



MAY & JUNE, 2002

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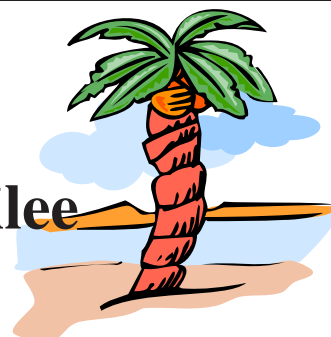
Founder *Dr. Thomas F. Woodward* (1935 - 1994) - **Pastor** *Tim Fellure* - **Editor & VBP Director** *Jim Fellure*

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: VictoryBaptistPress@msn.com



Victory Baptist Church

will hold it's 2nd Annual
Summer Emerald Coast Jubilee



Sun. June 9 - Wed. June 12

Service times: Sunday: 10:00 am - 11:00 am & 6:00 pm. Monday: 7:00 pm
 Tuesday: 9:30 am & 7:00 pm Wednesday: 9:30 am & 7:00 pm

●Special music will be provided by the Fuller family, the Fellure Trio and others.

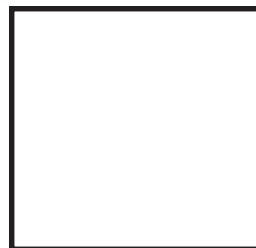
●Preachers will be called from the floor during the morning service on Tuesday and Wednesday. Preachers, bring your Bible and your best sermon.

●Free Lodging will be provided in a comfortable motel for all out of town Pastors and their wives. Call the church office at 850-623-0086 to get your motel reservation.

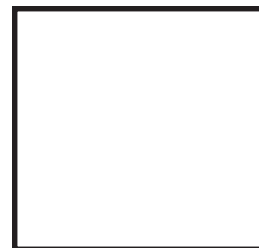
●A delicious lunch will be provided by the church on Tuesday and Wednesday.

●There will be a tour and brief work time in the VBP print shop after lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday.

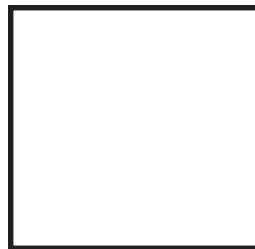
Jubilee Preachers



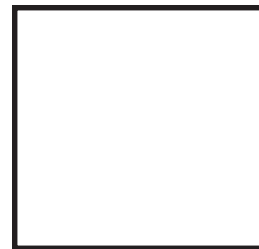
*Jack Tripp
 Kinston, NC*



*Dennis Petty
 Tacoa, GA*



*Earl Hughes
 McCaysville,*



*Dan Meaders
 Houston, TX*

Victory Baptist Church is located 2 1/2 miles North of I-10 (exit 22) on Avalon, Blvd. Phone (850) 623-0086

Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

This is Tuesday, March 19, and I am writing from a motel room in Springfield, Massachusetts. This trip has put us in contact with some good pastors that are getting the job done in this cold, cold North-Eastern part of the country. It gets so cold here that it's said that some mornings the cottontail rabbits have to pull squirrels to help get them started. I have one more church to be in tomorrow night near Providence, Rhode Island then I will fly back to Florida on Thursday to the warm weather.

MIKE MUELLER NEEDS A TITLE

I deeply appreciate Brother Mike Mueller doing all the lay out and type setting for the Newsletter. We haven't decided what kind of title to give him but he does a good job without a title. For several years I did all the layout and typesetting but with Brother Mike's help all I do now is write these personal notes and send them to him by e-mail. Brother Mike puts it all together and after much proof reading he turns it over to Brother Berg and Brother Roberts to be printed and folded. Brother Mike's wife, Leann takes care of the mailing list and is responsible for printing the mailing labels and getting them on the Newsletters and sorted in proper zip code order and turned over to the post office for mailing.

We appreciate the good job the Muellers do with this part of the ministry.

IGLESIA BAPTISTA CALVARIA NEEDS A ROOF

Before you get these notes we will be back in Monterrey, Mexico with missionary Sonny Fritz. There is so much to be done in that country, and possibly so little time to do it in that we almost get frustrated trying to figure out which direction we

should go and what project should we try to help with next. Brother Roberto Arellanos pastors Iglesia Bautista Calvaria (Calvary Baptist Church) of Monterrey. That's the first church that Brother Sonny started 37 years ago. They have packed their old building out and for the last year have been building a new building that will seat about 700. They have the walls up but are having trouble coming up with enough money to put the roof on. So far no money has come from outside of their own congregation but Brother Sonny says they have gone as far as they can go. They need another \$20,000 to complete the building and I feel a burden to help raise the money to help get a roof on their church.

ANOTHER INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH TO BE STARTED IN CIUDAD MANTA, MEXICO

Brother Jose Gomez at Rio Bravo is ready to start another church in Ciudad Manta. A town about 300 miles south of the border with 100,000 people and no gospel witness that can be found. If at all possible I want to be a part of pioneering that new work. We will take the Landmark Baptist Church of Louisville, Kentucky on their trip the second week in July. I am thinking that would be a good time to help Brother Jose start that new church. We can at least begin to pray toward that end.

A TRIAL RUN FOR A BOOK DIVISION

Another project that needs much prayer is a book division of VBP. This ministry was started and has continued to be a scripture printing ministry and we have no intentions of changing that. The great and overwhelming need in this world is for the Word of God, however, Brother Berg and Brother Roberts can only run one piece of equipment at a time leaving a lot of other equipment setting Idle. We already have another man coming in part time getting set up for some trial runs of other books. We can print for the brethren much cheaper than the commercial printers can and the pastor and myself have some material we would like to put in book form. Any profit from the printing or sale of books would go back into other books or into the scripture printing itself and when the extra man is not printing books he could help with scripture printing. We want our supporters to understand that a book division will not take away from the scripture printing but will actually help us print more scripture.

Please help us pray for these new en-

STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE ACCEPT the Holy Scriptures as 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 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.

deavors. We need and want to know the will of God for every area of the ministry.

May God bless your love and labor for Him.

Jim Fellure



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

It took us over 10 years to print our first million scripture portions. It looks like this year we will, for the first time in one year, print well over one million portions. God certainly is good! One time a while back some one asked me if I had ever dreamed we would be able to do so much. My reply was that I had not only imagined it, but that we have plans to do so much more. The hard part is, that no matter how much we do, we seem no closer to ever

this year we will,
for the first time
in one year, print
well over one mil-

getting the job done. In fact, if you study world population growth, we are farther behind now than when we first started in 1984. We have got to try to do more.

In our last letter, there was an article on the front page about a container being shipped to Uganda, Africa. I had hoped to be able to report in this Newsletter that they had arrived safely, but as of now they have not. We have not heard any bad news about them, so we trust there were just some delays. Please pray that Bro. Stensaas will not have any trouble with customs, and that the scriptures will soon arrive at his door.

The project we are currently working on is 200,000 English John/Romans that will be going to New York for the one year anniversary of the terrorist attacks on our country. Seedline International from Indiana will be putting these together with an attractive full color cover featuring the Twin Towers with an American Flag as the background. They had taken a trip there with some of these a few months ago, and they were very warmly received. The terrorists'

attack on our country seemed to change some peoples attitudes about a lot of things for a while, pray that the scriptures will change many hearts permanently.

With our next truckload of paper we plan to print New Testaments. We have had Portuguese negatives ready to make plates for over a year now. They are needed both in Brazil and Mozambique, Africa. We also plan to print Spanish and English New Testaments as well. We are also trying to get a Tagalog New Testament laid out, but have run into some problems. It is too difficult to explain in this letter, but if anyone knows much about the Adobe, Page Maker Software, we have some interesting problems I would like to tell you about. Please pray for us on this project.

In closing, I would like you to pray for my son, Timothy. He was climbing in a tree a few days ago and fell out and broke both the bones in his left forearm. It was a pretty bad break, and had to be repaired surgically with two metal plates and screws. The doctor said he could be in a cast anywhere from two to six months. Please pray for his speedy recovery.

May God bless you,
Bro. Al Berg

*The Victory Baptist
Press prayerfull and
financial supporters are
helping send the gospel
of Jesus Christ, in
it's purest form, around
the world*

MEMORIALS

Victory Baptist Press recently received memorial gifts from:

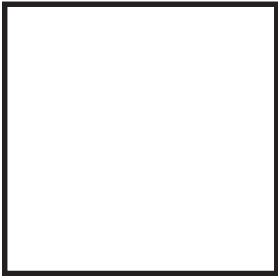
*Barbara Cooper
in memory of
Susie Gill*

*"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."*

"Some wish to live within the sound of church and chapel bell. I wish to run a rescue mission within a yard of hell."

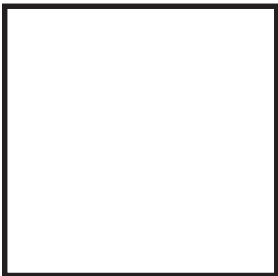
C. T. Studd

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THE VICTORY BAPTIST PRESS FIELD REPRESENTATIVES



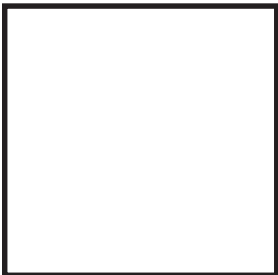
MIKE & DEE PICKENS began with Victory Baptist Press in December of 1994. Brother Pickens is a 1965 graduate of Baptist Bible College of Springfield, Missouri. He has pastored churches in Indiana, Alabama, North Carolina and Texas, and was in evangelism for 7 years.

Mike and Dee have four married children and nine grandchildren. When they are not on the road in meetings they make their home in Milton, Florida, and can be contacted at the home office.



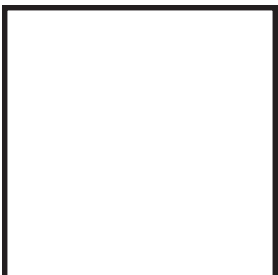
RICK & MELINDA REED have been field representatives for Victory Baptist Press since October of 1996. Brother Reed gave up a very comfortable and secure employment position in order to help send the gospel of Christ around the world through this ministry.

Rick and Melinda have four children, all at home. You can contact the Reeds at 12207 Buckhorn Cemetary Rd., Moody, Texas 76557. Phone (254)853-9353.



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.

Bill and Vicki have one married son and a daughter at home. You can contact the Richburgs at P. O. Box 508, Six Mile, South Carolina 29682. Phone (864)868-9988.

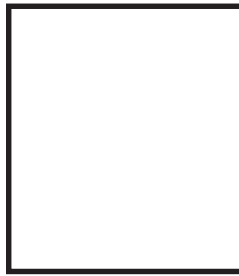


MARTIN AND ANNE FULLER left a full-time ministry in Georgia and became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in January, 2002. Martin attended Tabernacle Baptist College of Greenville, SC, and was on staff under Dr. Harold Sightler. He also served as assistant pastor and youth director in another church and pastored for twelve years in

Texas.

The Fullers have four children, all at home. They are outstanding musicians and Martin is an excellent preacher. If you would like to have them for a service, contact them at 1020 Carlene Dr, Harlem, Georgia 30814. Phone (706) 556-8369.

Editor's note: All financial support for a field representative should be sent to Victory Baptist Press, marked clearly for the individual it is intended for.



Ray Bowie

“Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name; worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.”

Psalm 29:2

Praise the Lord for another wonderful month. We had many come forward in our prisons once again to be saved by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We went to pick up a pallet of 80 boxes of tracts and John/Romans in Sanish on the 16th of February. We have been receiving some pallets from Seedline International by way of Pro Trans Trucking Company. Pro Trans is a Christian Company and brings the pallets to Nogales Arizona, free of charge, fifteen miles from home. While we were unloading our boxes at the truck freight dock a semi truck arrived. The driver said he was new to Nogales and wanted to know where the door was to the office to get his load from Mexico. I was just playing and told him where the stairs were, but, while he was so close I said,

“Take my hand and step on the truck bumper and save walking a few feet.”

So he took my hand and I helped pull him up. Then he asked, “What is in all of the boxes?” So I opened a box and started explaining all about the book of John and Romans. He said his girlfriend was a Christian and had been talking to him. He could speak Spanish but could not read it. So I read to him in Spanish. He knew he was a sinner and wanted to be saved. After he got saved he was very happy and said he felt peace and he looked it. His name is Felix. He lives in El Paso, Texas, and was taking a load coming from Mexico and going to Wisconsin.

he asked, “What is in all of the boxes?” So I opened a box and started explaining all about the book of John and Romans. He knew he was a sinner and wanted to be saved.

Prayer Requests:

1. People to be saved in Mexico.
2. Safety in travel.
3. Missionaries.

Yours for souls in Mexico,
Ray Bowie

Thank you for your prayers, financial support and all that you do.



Jack Tripp Is Back In Full Time Evangelism

Brother Tripp resigned as pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church in Archdale, North Carolina and returned to the ministry of evangelism beginning the 25th of February, 2002.

He writes *“Your prayers for Linette and me during this time of transition would be greatly appreciated.*

My oldest son Tim pastors Bible Missionary Baptist Church in Kinston, North Carolina. Our plans are to join his church and go out from there. If God should place us upon your heart for a series of meetings, you can reach me through my son Tim at (252)566-8394/(252)522-5338 or write P.O. Box 304, LaGrange, North Carolina 28551-0304”

Note: I personally recommend Bro. Tripp to any church. There is no better preacher in the country. - Jim Fellure

FREE VIDEO OF EVANGELIST MIKE SHULTZ

A \$15.00 Value
(FOR PASTORS ONLY)

We feel that many pastors would want Bro. Schultz to speak in their church (or Christian school) if they were exposed to his Bible and Science seminars. The Video of Bro. Schultz proving the Bible with more than 100 scientific evidences will be sent free of charge to any pastor requesting it. Send your name and correct mailing address to Victory Baptist Press and request the tape and we will send your free copy.

Note: Offer good during June and July, 2002 only.

FOR JUST \$684.96 YOU CAN SPONSOR A COMPLETE DAY OF OPERATION OF THE VICTORY BAPTIST PRESS PRINT SHOP.

Since we started the Sponsor A Complete Day Of Operation program six months ago we have had 26 individuals or churches sponsor a total of 35 days in the shop. The extra support along with our regular monthly supporters and special offerings given for paper has been a big help in breaking all previous records in scripture printing.

Several others have expressed an interest in the program and hopefully will soon participate. There’s a spiritually hungry world waiting for the bread of life and the only way VBP can meet the growing demand for the scriptures is through the help of our supporters.

If you would like to be a part of the Sponsor-A-Day Program, send your offering of at least \$684.96, and we will send you a personalized certificate on beautiful parchment paper suitable for framing, recognizing your gift. The certificate, when displayed on a mission display board, office wall, etc. will encourage others to get involved.

Since the last Newsletter the following churches or individuals have participated in the Sponsor-A-Day program by paying for at least one day of operation of the print shop.

Thank you for your help and may God get the glory.

- Smith Chapel Baptist Church, Durham, NC, Jerry Hooper, pastor = \$712.00**
- Victory Chapel Baptist Church, Conestee, SC, \$685.00**
- Bible Baptist Church, Conroe, TX = \$1,369.00**
- Carolina Baptist Church, Spartanburg, SC = 685.00**
- Way of the Cross Baptist Church, Dunlap, TN \$684.96**

As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is
GOOD NEWS FROM A FAR COUNTRY.

Proverbs 25:25

Missionary Ted Mullins writes from Papua, New Guinea.

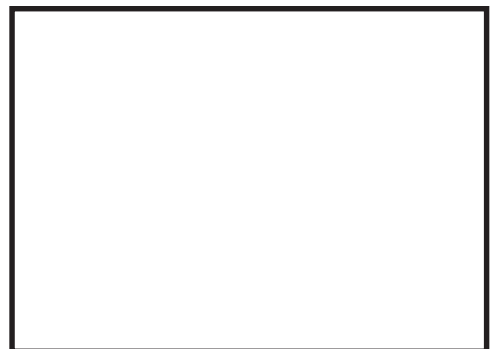
Dear Brother Fellure,

Enclosed is a picture (top right) of Auive Koirie, he was saved after receiving a Pidgin/English John /Romans printed by your ministry.

Missionary Steve Cooper writes from Spain.

Carmelo came to church six or seven years ago for two or three services and the seed was planted. He showed up three weeks ago knocking on the door of the church and calling out my name, “Esteban!! What do I need to do to get saved?” A month before he had received a copy of the Gospel of John and Romans that we got from the Victory Baptist Press.”

Brother Scott Leonard writes about a recent trip to the Philippines, Thursday, 8am, attended the Philippines Air Base and preached in their school. Actually, God preached!!! AMEN! We simply passed out John/Romans to every student, each class room had about 50-100 students. We very simply walked them through the John and Romans Bibles having them repeat every verse, loudly, in unison, 3times. Afterwards, we gave an invitation...Over 500 of 1200 students called to God for salvation! The Word will not return void! Glory!



George Mueller (1805- 1898)

A biographical sketch of the man and his ministry

If one had to choose a single life in church history to illustrate living by faith, he couldn't make a wiser choice than to choose George Mueller. He raised over \$7,000,000 in his life by going to God for his needs.

Mueller was born in Prussia (Germany) in the year 1805. His father was a tax collector who had more concern for George's financial future than his spiritual well-being. His mother died while he was only fourteen. At his father's wishes, he began studying to be a Lutheran minister (for the money), although he had not been converted to Christ. He lived in sin until he was twenty years of age. It was at a Saturday night prayer meeting with a friend that George Mueller saw his real need for Jesus Christ. He was saved shortly afterwards.

He began supporting himself and financing his own education. His first sermon was preached on August 27th, 1826, and he completed his education at Halle University in 1828.

In early 1829, he went to London in hopes of becoming a missionary to the Jews, but he soon changed his plans and settled in Devonshire. While at Devonshire, Mueller attended a small chapel and his spiritual life was greatly helped. He returned to London in 1829.

He began holding Bible studies and prayer meetings with friends and occasionally preaching at various chapels in Devonshire. In 1830, he began pastoring a group of eighteen people at the Ebenezer Chapel at Teignmouth in Devonshire. This same year he met and married Mary Groves.

Shortly after their marriage, the Muellers decided that they were going to

depend on God for everything, without letting others know of their circumstances and needs. They would simply reveal their needs to God in private prayer and trust Him for deliverance.

In May of 1832, the Muellers moved to work in Bristol with his good friend Henry Craik. In 1834, George founded *The Scriptural Knowledge Institution for Home and Abroad*, an evangelistic work which also would include his Orphan House. His son, Elijah, died from pneumonia in 1835 and George himself became ill and had to slow down his pace. At this time he wrote *The Narrative of the Lord's Dealing with George Mueller*.

In April of 1836, Mueller opened his first orphanage with twenty-six girls between seven and twelve years old. A second house was opened in November to care for children under seven. A third one was opened a year later (1837) to care for boys over seven. Another one for girls was opened in 1844.

Time and time again God would move miraculously to supply the needs of the orphanages. Food would show up on the front door steps. The milk man would give away his milk after his cart broke down right in front of the orphanage. The baker would wake up in the middle of the night feeling that he should bake extra bread for the orphanage. Those affiliated with George Mueller began to see first hand that *God answers prayer*.

In late 1845 Mueller began praying for

funds to build a large orphanage with better facilities and a better location. Two and a half years later he had prayed in some \$60,000 for the work. The first building was opened in June of 1848, housing 300 children. He began praying for a second such building in 1850, and, in November of 1857, a second building was opened which housed 400 children. The cost was \$126,000. By 1874, Mueller had five orphanages housing over 2,000 children. He had prayed in over \$650,000 for building expenses alone.

Mueller's wife died in 1870. He married Susannah Grace Sanger in November of 1871. Then between 1875 and 1892, he turned the work over to his son-in-law, James Write, while he made sixteen preaching trips around the world. In this seventeen year period, Mueller and his wife traveled some 200,000 miles, in forty-two countries, preaching to 3,000,000 people.

In all, over the years, Mueller was responsible for housing over 10,000 orphans, leading 3,000 to Christ himself. He read the Bible through over 200 times, about half of which were on his knees. He also stated that he knew of some 50,000 specific answers to prayer.

Susannah died in 1894, while Mueller was eighty-nine. Then Mueller died on March 10, 1898.

-Copied from *The Great Soldiers of the Cross Series*. For a listing of other titles in this series, please contact: **Bible Baptist Church**
125 E. Maple, Sharon, TN 38255

Those affiliated with George Mueller began to see first hand that God answers prayer.

The Victory Baptist Press prayerfull and financial supporters are helping send the gospel of Jesus Christ, in it's purest form, around the world

Whatever Became Of Evangelism?

Now it came to pass that a group existed who called themselves fisherman. 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 fisherman 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 means, defended fishing as an occupation, and declared that fishing is always to be a primary task of fisherman.

These fisherman 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, to promote the idea of fishing in faraway 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 fishing, to defend fishing, 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, how to approach and feed fish. Those who taught had doctorates in "fishology." But the teachers did not fish. They only taught fishing.

Further, the fishermen built large printing houses to publish fishing guides. Presses were kept busy night and day to produce materials solely devoted to fishing methods, equipment and programs, 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 don'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?

-copied

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 did. 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." But Gabriel was perplexed.

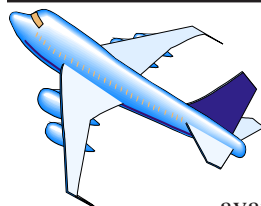
He asked, "Then what have you done to let everyone know about your love for them?" Jesus said, "I've asked Peter, James, John, and a few more friends to tell others about me. Those who are told will tell others, in turn, about me. And my story will be spread to the farthest reaches of the globe. Ultimately,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

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

Psalm 68:11



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

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

Call them at 850-983-3954. Fax: 850-983-1358
e-mail:bobleonor3@msn.com



Pastor & Mrs. Tim Fellure

The Greatest Business

Mark 16:15

There is no missionary challenge in the Bible; we are not once challenged to take the gospel to the world. If I challenge you, I am encouraging you, exhorting you, trying to persuade you to do what I am asking you to do. A challenge is not an order; it puts you under no obligation.

There is a missionary command. The Great Commission is the marching orders for the church. We are not asked to participate, not invited to get involved, not encourages to take part. This is a command. Missions is not a side issue; it is the supreme issue. It is not just another program for the church; it is the main purpose of the church.

We Are Facing The Largest Task Any Generation Has Ever Faced!

No group of people has ever been commissioned with a more important work. Research teams of scientists and doctors have come together to find a cure for diseases. Kings and Presidents have sent delegations and ambassadors to foreign lands to establish political relations. Corporations have sent business professionals to expand their interests in new world markets. But no one has ever been given a greater task than taking the gospel to the world. No business is greater than the King's business.

No generation of Christians has ever faced a larger task than the present generation. There are more people living on the earth than ever before. The population of the world is also growing at a faster rate than ever before. It was not until 1835

that the world's population reached one billion people. It only took one hundred years to reach the second billion. It has taken only sixty years to reach the next four billion. The population of the world is increasing at a rate of 76 million people a year. This year, 131 million people will be born on this earth.

All of this translates into there being more people to reach for Christ now than ever before in the history of the world. The propagation of the gospel is not keeping up with the population growth of the world. The birth rate of the kingdom of God is not keeping pace with the birth rate of the kingdom of man.

We Are Dealing With The Deepest Need Of The Human Race !

We live in a land of plenty and know no need ... and we think the whole world is rich like us. Yet much of this world lies in abject poverty, famine has ravaged third-world countries, infectious diseases run rampant in lands where there are no medical supplies, and wars and natural disasters have left hundreds of thousands homeless. The social needs of the world is great. Hamanitarian aid is much needed.

But the church has been called to face a greater need than poverty, illiteracy, disease and famine. The greatest need man has is to have his sins forgiven, to be justified before God, to have eternal life, ... That is the need we are called to face.

I often get called from locals who want to know if our church is involved in the community. What they really want to know is do we run a soup kitchen, have a benevolent fund, operate a homeless shelter, etc. I always tell them that we do a great service for our community: we point men to Jesus. That is being community-minded. I am not against feeding the poor and sheltering the homeless, but I am against the church forsaking her first calling to preach the gospel.

We Are Contending With The Greatest Opposition!

Christianity has always had to compete with false religions since the first century, but never has there been more false doctrines than now. Islam claims 1.3 billion followers. Catholicism boasts of 1.1 billion members. Hinduism stands at 900 million strong. Buddhism is rapidly growing with over 360 million followers. The dead Eastern Ortho-

dox Church claims another 225 million members. Those five religions claim close to four billion members - two-thirds of the world's population. Another 850 million are either atheist, agnostic or non-religious.

We Have The Greatest Message The World Has Ever Heard!

We alone have the only message that can turn men from darkness to light, from despair to hope, from bondage to freedom, from death to life, from sin to righteousness. We are not called to Americanize the world; we are called to evangelize the world. We do not send missionaries abroad to spread the American way of life or western culture; we send missionaries abroad to preach the gospel.

We Now Have The Greatest Means Available Ever Before!

The first century of the church had no printing press, no media outlets, no mission agencies, etc. Now we have everything we need to accomplish the task we have been called to do. We have the marvel of the printing press and the greatest means of communication and transportation than ever before.

If the Great Commission were not possible it would not be applicable. We could not be held responsible for something we could not do. But the Lord has not given us an impossible task.

We Now Have The Shortest Time Of Any Other Generation!

You do not have to be a prophecy expert to look at the Middle East and know that the time of Christ' coming is at hand. We are closer to His coming than we have ever been before.

Every Christian believes Jesus is coming - they just don't believe it will be anytime soon. Jesus said, *"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work."*

We face the most important task, the deepest need, the strongest competition, and the shortest time. We have the greatest message, the best evangelistic opportunity, and the most effective means of communication. It will require the deepest consecration, the greatest faith, and the full effort of all who claim the name of Christ.

Tim Fellure