"The Lord gave the word: great *was* the company of those that published *it.*" (Psalm 68:11) Victory Baptist Press P.O. Box 766 Milton, FL 32572-0766

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Jim & Mary Fellure

This is Friday morning, February 22, and I am writing from my office at home in Florida. I had to cancel several meetings in the last few months due to some health issues, but my last trip to the doctor was my last appointment, and I once again have a clean bill of health.

I just finished preaching the annual Faith Promise Mission Conference for Pastor Charlie Andrews and the Gloryland Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. This was my sixth year to preach that conference, and I believe it was the best one yet. This past Wednesday night, I preached for Pastor Wayne Matheson and the Victory Baptist Church in Crestview, Florida. I have preached for Brother Matheson several times, but I have never had more liberty, and the hand of God was on the service.

I now look forward to several meetings already booked throughout the year and pray that God will use us wherever we go. With all there is do as the director of this printing ministry, I could stay busy the rest of my life and never leave Milton, Florida, but I do enjoy preaching special meetings and want to be a blessing to the pastors and churches that trust me with their pulpit.

While preaching in Birmingham, I met a young missionary couple, Luke and Jamie Knickerbocker. I bought the book they have written, *Worth the Wait.* At my age, you wouldn't think I would read a book about courtship and marriage, but I read it the next day all the way through and laughed (or cried) on almost every page. I was so impressed with the book, I bought 50 copies to put in the bookstore here at home, and I am sure we will order more in the future. If you are a young man, or

young lady, please read the book. Parents and pastors would do well to get this book into the hands of every young person they know before they enter into a serious courtship. You can order the book from page six of this newsletter, or visit <u>www.victorybaptistpress.com</u>.

Speaking of books, much of the income for our Scripture printing comes from the sale of books we offer through our bookstore, on book tables at special meetings, through *The Newsletter*, or online. Of course, our readers know by now that all the Scriptures we print are sent to the mission field without charge to the missionaries. So when you purchase any book from VBP, you will have the peace of mind that the book will be doctrinally sound, and at the same time, you will be supporting worldwide missions.

The current Spanish Bible project is just about completed, and we are not sure which direction to go next. There is a great need to restock our English John/Romans since we are getting a lot of requests we are unable to fill. The Uganda, South Africa, and Philippine Islands projects are all still waiting for enough funds to start. There is also a greater demand for Spanish Scriptures which we will never be able to completely meet. Regardless of which project we do next, it will take approximately fifty-thousand dollars to complete them. Please pray that the Lord will give us the wisdom needed to get these projects underway.

A blessing in disguise! Brother Al Berg mentions his daughter, Sarah, in his notes on the next page, but I also want to express my appreciation for her willingness to help in the print shop. Sarah recently graduated from Crown College as a music major, so naturally, one would not expect her to have printers skills, but she picked up on fourcolor, process printing as quickly as anyone we have ever known. With just a few weeks of training, Sarah was digitally formatting documents, sending them through the image setter, making the plates, setting up the press, and printing like a professional. In fact, Sarah is responsible for this first edition of The Newsletter in color.

### MEMORIALS

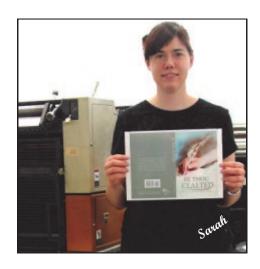
All memorial and recognition gifts given to Victory Baptist Press are used to print and distribute Bibles without charge. Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 428 Bibles for the mission field.

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Thanks, Sarah, for a job well done! Thank you, readers, for your support and please continue to pray for us,

Jim Fellure





Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The first two months of 2013 have been very fruitful for the Victory Baptist Press print shop. We have just finished printing a run of approximately 23,000 Spanish Bibles mostly headed to Mexico. This project has taken longer than we like, and we know people are waiting to receive them. Please pray that the binding process will go smoothly so we can get these out the door to those who need them.

Victory Baptist Press has also reached another milestone that is long overdue. We have finally gotten our offset four-color printing to the point where we can do this newsletter in color. My daughter, Sarah, is

privilege to have her working in the shop shipping costs. With that in mind, we will be with me. Recently, she was given some valuable pointers from Bro. Dave Rodrigues, who is now working with Gleaning for Christ Missions in Valley Fork, adult life in the commercial printing world, but has recently decided to give his talents to the Lord for His work. Bro. Rodrigues spent four days training Sarah in some of the finer points of the trade and was a big book covers, and I have to say that, so far, it was the best four-color printing that has ever been done in our shop. In the past, we've done our book covers on a digital laser printer, and the quality was okay, but we wanted to step it up a notch. It has not been easy, but we trust all of the effort put into it will pay off in the long run. The books we sell on our website have been a vital part of supporting this ministry during the past few years, so we want to make them top-quality to the best of our ability.

Your gifts to this ministry are still very important, as well. We still provide all of the Scripture we print, free of charge at our door, as the Lord provides. A few weeks ago, I crunched some numbers and figured that in materials alone, it costs about \$50,000 to process a truckload of paper. the one responsible for this now, and it is a That does not include labor, electricity, or

needing another truckload of paper soon. Would you pray about helping us get that in a timely fashion?

Speaking of labor, a lot of our shop West Virginia. He has spent most of his work is done by volunteers, and it would not get done without them. There are too many to name, but I do want to give a special thanks to the girls at Marvelous Grace Girls Academy from right here in Pace, Florida. Bro. Steve Blankenship runs this school for help. Last week she printed three different troubled girls. I do not know their individual problems, but they have been a blessing

> Special thanks to the girls at Marvelous Grace Girls' Academy...They have been a blessing any time they have been able to help us here in the print shop.

any time they have been able to help us here in the print shop. Please pray that these girls, and anyone else who helps us get the Word of God out, will both receive a blessing and realize what a blessing they are, not just to me, but to those that will eventually receive these Bibles.

> May God bless you, Bro. Albert Berg



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VBP Recommends the Marvelous Grace Girls' Academy!

### 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.



### SHAWN and EMMA DUNN

109A E. High Street 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.

When a VBP representative speaks to a congregation, the people are challenged to help send the glorious Gospel of Christ around the world in it's purest form – the printed Word of God. <u>What could be more important?</u>



# **Borrowed Illustrations**

Will Rogers was known for his laughter, but he also knew how to weep. One day he was entertaining at the Milton H. Berry Institute in Los Angeles, a hospital that specialized in rehabilitating polio victims and people with broken backs and other extreme physical handicaps. Of course, Rogers had everybody laughing, even patients in really bad conditions; but then he suddenly left the platform and went to the rest room. Milton Berry followed him to give him a towel; and when he opened the door, he saw Will Rogers leaning against the wall, sobbing like a child. He closed the door, and in a few minutes, Rogers appeared back on the platform, as jovial as before.

If you want to learn what a person is really like, ask three questions: What makes him laugh? What makes him angry? What makes him weep? These are fairly good tests of character that are especially appropriate for Christian leaders. I hear people saying, "We need angry leaders today!" or "The time has come to practice militant Christianity!" Perhaps, but "the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God" (James 1:20).

What we need today is not anger but anguish, the kind of anguish that Moses displayed when he broke the two tablets of the law and then climbed the mountain to intercede for his people, or that Jesus displayed when He cleansed the temple and then wept over the city. The difference between anger and anguish is a broken heart. It's easy to get angry, especially at somebody else's sins; but it's not easy to look at sin, our own included, and weep over it.

- Warren W. Wiersbe

On a windswept hill in an English country churchyard stands a drab, gray slate tombstone. The quaint stone bears an epitaph not easily seen unless you stoop over and look closely. The faint etchings read:

Beneath this stone, a lump of clay, Lies Arabella Young, Who on the twenty-fourth of May, Began to hold her tongue.

Source Unknown

If your lips would keep from slips, Five things observe with care. To whom you speak; of whom you speak, And how, and when and where.

- Copied

## Graced or Graceless?

"For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men ... " (Titus 2:11)

Mrs. Pam Leake

Benefits

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Blessings



ow often do you stop to consider the huge role that grace plays in your life? So many times I've heard someone say, "If it weren't for the grace of God, I could be ... " (and fill in the situation). I'm afraid that too often that statement is made without really giving proper consideration and thanks to the Lord for His divine intervention in our lives through His perfect and timely grace. Even setting aside those "brush with death" situations, or times of God's providential protection from unseen

danger, our day to day lives are framed with grace from the hands of our loving, heavenly Father, who often sends that grace through other people.

One personal example was the recent trip my husband and I made to go to a meeting we had long desired to attend. The church was nearly a 14-hour drive away. We knew the time spent in driving would not only tax our bodies, but take most of the time that we could allow for being away from responsibilities at home. BUT GOD, being especially gracious to us, blessed us with being able to fly to the meeting; plus we had a very comfortable hotel room, were furnished with a fine vehicle to drive while there, and enjoyed the great preaching and fellowship of the meeting. On our return trip, foggy weather on the East Coast cancelled our flight home from the Charlotte airport. We were rerouted to Dulles, but upon arriving there we found out that the flight from Dulles to Charlottesville was also cancelled. After a very long evening, with exhaustion and frustration setting in, I nearly let myself begin to complain. BUT GOD, in His gracious, perfect way, provided us with a rental car to make the two-hour drive home. Not only was it a comfortable car, but He also let us cross paths with two other stranded travelers needing to get to Charlottesville who joined us and shared the cost of the rental car. It was an extra blessing of His grace that these two people were Christians as well, and the two-hour trip was filled with shared testimonies of the great things the Lord had done for each of us. In no time at all, we were home safe and sound - recipients one and all of the wonderful grace of God!

In the busyness of our lives, it seems many Christians lose the wonder of what God's grace has done for them. They become "graceless" Christians who have forgotten what a hopeless situation they were in before the Lord saved them, and they have lost sight of His daily hand of grace on them, having become self-centered and unthankful. It becomes hard for them to extend grace to others because grace is not realized in their own lives.

We all depend upon the grace of God for our existence, whether we realize it or not. No doubt, if we would take a few moments each day to reflect upon how personally vital that grace is, we would not fall in that "graceless" category and we would be a better reflection of God's grace to others.

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.

# A Song for the Aged

#### JESUS LOVES ME

Jesus loves me, this I know, Though my hair is white as snow Though my sight is growing dim. Still He bids me trust in Him. (Chorus) Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.

Though my steps are oh, so slow, With my hand in His I'll go On through life, let come what may, He'll be there to lead the way. (Chorus)

When the nights are dark and long, In my heart He puts a song. Telling me in words so clear, "Have no fear, for I am near." (Chorus)

When my work on earth is done, And life's victories have been won. He will take me home above. Then I'll understand his love. (Chorus)

-Copied

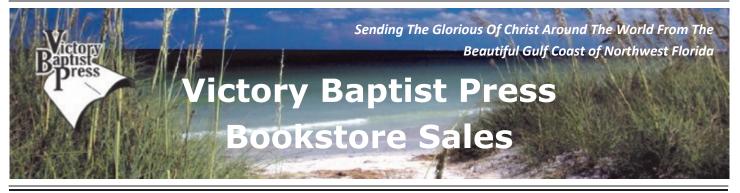
### Weight Loss!

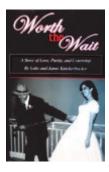
"I'm so depressed and I can't get any dates," the 300-pound man told his minister. "I've tried everything to lose weight."

"I think I can help," said the minister. "Be dressed and ready to go tomorrow at 8 a.m."

Next morning, a beautiful, charming young woman knocked on the man's door. "If you can catch me, you can have me," she said, as she took off. He huffed and puffed after her.

This routine went on every day for the next five months. The man lost 115 pounds and felt confident that he would catch the woman the next day. That morning he whipped open his front door and found a 300-pound woman in a jogging suit waiting for him. "The minister said to tell you," she began, "that if I can catch you, I can have you."





### Worth the Wait by Luke and Jamie Knickerbocker

Worth the Wait is an unusual story of courtship and love. It tells how Luke and Jamie came to realize the value of waiting to engage in a physical relationship until their wedding day. In a day when little virtue is reserved for marriage, they share a rare gift of purity and commitment from the very start. They discovered that true love begins with knowing Christ. A foundation is then laid for a meaningful relationship.

Luke and Jamie are now married and have three children. They are currently studying at the Baptist Bible Translators Institute in Bowie, Texas, and plan to be missionaries to the country of Nepal.

This is a must-read book for any young person before entering into a serious courtship. Pastors and youth workers would do well to see that every young person in the church gets this book.

184 pages. **\$10.00** 



## Sister Friends, Supporting one another in Grace and Godliness

by Francis Taylor

Sister Friends provides candid insights and observations about the ups and downs of friendship. True friendship is based upon the biblical concept of "iron sharpeneth iron." False friendships are self-centered

and volatile. Show me your closest friends, and I will tell you what your outlook on life is.

When we enter into a friendship with a "what's in it for me" attitude, we run the risk of painful outcomes that are emotionally draining. If it is your goal to be a good and godly friend, you will find encouragement and direction within these chapters.

114 pages. **\$8.70** 



### With All My Heart

by Cindie Trieber

This book offers today's Christian lady practical advice on how to love her husband, organize her home, raise children, walk with God and fulfill the calling of God. It also gives a brief glimpse into the life of Mrs. Trieber and the principles that she used to create a happy, healthy and Christ-honoring home.

167 pages, hdbk. Suggested retail \$19.95.

You pay only \$18.25



# Before You Meet Prince Charming

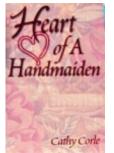
by Sarah Mally

Every young lady desiring to be married one day must read this book! It will challenge you; it will stir you; it will delight you! Most importantly, it will help you practically prepare for one of the most important decisions of your life. In *Before* 

You Meet Prince Charming, Sarah Mally tackles the most critical subject for single women and offers insightful counsel with a wonderful sense of humor. I believe this will be a great encouragement to princesses everywhere.

-Beall Phillips

272 pages. **\$13.50** 



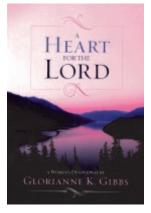
# Heart of a Handmaiden

by Cathy Corle

When self is surrendered to the Savior, and my insufficiency is swallowed up in His all sufficiency, then the miraculous can take place, and God can do His life-changing work.

172 pages. **\$10.50** 

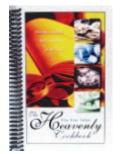
"Books are the carriers of civilization. Without books, history is silent, literature dumb, science crippled, thought and speculation at a standstill. Books are humanity in print."



### A Heart for the Lord

by Glorianne K. Gibbs This big book of devotionals for women, written by the wife of Attorney David Gibbs, Jr., will be a favorite in the personal library of any Christian lady.

202 pages. **\$14.95** 

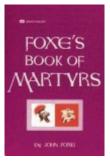


## The Heavenly Cookbook

by Mary Fellure

This great cookbook will be a great asset to your kitchen or as a gift for a friend. It contains 469 recipes that Mrs. Fellure has gathered from many pastors' wives during her travels with her husband all across America.

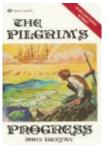
180 pages of delicious recipes and helps, spiral-bound. **\$12.00** 



# Foxe's Book of Martyrs

by John Foxe When you read this book, you will never be the same. It contains the story of men and women who stood for what they believed in, and they paid the ultimate price – their lives.

409 pages. **\$7.00** 



# The Pilgrim's Progress

by John Bunyan

Complete and unabridged. Christian is a man on an adventurous journey across rough terrain, over sunlit hills and through dark valleys. His trek is an intriguing allegory for today – mixed with the chivalric adventure of yesterday – as the pilgrimage takes us from the City of Destruction to the Celestial City, whose builder and maker is God.

400 pages. **\$8.25** 

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<u>Pastor Tim Fellure</u>

What Is Your Life?

#### James 4:13-15

Questions are part of our everyday speech and can have several purposes: they can be asked to gain information, probe thinking or to create doubt. People can ask hypothetical questions, rhetorical questions and too many questions. There are stupid questions, there are offensive questions and there are funny questions. But there are some questions that are very serious. Some questions are so serious that they can determine your destiny and can even be a matter of life and death. There are some questions that have eternal implications and which every man must answer.

In our text, James is making a point by drawing a hypothetical picture. He wants to demonstrate the brevity of life, and he creates an illustration of a merchant taking a business trip. To this hypothetical merchant, James asks a very somber question: "What is your life?" This question has the same purpose for which God asked Adam in the garden, "Where art thou?" The omniscient God was not trying to find Adam, but probing Adam to confess his sin. "Adam, why are you hiding? What have you done?" God knew the answer, but He wanted Adam to know the answer. So James is not asking one businessman for his résumé or for an accounting of his life, but is asking all of us to ponder what life is. Consider that life is sacred, but short, and that you have only one.

#### 1) A Presumptive Plan!

A certain merchant has planned his next trading venture. He has made all the

preparations: his clothes are packed, his supplies are loaded on the camels, the travel plans have been made. He will travel to another city on a buying and selling expedition. He has done market research. he has studied the competition, and has anticipated his expenditures and projected future profits. The little word "and" sets out the different segments of a well-defined, well-laid-out, well-planned business plan. He is going to do this and then do that and then do the other thing. "We will go into such a city, and continue there a year, and buy and sell, and get gain." But James has a word for this businessman: he tells him that he is making some very uncertain presumptions in his business plan.

He Presumes When. "Today or tomorrow we will go into such a city ...? Maybe he will leave late tonight or maybe they will get up real early at the crack of dawn in the morning. He knows when he is going to do what he plans to do. He Presumes Where. "...we will go into such a city ... " I can see him with the map laid out on the table - the city is marked out in red. This is where he is going; all his data tells him that this is the best place to set up his business. He Presumes What. " ... and buy and sell, and get gain." The business plan calls for staying for about a year and then it will be time to move on. He does not bother to include any kind of recession because the plan cannot fail.

There is nothing wrong with the picture James is drawing for us. You cannot fault this businessman for making plans; this is a smart thing to do. If you fail to plan, you have planned to fail.

#### 2) Some Possible Problems!

It has often been noted that James doesn't have a lot of positive things to say in his book. If anyone can find the cloud behind the silver lining and burst your bubble, it is James. So just when you think James is commending this businessman for his shrewd planning, he starts laying out the problems with the plan. "But now ye rejoice in your boastings: all such rejoicing is evil." James says that this man is full of empty pretension and his plans will all come to naught. What this man has planned is fine and well, but it is what he has not planned that will bring him to ruin.

The Problem of Life's Uncertainty.

"Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow." He has not considered that there are no guarantees in life. We count our life by the years, but the Bible counts it by the day. We assume we will live long enough to retire, but we are not even assured of tomorrow. This businessman has planned to be in business for about a year, but James tells him he does not even know about a day. "Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Prov. 27:1).

The Problem of Life's Brevity. "For what is your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." Man's allotted days are threescore and ten years – a short time indeed when compared to eternity. We do everything we can to extend life. We try to eat a proper diet and get proper exercise. We think that if we can stay in shape, we can extend life. But death is in real good shape and death is gaining on you every day. You are not going to outrun him.

James compares life to a puff of smoke. Have you ever tried to catch a puff of smoke? If you had the hands of a Samson and the fingers of a Hercules you could not catch a puff of smoke. It is here and then it is gone. Since life is brief, you better take the opportunity now to settle your affairs with God. If you are going to get saved, get your life right with God and serve Jesus, you'd better do it now. You may not have a tomorrow.

#### 3) A Powerful Persuasion!

"For that ye ought to say, If the Lord will, we shall live, and do this, or that." This man doesn't understand that life is a precious gift from God. People go their way as if God does not exist and does not play a part in their life whatsoever. You have only one life to live and not long to live it – only what you do for Christ in this life will matter. The purpose of life is not to pursue your own dreams and accomplish your goals. The purpose of life is to do the will of the Lord.

You are here today and gone tomorrow. That is hard to realize when you are in good health and feeling strong. But people die of all ages: the cemetery has long graves and short ones. So plan a full life, but don't forget that there is an eternity ahead. This life is brief, but it is only the beginning.