  
Bookstore Manager



## **The Embrace of Grace**

by Caleb D. Thompson.

Has the sun been darkened from your sky? Do you find yourself under a juniper tree? Are you sitting on the ash heap of your life's labors?

Five years into a fourteen year sentence in the Texas State Penitentiary for consenting to the discipline of a child, Caleb opens the dark shades of trial and sheds fresh light on the grace of God that sustains the soul in its most difficult hour. His insight from personal experience is sure to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable. In this book he invites you to walk with him down the dark corridors, past the menacing faces and threatening barriers, out to a supernatural visitation where you may experience *The Embrace of Grace*.

"A must read for anyone desiring to know God more intimately and learn firsthand of God's marvelous grace..."

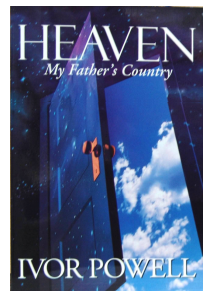
Dr. Raymond Barber, Evangelist and Author.

213 pages. **\$15.00**

Order ten copies and save 20%. Total price **\$120.00**

Order a case of twenty-five and save 40%. Total price **\$225.00**

Order a case of twenty-five and save 40%. Total price



## **HEAVEN, My Father's Country**

by Ivor Powell.

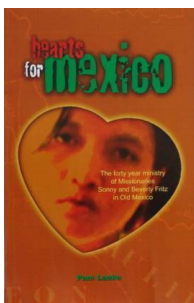
What is Heaven like? Gathering biblical descriptions of "the Father's country" from both the Old and New Testaments, Powell sets forth nineteen propositions regarding the location, composition, lifestyle, and administration of Heaven.

Some of his propositions include: Angels are primarily our helpers not our guardians; Heaven's department of agriculture will be phenomenal; The rainbow is the prettiest sight in Heaven; It will be easy to recognize Christ in Heaven.

"People who plan foreign vacations visit travel agents, consult brochures, plan the journey, and obtain a passport," writes Dr. Powell. "The best brochure about eternity is the Bible."

A must read book for every person who plans to go to Heaven.

140 pages. **\$9.50**

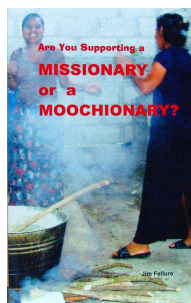


### Hearts for Mexico

by Pam Leake.

A 117-page paperback book describing the forty-year ministry of missionaries Sonny and Beverly Fritz in Old Mexico.

117 pages. **\$8.00**



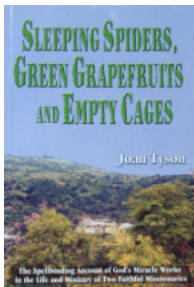
### Are You Supporting a Missionary or a Moochionary?

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. This is the old *Missionary or Moochionary* book improved and expanded.

163 pages. **\$9.50**



### Sleeping Spiders, Green Grapefruits and Empty Cages

by Joan Tyson.

Bob and Joan Tyson were living ordinary lives until God called them to do extraordinary things—the kind we read about in the Bible.

It wasn't from a rock, but God clearly provided water. No pigs ran over a cliff, but a demoniac was saved and freed from Satan

and the cage where he had been locked for eight years. No loaves and fish were multiplied, but thousands are fed daily through their work. The best part is that God is doing this today.

Let this book challenge you who know your God to do exploits in His name.

171 pages. **\$8.50**



### Missionary Short Stories

For Children of all Ages,

Compiled by missionary Tim Urling.

If you want your children, grandchildren, Sunday school students, bus kids or Christians of any age to use their lives to serve the Lord, there are few things that could spark their interest more than an exciting missionary story.

In this book, Tim Urling has compiled thirty-nine stories and one complete chapter of missionary quotes and slogans.

160 pages. **\$8.00**

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**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 Bibles and scripture portions. This is just one more way we get the Word of God to a lost world.

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Pastor Tim Fellure

## Simon the Sorcerer

### Acts 8:9-24

In Acts 8 there are two conversions recorded under the preaching of Philip the evangelist: one true and one false. There is no doubt the Ethiopian eunuch was sincere in his seeking the truth, he understood who Jesus Christ was, and was saved. Simon the sorcerer, on the other hand, had a religious experience but never was truly converted. He believed, made a profession of faith, was baptized, continued for a while – but he died and went to hell.

From all outward appearances, it looked like Simon was a genuine convert. In Acts 8:13 he did three things: believed, was baptized, and continued. That sounds about like what we want all new converts to do. It sounds like he's about ready to teach the junior boys' Sunday School class. But a careful reading of the text will expose Simon as a religious hypocrite who never knew true saving grace. The problem with Simon was that he had a faulty theology. When you read the text you will see exactly what Simon believed in his heart. And for all his profession of faith and baptism, what he believed in his heart kept him from having a true conversion.

### 1) An Egotistical View of Self!

8:9 – *“But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one.”* This is what Simon thought about himself. He thought he was great, and everyone who knew him thought he was a great person. And when he came to God, it wasn't because he was a worthless sinner – he was just a proud man looking to get more glory for himself

with this new thing Philip was preaching.

The thing that keeps most men out of Heaven is a wrong view of themselves. We have heard it for so long, that man is basically good – he just needs to fan the spark of his own goodness. And some believe they are so good that God just couldn't pass them by or send them to hell. Ask a man on the street if he has ever been saved, and he will start telling you about his goodness. “I go to church, I don't beat my wife, I provide for my family, I give to charity, I live a clean life, etc.” And somehow they think that God is in Heaven applauding them for their exemplary life.

Simon doesn't know who he is. And it doesn't matter how many times he prayed or how sincere he was in wanting to have Christ. It doesn't matter if he truly believed what Philip was preaching. As long as he was convinced of his own greatness, he could never be saved.

### 2) An External View of Salvation!

Philip was given power to perform miracles during this transitional time, and his preaching and miracles were seeing great results. And probably some of the people who had been following Simon were now following Jesus. The preaching of Philip was more powerful than the sorcery of Simon, and Simon could see his following starting to dwindle. Simon had demonic power and had deceived the people for so long, but the Gospel threatened his game. But if he could add whatever Philip had to his own bag of tricks, then he would really be something. He saw a commodity in salvation: he was willing to confess Christ only for what he thought it would benefit him.

Preachers of the Gospel have to be careful not to preach the benefits of salvation without preaching the requirements of salvation. If I tell you about the blessings – the joy, peace, Heaven, eternal life – it is easy enough to get someone to commit to that. Who wouldn't want to go to Heaven? Who wouldn't want to have joy and peace? But you don't get saved for what you can get out of it. You get saved because you have violated the laws of God and are under condemnation and in danger of hell fire. The first point in most gospel presentations is: *“God loves you and has a wonderful plan for your life.”* That is true, but it is not the foundational truth of the

Gospel. The Gospel does not begin with God loves you. The Gospel begins with the law. And the law says you are under divine wrath. The first message isn't that God loves you, but that God hates your sin.

### 3) An Evasive View of Sin!

The apostles in Jerusalem heard of the revival in Samaria and decided to send Peter and John down to investigate it. When Peter arrived he was convinced that this was the same thing that had been happening at Jerusalem since Pentecost. So he prayed for the Holy Ghost to fall on these new believers, and they *“received the Holy Ghost.”* Now, Simon was standing by when all this happened. He saw Peter lay hands on the believers, and he saw the Holy Ghost come upon them. And he thought in his wicked heart that if he had that power, he could really get a crowd (8:18-19).

8:20-23 – *“Repent therefore of thy wickedness.”* Peter saw right through him. Peter condemns the heart of Simon and tells him his only hope is to repent of his sin. He knows what he has been doing, the scam he has been playing, and just trying this new religion out wasn't going to help him. Peter speaks of his *“gall of bitterness”* and *“bond of iniquity.”* He has no kind words for him – just tells him he is a dirty sinner and his only hope is to repent.

8:24 – *“Pray ye the Lord for me, that none of these things which ye have spoken come upon me.”* Simon's response was to ask the preacher to pray for him that terrible things didn't happen to him. I think he even shed a tear when he said this. He probably had his head bowed, sad expression on his face, voice cracking, ... **But he did not repent!** He just asked that Peter pray for him that nothing bad would happen to him. There was no confession of his sin, no judgment of himself, no acknowledging his wicked ways, no godly sorrow. He didn't ask for forgiveness one time. He was scared, but he wasn't saved. He never faced his sin. He avoided the issue. He didn't want to talk about sin and repentance; he just wanted more power in his life and more miracles. He wanted a commodity, but he didn't want forgiveness. And Simon the sorcerer is in hell.