

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

(Psalm 68:11)

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# The NEWSLETTER

July - August, 2010

# ABLAZE

Set My Soul Afire Lord



VICTORY  
BAPTIST CHURCH

## YOUTH CONFERENCE

August 26 & 27, 2010 7:00 PM



Kenny Baldwin



Kurt Skelly



Charlie Clark

[vbcmilton.org](http://vbcmilton.org)

4000 Avalon Blvd., Milton, FL 32572

850-623-0086

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

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## Editor's Notes



*Jim & Mary Fellure*

Dear Friends,

I am glad I've got work to do!

I have just read an old book written by Harold Dye over forty years ago entitled **No Rocking Chair For Me**. A friend of mine, Brother Joe Lovetto, purchased the book at a yard sale and let me read it. The title is taken from an experience the author had on a cold, snowy, winter day while he was hunting in a remote mountain canyon near Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Wholly by accident, he stumbled upon a little homestead and met eighty-year-old "Uncle Zeb" living in a little, clay-chinked log cabin. Zeb invited him in and began brewing a fresh pot of coffee. He then offered his visitor a seat in a beautiful, handcrafted rocking chair he had made himself. Dye declined the offer and suggested that Zeb take the rocking chair instead. Zeb said, "I didn't build it for me to set in, I built it for me company. A contraption like that is only good for old people—or maybe tenderfoot hunters. I ain't goin to sit in no rockin' chair and rock my life away. I got work to do. Once a feller takes to his rockin' chair, he is done."

I have four rocking chairs on my front porch, but after reading Zeb's words about work to do, I will probably never be comfortable "setting" in any of them, because I too have work to do. Amen, "Uncle Zeb."

### **VBP Outreach has Grown but our Original Policy is the Same**

Victory Baptist Press was established in 1984 by Dr. Thomas Woodward. The original purpose of printing and distributing the Scriptures without charge is still our policy, and since our beginning millions of scripture portions, New Testaments, and whole Bibles have been printed in eleven languages, (English, Spanish, Cebuano,

Tagalog, Telugu, French Creol, Pidgin, Portuguese, Romanian, Lugando and Russian), shipped to thirty-nine foreign countries (Peru, Venezuela, Cape Verde, El Salvador, Panama, Romania, Kuwait, Brazil, Uganda, England, Philippine Islands, Mexico, Cuba, Spain, Paraguay, Bolivia, Haiti, Trinidad, Puerto Rico, Russia, Australia, Belize, Costa Rica, Zaire, Nigeria, New Guinea, Honduras, Canada, Georgia, E. Europe, Mozambique, Zambia, Nigeria, Ghana, W. Africa, Germany, Guatemala, Chile, Dominican Republic), and to every state in the United States. As of this date, the Lord has met every need, and we have honored the desire of our founder and provided every Scripture VBP has printed absolutely free of charge.

### **VBP Financial Support has Dropped 40%**

Because of the economic situation in America, many churches have been forced to cut their missions giving and very few are adding new missionaries or missions projects to their missions programs. We estimate that in the last year VBP has lost about 40% of its monthly support from churches, and therefore we would be forced to close the print shop were it not for other means of raising the needed funds. Though the regular monthly support is far short of what is needed, we can not operate without it. When we add the funds from special one-time offerings, print jobs we do for others, and our online bookstore sales, we are able to continue printing Scriptures as always, but many times the requests for Scriptures get turned down because there's just not enough being printed to meet the need. We must do more!

### **The New Associate Program Could be the Answer to the Financial Need**

We realize that the economic situation has caused financial hardships on other ministries as well. Some good evangelists and other missionaries are not able to operate on love offerings alone. I believe the Lord has given us a plan whereby others of like faith and practice can continue their ministries as usual, and at the same time, have a significant increase in their own personal income. The **Associate Program** is designed for others to cooperate with us with no obligation whatsoever, and for both

## **MEMORIALS**

Victory Baptist Press  
recently received memorial gifts  
from

Ivy & Kelly Wall

In memory of

**Zula Wall**

**Greg Wall**

**Ashley Miller**

From

Mary Woodard

In memory of

**Roger Bontroger**

From

Mr. & Mrs. Jerry L. Teater

In memory of

**Bertie Hughes**

From

H. C. & Maye Gore

In memory of

**Mr. Wilbur Wright**

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

parties to gain financially. This is not a get-rich-quick or "name it and claim it" deal that many of the televangelists promote. It is simply an honest way for VBP to help those of like faith increase their income while they help us print more Scriptures. If any of you readers have a legitimate need for extra income, and you believe in the printing and distribution of the Word of God, this may be the very thing the Lord has provided so both of us can serve Him in a bigger and better way. If you are interested in this new **Associate Program**, contact me at 850-384-4402, or email me at [news@victorybaptistpress.com](mailto:news@victorybaptistpress.com)

Thank you for your time. Thank you for your support. Thank you for your prayers. And most of all, thank you for being a friend to Victory Baptist Press.

*Jim Fellure*

## The Print Shop



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

God is good! The Gospel is still the good news that most of the world has not yet heard. God has heard the cry of a few more folks that need to hear the Gospel, and He has provided money for another truckload of paper that will be printed into Spanish Bibles. These Bibles will be sent to Juarez, Mexico, reportedly the most dangerous city in the western hemisphere at this time. The apostle Paul said in Romans 5:20, "...where sin abounded, grace did much more abound." According to that verse, there is no better place at this time to send the Gospel than to Juarez, Mexico. There is a group of Christians trying to evangelize that area, and I have been told some testimonies of the wonderful grace of God already in that city. Many thousands of tracts have been purchased and are

being distributed. Those that respond and come to church will be given a New Testament or Bible. Please pray that the grace of God will abound in many hearts in that city and they will be a testimony to what the grace of God can do.

Even as we begin to print these Bibles, we still have English and Spanish New Testaments to collate and bind. God has blessed in that area as well. We have had a bindery system that has the capacity to collate, bind, and trim a New Testament all in one operation but have never gotten it all to work together well enough to use it to its full potential. In the last few weeks, God has allowed me to concentrate a little more on that, and progress is being made. There are many moving parts and paper can be very finicky. When more than one thing at a time is acting up it is hard to trouble shoot one problem at a time. Progress has been made, but there is still more that needs to be done. Please pray that God will allow us to use the machinery He has given us to its fullest potential so we can get the word of God out on the field as quickly as possible. The English New Testaments are available to those that can use them, while the Spanish New Testaments are slated to go to Peru.

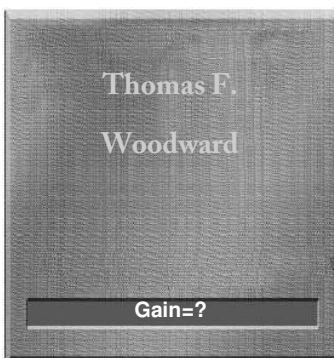
Another big help in the shop is the fact that we have had more volunteers out to help us lately. This is due mainly to Sister Betty Waters. She was our church secre-

tary, but recently decided to retire from that job. But no true servant of God can retire from God's work. She has become our volunteer coordinator. People in church interested in helping in the shop were told to see Sister Betty Waters. She has their phone numbers and works out times when they can come and help. So far this system has worked well for us. Please pray that folks will continue to come and that God will continue to supply the materials we need to keep them busy.

On the home front, our daughter Sarah had surgery to remove a portion of her colon that had been damaged due to her Crohn's disease. Thank you for your prayers on her behalf. She is doing much better now and is almost like a new person. Even as her father, I had not realized how much she had been affected by the disease. Please continue to keep her in your prayers as this is not a cure. The doctor told us that when the colon gets infected like hers was, it tends to make all kind of things go wacky in the body while it tries to deal with the problem. Taking out the bad part calms all that down and usually, but not always, puts the Crohn's into remission, as well. Please pray that this will be the case with her.

May God bless you,  
Bro. Albert Berg

*Victory Baptist Press's prayerful and financial supporters are helping send the Gospel of Jesus Christ, in its purest form, around the world.*



### Planning your Estate?

The big buzz in estate planning these days is "legacy planning"—that is, passing on to the next generation our values and wisdom along with our financial assets.

My friend, may I encourage you to consider perpetuating a different legacy - the Word of God. The Scriptures are the ultimate inheritance, the source of godly wisdom, and the knowledge of eternal life. A gift to the **Thomas F. Woodward Endowment Fund** will help VBP print and distribute God's Word and perpetuate the Gospel for generations to come.

For information on how to include VBP in your "legacy planning," call Jeff Andrews at 850.457.1573.

You may also give online at [www.victorybaptistpress.com/vbp2\\_035.htm](http://www.victorybaptistpress.com/vbp2_035.htm)



## VBP Field Reps



**BILL and VICKI RICHBURG**

P.O. Box 508  
Six Mile, SC 29682  
864.506.2380  
billrichburg@victorybaptistpress.com

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.



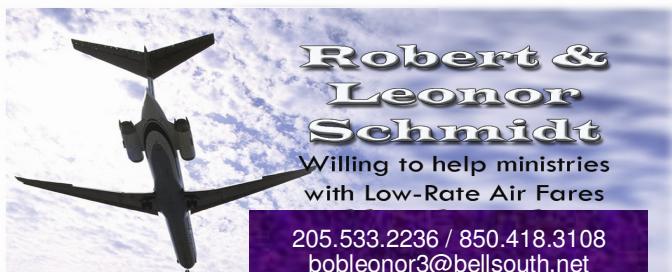
**MARTIN and ANNE FULLER**

317 Chick Springs Rd.  
Greenville, SC 29609  
706.294.5832  
martinfuller@victorybaptistpress.com

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 twelve years.

### Brother Eric Petty has resigned as a field rep.

Please pray for Brother Eric Petty. His picture is missing from this space because he is no longer a VBP field representative. Bro. Eric believes the Lord is leading him to take a youth pastor's position with a church of like faith in Louisiana. Our prayers are that the Lord will use him greatly in reaching many young people for Christ. He has our blessing.



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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.

"Dare we suggest the course of action that must be followed by the church of our time? We must have Christian thinkers who consider deeply and then write well the truth for others to read. The Christian tract, the booklet, the book, the treatise, the magazine, and the newspaper, written well and distributed wisely, are among the best instruments God has on earth to propagate His truth. The word spoken today will put a blip on the screen of the receptive mind, and then it will be gone. The word written today will print itself upon the mind behind that screen and never be forgotten."

-Dave Breece

### Test Your Bible Skill!

Can you find the names of 25 books of the Bible in this paragraph? This is a most remarkable puzzle. Someone found it in the seat pocket on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping himself occupied for hours. One man from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john-boat. Roy Clark studied it while playing his banjo-Elaine Vicks mentioned it in her column once. One woman judges the job to be so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help calm her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot...that's a fact. Some people will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. The truth is, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have. Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation may help! books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. And punctuation or spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete. Remember, there are 25 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph.

Answers will be in the next issue of the Newsletter.



## Blessings & Benefits Mrs. Pam Leake

I recently attended a family reunion for my mother's side of the family in Tennessee. We stayed at the home of my aunt whose husband had passed away last fall. He was a dear Christian man, one of my favorite uncles from my childhood. As I sat in her den, looking at old family pictures

and albums of special events, it was fun reminiscing over times in the past spent with family when I was a young girl. Then I came across an album of personal tributes to my uncle, written for his funeral.

The first two entries were very special remembrances that impressed me greatly. One was written by his daughter-in-law, wife of his only son. My uncle had been her Sunday school teacher when she was a child and she tenderly related how he had shown her Jesus, through the scriptures, but more so through his love and care for her and the other children in the class. My eyes filled as I read of the testimony of a godly, Spirit-filled teacher who became this young lady's father-in-law and beloved grandpa to her children. The impact of this man who loved God and lived for Him was, and still is today, very evident in the life of the young woman who now, herself, is a godly wife and mother.

Then I turned the page and began to read a tribute by a cousin of mine from Florida who I could only vaguely remember, but would meet the next day at the reunion. My own recollection of my uncle was sharpened by the words she had written. She told of how, as a child, she would look forward to the visit of her favorite uncle from Tennessee. He would always have a smile on his face, a funny joke to share, and time to play with the children. But, most of all, she remembered that he always had time to sit down and tell them about Jesus and how much He loved them. She said it was because of his witness that she and others in her family are saved. Now, she said, heaven would be sweeter, knowing that he was already there.

As I read those words, my soul said, "Amen," as I recalled this same uncle who had a similar impact on me from the times I was able to be around him. I remembered his ever-present smile, his playful manner with us and how he would always be humming or singing a hymn or gospel song whenever we were around him. His tall, lanky frame made him stand out in my mind, when I was a child, and still does today, but most of all it was the testimony of Christ in his life that was evident in everything he did. It wasn't so apparent to me in my youth, but now, after so many years' passing, I realize what an impact he had on so many.

Though his place at my aunt's table is now empty, and though we missed his singing as he walked through the house and his jolly personality at the reunion, his presence was felt through the written words of others and the thoughts we all shared of him. How valuable a possession is a good testimony that reveals Christ through one's life, and even though my uncle is at home in heaven, "...he being dead yet speaketh." I'm very thankful for the blessing and personal benefit from the godly testimony of this man in my life. God help me to so live!

**NOTE:** Pam is the wife of Ed Leake, pastor of Colonial Baptist Church and director of Colonial Press of Charlottesville, Virginia. You may email her at: [pamleake@colonialbaptist-cville.org](mailto:pamleake@colonialbaptist-cville.org).

## BORROWED ILLUSTRATIONS

An attorney tells the story of a man who died, and the attorney said to his wife, "He did not leave a will. So we need to know the last words he ever said to you."

She said, "I don't want to tell you."

He said, "Look, he did not leave a will. We need to know the last words he ever said to you."

She said, "I don't want to tell you. It was something between the two of us."

He said, "May I beg you one more time?"

She said, "Okay, I'll tell you. The last thing he ever said to me was, 'You don't scare me. You couldn't hit the broad side of a barn with that old gun.' "

A newspaper ad read:

Lost--one dog. Brown hair with several bald spots. Right leg broken due to auto accident. Left hip hurt. Right eye missing. Left ear bitten off in a dog fight. Answers to the name "Lucky."

A hobo knocked on the door of an English pub called "George and the Dragon." A woman opened the door. He asked, "Could I have a bit to eat?" The woman screamed at him and began to curse and malign him. Finally, she slammed the door in his face. He knocked again and the woman opened the door. "Now," he said, "could I have a few words with George?"

To avoid suspicion when you're walking through your neighbor's melon patch, don't tie your shoe.

Congress is so strange. A man gets up to speak and says nothing. Nobody listens; then everybody disagrees.



# Victory Baptist Press Bookstore Sales

*Located On The Beautiful Gulf Coast of Northwest Florida*

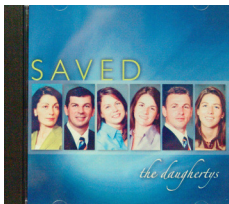


## The Daugherty Sisters **Just Call His Name**

*Just Call His Name/ Even In The Valley/ Yesterday, Things Were Different/ It Means Just What It Says/ I Would/ Under His Wings/ I Can Go In/ A Pile Of Crowns/ I Can Pray/ Song Of The*

*Redeemed/ Walk Right Out Of This Valley*

**Brand New CD \$15.00**



## The Daugherty's **SAVED**

*Above All Else/ Oh, What A Reason/ I'm Going To A City/ Saved/ Beneath The Blood/ Train Up A Child/ Blood Was Enough/ We Shall Be Caught Up/*

*That Sounds Like Home To Me/ Meeting In The Air*

**CD \$15.00**

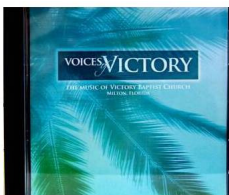


## The Daugherty Sisters **This Same Jesus**

*This same Jesus/ Fear Not Tomorrow-I Know Who Holds Tomorrow/ Center of Your Will/ It Pays to Pray-Just Pray/ The Gospel to the World/ Amazing*

*Grace Medly: He Looked Beyond My Fault and Saw My Need- He Saw Me-Hallelujah. What a Savior!/ He Saw It All/ God Is Working-Only Believe/ When They Found Nothing/ Occupy Till I Come/ Then I Met the Master/ Through*

**CD \$15.00**



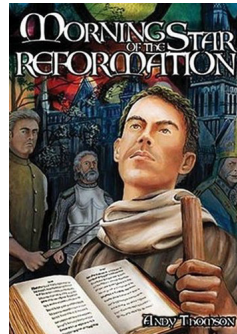
## **Voices of VICTORY**

This CD contains the beautifully talented voices of the various singing groups of the Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida.

*Go Ask/ Nothing As Sweet As Walking*

*With Jesus/ To Rescue A Sinner Like Me/ Happy Am I/ God Walks The Dark Hills/ His Life For Mine/ You Can't Beat A Visit With The King/ The Value Of One/ What Love/ If There's No God*

**CD \$12.00**



## **Morning Star Of The Reformation**

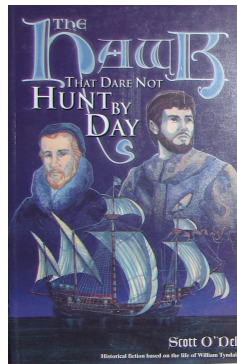
by Andy Thomson.

In the 1300s—a spark. In 1517—an explosion. The man who struck the match was John Wycliffe. It was over a hundred years before the Protestant Reformation. Death and darkness had come to England. God showed one man the answer and made him both wise enough to write it down and

brave enough to defend it.

Historical fiction for young adults, based on the life of John Wycliffe.

134 pages. **\$5.00**



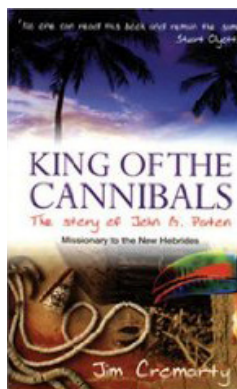
## **The Hawk That Dare Not Hunt By Day**

by Scott O'Dell.

Smuggling goods is lucrative business for Tom Barton and his Uncle Jack, but violent seas, raging winds, and sharp-eyed king's searchers constantly threaten their voyages across the Channel. Then an even bigger challenge arises when Tom and Uncle Jack meet William Tyndale, whose passion is to give the common people an English Bible. Tyndale sees lost souls; Uncle Jack sees a huge profit.

Young adult.

182 pages. **\$6.00**



## **King of the Cannibals, The story of John G. Paton**

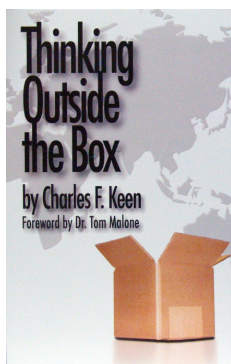
by Jim Cromarty.

Here is one of the greatest missionary stories of all time retold for modern readers, especially young people. Who can fail to be thrilled by this chronicle of peril and high adventure, and who can fail to be challenged? In John Paton we see a life of unashamed consecration to Jesus Christ characterized by obedience to the Scripture, burning concern for the lost, content-

ment in hardship and extraordinary courage.

No one can read this book and remain the same.

288 pages. **\$15.98**



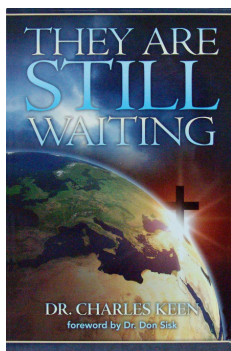
### Thinking Outside The Box

by Charles F. Keen.

The goal of this book is to get the reader to rethink his approach to missions...Are we willing to venture outside of our comfort zone of accepted and present practices in our global approach.

Dr. Tom Malone, Sr. said, "This book has had a tremendous impact on my view of missions. It has helped me to come to a better view of the world, a worldview from the heart."

117 pages. **\$10.00**



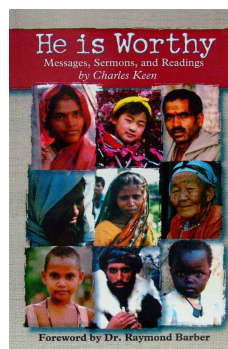
### They Are Still Waiting

by Dr. Charles Keen.

This great book of fourteen sermons is chock full of encouragement to give our lives to the Great Commission.

Dr. Don Sisk says, "Since pastors need to preach on missions and...missionaries should major on preaching about missions when they are in mission conferences, or doing their deputation or furlough, this book could be a great resource for sermons."

141 pages. **\$12.00**



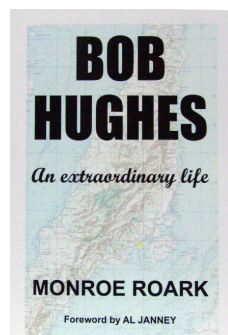
### He Is Worthy

by Charles Keen.

The goal of this book is to lift the Great Commission out of the grips of a humanistic approach wherein man is the goal and restore God to the proper place as the central focus of world evangelism...The purpose of global evangelism is for God to be glorified by some from every nation. If that conclusion has New Testament credibility, then we must ask

ourselves, "Are we fulfilling New Testament missions?"

136 pages. **\$10.00**



### BOB HUGHES, An Extraordinary Life

by Monroe Roark.

Fresh off a farm in East Texas, living half-way around the world with the U.S. Air Force, Bob Hughes fell in love with the Filipino people and became burdened to share with them the Saviour they desperately needed. He returned to that Asian nation and was used of God to build one

of the most incredible mission works of the 20th century.

138 pages. **\$12.00**

**For your convenience you may also purchase online at [www.victorybaptistpress.com](http://www.victorybaptistpress.com)**

**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

## Historic Offerings

With as much **exhortation** to giving as there is in the Bible, it is somewhat surprising there are not more **examples** of giving in the Bible. Excluding the animal sacrifices for sin offerings, there are only a few instances of someone's actual offering to the Lord described in Scripture. Tens of thousands of offerings were given in the 4,000-year span of Bible history, but only a few were so remarkable that God recorded them for future generations to study. Of course, God takes note of every offering given, but only a few so impressed God that He thought to have them written down in His holy Book.

Occasionally, we read about a wealthy donor making a large gift to his alma mater or some charitable organization. There will be write-ups in the newspaper, a mention in the evening newscast, and a plaque or some other marker with his name and generosity memorialized. Of course, every charitable gift doesn't get equal press; only those exceptional offerings that only a few are capable of. In similar fashion, I wonder if God is impressed with our giving. He sees it ... but is He impressed?

### The Size of Remarkable Offerings

In Exodus 25, God instructed Moses to prepare the children of Israel for an offering. They were asked to give from the spoils of Egypt to provide material to build the Tabernacle. They had no money so they were instructed to give precious stones and metals, fabrics, skins, and spices. There was no set amount or percentage required—only that every man “giveth it willingly with his heart” (Ex. 25:2). It was not until Exodus 35 that Moses finally passed the plate, and the people began to give (35:21-29). The materials were gathered, and Moses selected two men to oversee the construction of the Tabernacle. And the people just kept giving—“And they brought yet unto him free offerings every

morning” (36:3). In fact, the people gave so much that Moses had to actually ask them to quit giving (36:5,6). The record is this: “For the stuff they had was sufficient for all the work to make it, and too much” (36:7).

I estimate that in sixteen years of pasturing, I have taken close to 2,000 offerings. Our church gives generously, but I have yet had to ask the people to quit giving. I've never had a meeting with the trustees to discuss the problem of having too much money in our funds. We've had enough, but we've never had too much. This is the kind of offering that moves the heart of God: giving that is so remarkable that He would want to write it down.

### The Supply of Remarkable Offerings

In I Chronicles 22, David learned that God was not going to allow him to build the Temple. This had been David's desire: to build a magnificent house of worship worthy of Jehovah God. But David had been a man of war and God forbade him; it would be Solomon who would build the Temple. But God didn't say David couldn't give an offering!

So in his final years David began to prepare gold, silver, brass, timber and stone for Solomon to use as construction material. He gave so much that it wasn't even all counted: “Of the gold, the silver, and the brass, and the iron, there is no number” (I Ch. 22:16). But what is so remarkable about his giving is that he was giving to build a Temple he would never personally worship in. He would be dead before the Temple would be constructed, but he had a desire that future generations have a place to worship God. He prepared for giving while he was living so that after he was gone others could know and worship the Lord.

What better thing could you give to? What greater investment could you make than to make provision that others can know God—to build a temple somewhere that you may never worship in, but where others can worship the one true God? This is the kind of offering that moves the heart of God: giving that is so remarkable that He would write it down.

### The Sufficiency of Remarkable Offerings

In II Chronicles 24, King Joash became burdened over the neglect of the Temple and set about to make preparations for its repair. A chest was set at the gate and a proclamation was made throughout Judah for the people to bring an offering. “And all the princes and all the people rejoiced, and brought in, and cast into the chest, until they had made an end” (II Ch. 24:10). Every day the priests would empty the

chest, and the people would fill it back up again. So much was given that the Temple was fully repaired, and enough was left over to make new serving utensils.

With the current economic uncertainty scaring everyone, churches and ministries all across the country are struggling right now to meet their financial demands. I have spoken to so many pastors whose offerings have dropped and so many missionaries who are having a tough time raising new support. My prayer is that God will increase the offerings of your church so that, just as in the days of Joash, there will be a sufficient supply for the house of God. This is the kind of giving that moves the heart of God: giving that is so remarkable that He would want to write it down.

### The Sacrifice of Remarkable Offerings

In Acts 4 the church at Jerusalem was seeing exponential growth. Many members were poor and needy so others began selling their possessions and giving the money to the apostles for distribution. “Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold” (Acts 4:34).

Then in II Corinthians 8 the apostle Paul held up the churches in Macedonia as an example of sacrificial giving: “How that in a great trial of affliction the abundance of their joy and their deep poverty abounded unto the riches of their liberality” (II Cor. 8:2). You don't usually see trial and joy in the same sentence, nor do you usually find deep poverty and liberal giving together. What is so remarkable about these churches is not in how much they gave, but in how much they gave from. No sacrifice was too great for the church at Jerusalem, and poverty was no excuse for the churches at Macedonia. This is the kind of offering that moves the heart of God: giving that is so remarkable that He would write it down.

There is one other offering in the Bible that so moved the heart of God that He wrote it down: the offering of Christ on the cross (Heb. 10:10-14). It is remarkable for its **Size**: no one ever gave as much as He gave. It is remarkable for its **Supply**: it provides a ransom for the sins of the world. It is remarkable for its **Sufficiency**: the blood of Christ is sufficient to save every man and cleanse every sin. It is remarkable for its **Sacrifice**: the depth of the humiliation and agony of the sufferings of Christ are yet untold. This is the kind of offering that moves the heart of God: giving that is so remarkable that He would want to write it down.