

"The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it."
(Psalm 68:11)

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The NEWSLETTER

September-October 2012

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BEYOND THESE WALLS

Missions Conference 2012
with **Dr. Joe West**

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

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Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Dear Friends,

This is Tuesday, August 28, and I am writing from Hamlet, North Carolina, where I am preaching a Faith Promise Missions Conference for Pastor Michael Carpenter and the Hopewell Baptist Church. So far the meeting has been great, and we still have two more nights to go.

One of the highlights of the meeting for me was Sunday night when Missionary Wilson Calvin gave his testimony and presented his work among the Navajo Indians. Brother Wilson said all the Indians on the reservation with the last name of "Calvin" are related to him and went on to tell how his very name is a testimony of the influence a good missionary can have. In the early 1940s, there was a Baptist missionary by the name of Morgan Calvin working among the Navajos. In 1942, Brother Wilson's father, a Navajo Indian, was inducted into the US Army. When he went to the local post office (which also served as the induction center), they discovered a slight problem. He didn't have a name! But it was no big deal since it was war time and the Army needed soldiers. They gave him the missionary's last name and the postmaster's first name and this Navajo Indian became Hermon Calvin. Now, more than seventy years later, because of the tremendous mission work that Brother Wilson and his son Terrence are doing among their own people, the Calvin name is well-known among the Navajos.

I have preached in one of their churches on the reservation at Klagetoh, Arizona, and have seen some of the work there first-hand. Brother Wilson is now

making plans to start their eighth Navajo Indian Independent Baptist Church. They are doing a wonderful work and are worthy of our prayers and support.

There is a great need for more financial support for Bible printing

One of the things that I become a little irritated with is the "positive only" attitude that has crept into our fundamental Baptist circles. I don't see the Bible promoting a positive attitude, but rather an honest one. If the truth happens to be positive, leave it as it is, but if it happens to be a negative, don't change it either. While recently reading through my Bible, Joshua 8:34 caught my attention. The verse says that when Joshua was reading to the Israelites "he read all the words of the law, the blessings and cursings" He gave the people both the positive and negative sides of the law. To listen to some of our brethren preach, you would think that all of our good Baptist churches were in the heat of a great revival, when in reality, many ministries are struggling to even exist.

We are greatly blessed to have a home church where the pulpit is red hot and the building is full for just about every service, including the Wednesday night prayer service. Souls are being saved, missionaries are being sent out, a Bible Institute is starting this fall, and I expect things to even get better as time goes on. That's the positive side. The negative side is that the Scripture printing ministry is feeling some very, very serious financial pressure. In fact, we are not growing at all. We are printing less than we were two years ago. Now, please don't get the wrong idea! **We are not about to quit, throw in the towel, close up shop, or shut down the ministry.** Just as long as we can hear the call ". . . ringing o'er the restless wave, 'Send the light! Send the light' . . .", we plan to do just that, but we desperately need some more financial help.

For the past twenty-two-years I have been with VBP, each time a financial crisis has occurred, the Lord came through and met the need right on time, every time. I have also noticed that He

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met the need through the prayers and support of His good people. After bathing the financial situation in prayer for several months, I believe the Holy Spirit led me to take the need to our friends and supporters by way of the letter inserted in this Newsletter. Would you please read the letter and join me in prayer for the need to be met and believe with me that the lost support will be recovered before the end of 2012?

Also, please pray for the James Bartels family. Brother Bartels has many years of printing experience and will be a great asset to the ministry. He is waiting for his house to sell in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, so he can move his family to Florida and work with VBP.

In the next issue of this Newsletter I will give a report on the response to this plea, and hopefully it will be very, very positive.

Thank you for being our friends.
Bro. Jim Fellure

The Print Shop



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

In our last letter we told you about a piece of new equipment coming in—an image setter that makes high quality films which will be used to make plates for all of the presses we have in the shop. It has arrived and has been installed in working order. Now the trick is to get the time to learn all that it can do, or at least what we need it to do. This is complicated by the necessity of my having to wear a lot of different hats in the shop. This is not a complaint. I am happy to be able to be in the ministry, but I guess anyone involved in any type of ministry always wants to do more. The fact of the matter is that there is much to be done. Requests for Scripture come in all the time, and it is our desire to fulfill every one of them, but that simply is not possible at this time. If you are reading

this, you probably already have some burden for the printed page, but if not, please think about this. In the digital age that we Americans now live in, the Bible is probably available in more formats than ever before, and often for free. We tend to think that anyone can download an app for their Iphone and have the Word of God, but please remember that there are billions of people who still do not have a Smart phone or computer. The masses still need to be reached with the printed page, preferably in their own language. It is still the Gospel that is the power of God unto salvation. Preachers can and should preach it, but someone who has never heard it before needs to be able to read it themselves so they can meditate on it and digest it. Victory Baptist Press may never be able to fulfill every request for Scripture, but we can certainly do more with your help. Please help us to keep the presses rolling.

Our next project is another truckload of Spanish Bibles. We have the paper on the floor right now, but I just need to get some film made on our new image setter in order to make some new plates. We still need to order cover stock for these Bibles, the cost of which is about \$9,000. Please pray that God will meet this need so that when we get the job printed we can put the covers on right away. A truckload of paper makes about 25,000 Bibles.

On a personal note, I had to take a

leave of absence for nearly two weeks because of a surgery that I have needed for a long time. The doctor said it would be a very painful operation, and she was right. God was good through it all, though. My wife made an excellent nurse, mostly leaving me alone. One night I was listening to some soft music on my wife's mp3 player to get my mind off myself and onto the Lord. As a wave of pain was coming over me, I was praying for relief and the song that came up next was at the end of a CD from Crown College. It was an old recording of Dr. Lee Roberson and Dr. Clarence Sexton that someone at Crown College had found and put at the end of that CD. They sang just one verse of "Have Thine Own Way." As I listened to that, I prayed, "Lord, have your own way. If you want me to hurt, I will hurt for your glory." I wish I could tell you that the pain subsided right away. It did not, but God's grace was sufficient, and I am pain free now and 90% recovered. You never know how you might be a blessing to someone. An action you take today might not yield fruit for many years to come, and you may never know it does either. That is why it is so important to do as Paul admonished, "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men" (Col. 3:23).

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

WILLIAM CAREY STOOD THE TEST

William Carey had to overcome great odds to obey the call of God. In *The Challenge of Life*, Oswald J. Smith noted that "even the directors of the East India Company opposed Carey's work." Following is the idiotic resolution they presented to Parliament:

"The sending out of missionaries into one Eastern possession is the maddest, most extravagant, most costly, most indefensible project which has ever been suggested by a moonstruck fanatic."

Smith added, "In 1796, the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland passed the following infamous resolution:

"To spread the knowledge of the gospel amongst barbarians and heathens seems to be highly preposterous."

One speaker in the House of Commons said that he would rather see a band of devils let loose in India than a band of missionaries. Such was the opposition to missions when Carey set forth. And yet, he was able to write, "Why is my soul disquieted within me? Things may turn out better than I expect. Everything is known to God, and God cares."

William Carey stood the test, and became the father of modern missions.

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VBP Field Reps



BILL and VICKI RICHBURG

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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.



SHAWN and EMMA DUNN

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Liberty, IN 47353
765.580.2196
preacherswdunn@gmail.com

The Dunns became field representatives for Victory Baptist Press in September 2010.

After pastoring two churches for a total of 24 years, and being heavily involved with printing and distributing the Scriptures, the burden for Scripture printing became so real to Brother Dunn and his wife Emma, that he resigned as a pastor to become a full-time representative for VBP.



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“We have many missionaries bringing clothes, food, and medical supplies, etc. But the Great Commission is to bring the Gospel.”

-Missionary Ray Bowie

Borrowed Illustrations

Will Rogers once said, “Old age and crab grass are the two worst things that ever hit this country.”

Children touring a retirement home were asked by a resident if they had any questions. “Yes,” one girl said. “How old are you?”

“I’m 98,” she replied proudly.

Clearly impressed, the child’s eyes grew wide with wonder. “Did you start at one?”

In a Harvard study of several hundred preschoolers, researchers discovered an interesting phenomenon. As they taped the children’s playground conversation, they realized that all the sounds coming from little girls’ mouths were recognizable words. However, only 60 percent of the sounds coming from little boys were recognizable. The other 40 percent were yells and sound effects like “Vrrroooooom!” “Aaaaagh!” “Toot toot!” This difference persists into adulthood.

Communication experts say that the average woman speaks over 25,000 words a day, while the average man speaks only a little over 10,000. What does this mean in marital terms? . . . On average a wife will say she needs to spend 45 minutes to an hour each day in meaningful conversation with her husband. What does her husband sitting next to her say is enough time for meaningful conversation? Fifteen to twenty minutes once or twice a week!

Many times women get blamed with complaining more than men. One good Christian attorney said, “Women don’t complain more than men, they are just better at it.”



Blessings & Benefits

Within the microcosm of my family there is a great illustration of the various stages in a Christian's life – this "race that is set before us." Ahead of me, full of energy and excitement, ready for any new experience, are my nine-year-old grandsons. They are always ten steps ahead of me, moving on and urging me to catch up. Then along come my husband and me, no longer with the pace and stamina of just a few years ago, yet still making steady progress and eager to reach the expected goal. As I turn and look behind me, there is my mother coming along, slowly but surely. She's almost 85 years old and her gait has slowed tremendously, but she's still walking! I'm encouraged to see her continue to make forward progress, considering the toll that the years have taken on her physical body; and I can still gain wisdom from her and her life experiences.

So it is, in many ways, in our walk with the Lord. There is great encouragement and help to be gained from each stage. Those out in front, full of energy and zeal, are anxious to do something great for the cause of Christ. They have the strength of their youth and the drive to accomplish great things. They are not yet wearied from the years of battle with the Great Discourager and the many enemies of the cross. Praise the Lord for these young men and women! They are the future of the Church and of missions, and will carry on what was begun by those who are behind.

Not too far back, moving forward at a steady pace, are those who have been at the task for a good number of years. They have knowledge and wisdom gained through experience and have benefited from the labors of those servants of Christ of yesteryear and the tried and true methods they developed. Still creative and innovative, this group is doing the bulk of the hands-on work in the churches and on the mission fields. They are excited to see the youthful ones picking up the mantles of past servants, yet they still enjoy the strength to stay at the task.

As those of us in that group walk on, we look behind and see the older saints, still on the move, still motivated by their love for the Lord and the work of God. Physical endurance may be waning, but they are not without the zeal and desire that produces the "good works which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." It is highly beneficial to the first two groups to look back frequently at these faithful ones bringing up the rear. Many of them are the prayer warriors, the exhorters, the teachers of wise things that provide a solid foundation for the future.

Thus it is in God's work force. Each generation is actively pursuing "the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." We move ahead as the Lord reveals the path we are to travel, but we look back to those still coming along behind. Their sacrifices, their battle wounds, their victories and successes, encourage those who are out in front to confront the challenges and scale the heights. All are eager to reach the expected goal, and no matter the pace, it's the FORWARD movement that is most important!

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@colonialbc.org.

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Words and Deeds

*A word you say may bring the sun
 Into a lonely person's heart;
 A kindly deed may help to give
 A beaten man a brand new start.
 The words you say, the deeds you do
 Help others rise, or help them fall;
 Build up - don't wreck - for little things
 Can make or break beyond recall.*

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Oh Lord, What Have I Gotten Myself Into?

by LaMoin Cunningham

You will certainly laugh and cry as LaMoin opens her heart and memory to her adjustment to living in the backward and impoverished country of Ethiopia, East Africa. Laugh with her as she tells you about hair in her food, fleas in her bed, and childbirth and surgery in a primitive environment.

259 pages. **\$17.98**

LA MOIN CUNNINGHAM



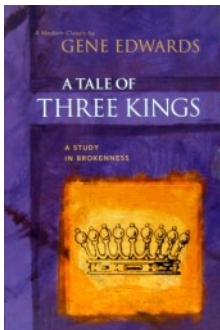
GLAD I DIDN'T KNOW

by LaMoin Cunningham

In Australia LaMoin was fumigated, swallowed flies, was threatened with death, almost lost her husband, and got her first and only traffic ticket. She experienced loneliness, sickness, and disabling depression that almost ended her life. By God's grace, she became a more effective Christian because of the

life-changing lessons learned through those bitter trials.

155 pages. **\$15.98**

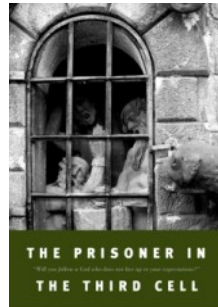


A Tale of Three Kings

by Gene Edwards

Many Christians have experienced pain, loss, and heartache at the hands of other believers. To those believers, this compelling story offers comfort, healing, and hope.

100 pages. **\$9.00**

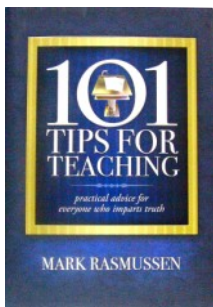


The Prisoner in the Third Cell

by Gene Edwards

Told as an unforgettable drama, for those caught up in circumstances of life they do not understand. In this dramatic story, John the Baptist, imprisoned by Herod and awaiting death, struggles to understand a Lord who did not live up to his expectations.

80 pages. **\$9.65**



101 Tips for Teaching

by Mark Rasmussen

This book comes with high recommendations for all teachers: Sunday School, Junior Church, Vacation Bible School, Christian School, or anything else.

205 pages, hdbk. **\$11.95**



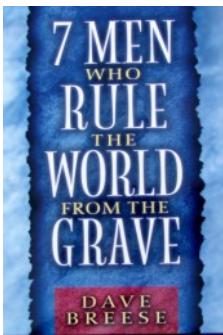
Don't Look Now, But Your Religion Is Showing

by Dr. Raymond Barber

We typically use the word religion to denote a man-made system of rituals through which one hopes to approach God. In this book Dr. Barber examines fifteen problem areas in religion, then says, "when you 'let your light so shine before men,' make sure that it is more than just your religion showing".

170 pages, hdbk. **\$11.50**

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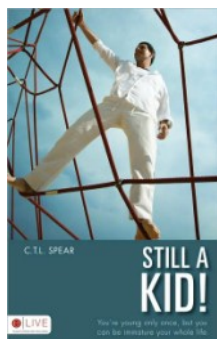


7 Men Who Rule the World from the Grave

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

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

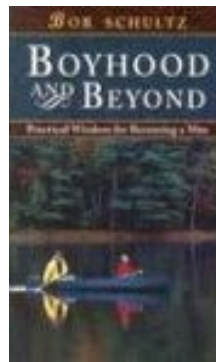
235 pages. **\$13.50**



Still a Kid!

by C.T.L. Spear
 "You're young only once, but you can be immature your whole life."
 Drawing from decades of youth work, Spear demonstrates the lifelong tragedy of lost opportunity...Lessons learned from *Still a Kid* may be the catalyst needed to get you off the horns of your dilemma.

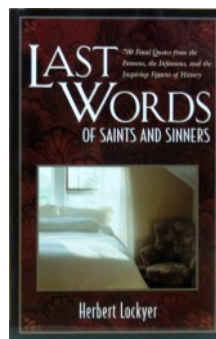
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 This is a timeless book for boys. Wisdom and common sense are gleaned from short chapters covering topics such as authority, inventiveness, and honesty, as well as learning to overcome things like fear, laziness, and temptation. *Boyhood and Beyond* motivates boys to build their lives on a foundation of strong moral principles. Most importantly, these chapters will encourage boys to become the men God wants them to be as they develop a relationship with Him.

219 pages. **\$10.50**



Last Words of Saints and Sinners

by Herbert Lockyer
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Pastor Tim Fellure

THE STORY OF SAMSON

Judges 13-16 tells the sad story of one of Israel's most promising judges, Samson. From chapter 13 we read that his life was one of **Unsurpassed Promise**. Like many of the young people sitting in our churches today, he was born with great advantages: the promise of his life, the parents in his life, and the power on his life all point to a young man that should have done great exploits for God.

The story takes a horrible turn, however, in chapter 14 where we find that his life was one of **Unusual Pitfalls**. After reading the great promise of Samson's life in Judges 13, we would not expect to find him acting the way he does in chapter 14. But between the chapters, something has gone wrong in Samson's life. The child who was born with such promise has turned into a disrespectful, lustful, worldly-minded young man. In this chapter of his life, there is a rebellion that was foreboding, a romance that was forbidden, rules that were forsaken, and a riddle that wasn't funny.

The most difficult chapter to understand is chapter 15 where we find that his life was one of an **Unanswerable Paradox**. In this chapter, Samson has the wrong motives and uses a faulty method, but God gives him victory over the enemy anyway. On one end of the chapter is a man full of hate and revenge, and on the other end of the chapter is a man killing 1,000 of the enemy. The perplexing question is how could God use a man like Samson? How could a man be so dominated by the flesh but, at times, be filled with the Spirit?

In the fourth chapter of the Samson narrative, we find a life of **Unbridled**

Passion. In Judges 16, the train wreck happens! It is not possible that a man could sow as much carnality and revenge and disdain for his vows in the previous chapters and not have a harvest. Yet, it is a chapter that didn't have to be written. No man who has the beginning of Judges 13 should have the ending of Judges 16.

1) A Pattern Samson Should Have Never Established.

When we find Samson laying his head on Delilah's lap, we must recognize that his problems did not start there. Delilah was not his first fling; she was just the last one. What took place in one night started over twenty years prior.

His first recorded words were, "*I have seen a woman . . .*" (14:2). His attraction to her was physical only: "*Get her for me; for she pleaseth me well*" (14:3). Twenty years later, he is still pursuing the strange woman (16:1). His final attraction with Delilah is a fatal one (16:4). Three woman – and maybe there were more – but three is enough to identify that Samson was a lustful man and had a pattern of chasing loose women.

Lust was Samson's Achilles heel. It was his point of vulnerability; the weakness Satan could use against him. And for most men, it is the same. But for you it might be covetousness or pride or a critical spirit or bitterness or anger. Every man has a point of weakness that Satan will exploit to sour your fellowship with fellow believers and with Christ.

2) A Place Samson Should Have Never Visited.

I do not know why Samson had such an infatuation with the Philistines, but he couldn't stay away from their cities or their women. The Philistines were enemies of the Israelites, and the very people Samson was supposed to deliver Israel from, but he fell in love with the enemy.

Timnath, where he found his first love, was not just down geographically (14:1, 5, 7, 10), but down spiritually. Gaza, where he found the harlot, was a Philistine military stronghold and no place for the acting judge of Israel. The valley of Sorek, where he found Delilah, was on the border

between Israel and the Philistines, but the man of God shouldn't even be in the vicinity of impropriety.

Samson played loose with where he spent his time, he was careless with his companions, and he liked to hang around the enemies camps. The secret to victory over sin is to run just as far away from it as you can. Learn a lesson from Lot (2 Pet. 2:8) and if where you're going vexes your soul, then leave.

3) A Person Samson Should Have Never Met.

Among the most powerful influences over a young life, friends have to be at the top of the list. Your acquaintances will either influence you for good or evil. It is impossible to have bad friends and a good life. Show me who your friends are, and I'll tell you what's in your heart. Parents, if you have to offend the whole world, don't let your kids get entangled with a carnal crowd. I have every right to warn my children of unworthy acquaintances. I have every right to direct them toward godly companions. I have every right to determine their friends. It's called parenting!

Delilah was a woman who was guided by greed (16:4-5), fake with her feelings (16:19, 13, 15), and used Samson's weakness to wound him (16:8-9, 12, 14, 18-19).

4) A Price Samson Should Have Never Paid.

The price Samson paid for his loose ways was both physical and spiritual. Physically, he lost his freedom, eyesight, and dignity. Spiritually, he lost fellowship with the Lord, spiritual discernment, and his ministry as a judge of Israel. The tragedy is that it should not have ended this way; this chapter should never have been written.

In light of the recent news of a nationally known Baptist pastor falling, let us take heed to ourselves to not have this chapter ever written in our own life's story. Man of God, cultivate holiness, walk in humility, stay in prayer, love your wife, live circumspectly, strive for blamelessness, and keep your eyes on Jesus.