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THE NEWSLETTER

March – April 2015

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

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



Approximately 25,000 whole Spanish Bibles for distribution in South America were shipped to missionary Don Rich on January 26. Expected delivery in Peru is February 25. Total cost for this project: \$58,634.98; paid in full.



Al Berg with a truckload of paper delivered to VBP on February 4. Thirty-one rolls @ \$1,105 per roll = \$34,255, total cost per truckload. Expected yield: 90,000 Spanish New Testaments. Between 35,000 and 50,000 will go toward distribution in Colombia, South America. Estimated total cost to complete this project: \$50,000. Additional funds needed: \$39,950.

Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

You will notice from the pictures on the front page and from Al Berg's notes on page 3, that God is still blessing VBP in a great way. Words can never fully express the satisfaction that I feel when complete truckloads of Scriptures leave the VBP print shop headed for mission fields around the world, and I do realize that none of this printing ministry would keep moving forward if it were not for those friends who pray and contribute financially. Thank you for helping us send the glorious Gospel of Christ around the world.

A few years back, I read *With The Old Breed*, by E.B. Sledge. "The book presents a stirring, personal account of the vitality and bravery of the Marines in the battles at Peleliu and Okinawa.

"The 'old breed' of ... Spirit-filled leaders that once made Christianity strong and influential in America is almost gone."

dured the events recorded in this book. In those years, he passed, often painfully, from innocence to experience. Sledge enlisted out of patriotism, idealism, and youthful courage; but once he landed on the beach at Peleliu, it was purely a struggle for survival."¹

I plan to soon read the book again; and as I read, I will feel a sadness because not many real men like Sledge are still around. It seems that most young men today have no desire to be like the old-fashioned patriots that made America the land of the free and the home of the brave.

We also face the tragic reality that the "old breed" of godly, dedicated Spirit-filled leaders that once made Christianity strong and influential in America is almost gone. This past Sunday, I had the privilege of hearing one of the few of "the old breed" of the fundamental Baptists that remain. Dr. Don Green, from Lansing, Michigan, preached both morning and evening services at our home church. In the morning service, he dealt with consecration, and Sunday night he did a follow-up with an emphasis on discipleship. Dr. Green is now eighty-six years of age and needs assistance getting up and down from the pulpit, but God's hand is on him. The altar was filled on Sunday morning and overflowing on Sunday night; and a good response at invitation time is a strong indication that the message was well received and that there is still hope for a real, old-fashioned revival of total consecration to Christ in the church.

Another thing that inspires my desire for the old paths is reading some of the great out-of-print books written by "the old breed" of writers. I am currently proofreading *Give Me That Book!*, by Dr. T.S. Rendall. This will be the seventh book by Dr. Rendall that VBP has put back in print, and it should be ready for the press within the next few weeks. If you love the Bible, you will surely enjoy this article about the books of the Bible in prose taken from Dr. Rendall's book.

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Sixty-six singers, singing sweet and true,
And setting all the world to singing, too.

Sixty-six soldiers, vigorous and strong,
Valiantly attacking cruelty and wrong.

Sixty-six judges, learned in the law,
Uttering decisions free from fear and flaw.

Sixty-six artists—wondrously they paint
Kings and sages, common folk, angel, Devil, saint.

Sixty-six explorers, keen to search and find
All the hidden secrets of life and death and mind.

Sixty-six masons, marvelously skilled;
One majestic temple they unite to build.

Sixty-six farmers, planting holy seed,
Happily upspringing in holy thought and deed.

Sixty-six teachers, keeping perfect school,
Where faith the law, and charity the rule.

Sixty-six doctors, knowing well to cure,
Masters of a medicine healing swift and sure.

Sixty-six sailors, bearing us away
To a better country, to a brighter day.

— A. Wells
taken from *Give Me That Book!*
by T.S. Rendall

I say let's stay with "the old breed" and the old Book. It will be worth it all when we see Jesus.

One happy camper,
Jim Fellure

¹ *With the Old Breed: At Peleliu and Okinawa*, by E. B. Sledge, Victor Davis Hanson (Introduction)

Print Shop News

*Al & Heidi Berg*

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace! Since our last newsletter, we have shipped a container of nearly 25,000 Spanish Bibles to Bro. Don Rich in Peru, who will distribute them to points all over South America. Romans 1:16 says, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth: . . ." There is more power in that container of Bibles than I think any of us will ever know. Among other blessings in regard to that load of Scripture, I believe it is the fastest we have ever printed and processed an entire truckload of paper. It normally takes about six months, but we were able to shave it down to five. Our thanks

goes to God and to the many volunteers who worked hard to make it happen.

Last October, we got a piece of equipment in the shop I have been wanting for over twenty years. It is called a packer box by some, or a stacker by others. It takes the printed signatures from the press and puts them in a stack or bundle and compresses them; then a worker ties a strap around them and puts them on a pallet. We were not able to install it right away because we were in the middle of the Spanish project mentioned above, but we started getting it ready just as soon as we could after they went out the door. It has actually been quite an ordeal and too complicated to explain in this letter but after a few weeks of working on it, we are finally ready to give it a good test. Our hope is that it will help the collating and binding process move more quickly and smoothly. Again, it is a little too technical to explain why in this article, but please pray that our hopes will soon be realized. If it goes as we hope, it may shave a few more weeks off the time it takes to complete a project.

Not long after the last load went out, by the grace of God, another truckload of paper was delivered to the shop. This project will be at least 40,000 Spanish New Testaments headed to Colombia. There should also be 50,000 more that we will be distributing to other places.

I trust that God has been as good to you as He has been to us. I think that if you read and meditate on God's Word, you will find that He indeed has been good to you.

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

MEMORIALS

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 453 Bibles for the mission field.

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There is no cost involved in acquiring or maintaining the rack. Anytime you need additional cards, simply contact Crystal Perrine with Victory Baptist Press (her contact information is provided on the back of each rack). We look forward to hearing from you.

VBP Field Reps



Bill and Vicki Richburg

P.O. Box 508

Six Mile, SC 29682

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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

109A E. High Street

Liberty, IN 47353

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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 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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"Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses" (1 Timothy 6:12).

The only adequate figure of Christian service is that of the military muster. Other figures there are, but only accessory. Timothy must first regard missionary service as a campaign, a crusade, a conquest—war. Fight he must, and so fight "that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier" (2 Timothy 2:4).

Theodore Roosevelt called Anthony Wayne, Brigadier General at 34, "the greatest field general America ever produced." Wayne was better known as "Mad Anthony."

With the British encamped at Germantown, George Washington held one of his inevitable councils of war. Wayne was all for attacking without delay, but most of the other officers sat around the table offering innumerable excuses for holding back.

When all the dissenting votes were in, Washington turned to Wayne, sitting quietly in a corner, reading a book. "What would you say, General?"

Wayne slammed the book shut, then rose slowly to his feet, glaring defiance at the group of distinguished officers, "I'd say nothing, Sir. I'd fight" (*American Mercury*).

Suppose we quit our "inevitable councils" and "innumerable excuses" and begin to "glare defiance" at a Christianity that merely maintains drill, talks war, and plays church. Rise up, O men of God! Gird your armour on. Get armed to the teeth. Be as determined as fighting men to win a war. Christ's soldiers live to fight, love to fight, love the thickest of the fight, and go anywhere providing it be forward. "He that hath no sword, let him sell his garment and buy one."

Ours is war—total war.

—copied from *World Missions, Total War* by L. E. Maxwell

When Wright was wrong:

A bishop of a century ago pronounced from his pulpit and in the periodical he edited that heavier-than-air flight was both impossible and contrary to the will of God. Oh, the irony that Bishop Wright had two sons, Orville and Wilbur! Wright was wrong. Sure of himself, but wrong.

—copied

GRACE TO HELP IN TIME OF NEED

Pressure! Stress! No time! Disappointment, fear, exhaustion . . . all of these little “joy thieves” are stalking your life to steal your joy. How easy it is these days to become victims of their attacks. Whether these things are actual or perceived, it seems increasingly harder to maintain a joyful heart and have a sense of rejoicing over the grace of God in your life. Harder, that is, if you have lost sight of the One who came to give you a more abundant life! (John 10:10)

Sometimes I find myself needing to put on the brakes and just take some time to reflect on the grace of God in my life and remember what a blessing He has been through good times and bad. I recall a very special time when I had a great “faith need,” and He tenderly taught me to trust

Him. Soon after my husband and I were saved, I was involved in a tragic car accident in which I hit a young boy on a bicycle when he rode out in front of me. Being so young in the faith, my husband and I were greatly shaken by the accident; and due to the severe injuries to the boy, we found ourselves praying as we never had before. His life literally hung in the balance, but the Lord was so gracious to us and to the young man as He worked a miracle in healing him. That incident caused our faith to grow by leaps and bounds, preparing us for what the Lord had in store in the years to come when He would call my husband into the ministry. Even today, we both look back to the grace God provided in our time of need, and we rejoice!

Early in the ministry, as my husband stepped out by faith to leave his construction business and be a full-time pastor of a small church, the Lord once again proved to be sufficient to meet every need. The church was not able to provide much salary, and we found ourselves looking at bare shelves in the pantry more than once. What a special memory of going to the door to find two large bags full of groceries on our porch, even though our need had never been mentioned publicly. We found grace to help in time of need (Heb. 4:16) and a reason to rejoice in Him! Now, when I sense the “joy thieves” lurking around me, I take a walk around my kitchen and do what a preacher friend once suggested. I look in the cupboard and thank Jesus for every can of beans, every box of cereal, and every appliance that His grace has provided this unworthy child. How can I not have joy?

Through personal failures, the care of an aging and ill parent, or the trials and heartaches of the ministry, I’m so thankful my joy does not depend upon me. If it did, there’s no doubt that I would be in a state of perpetual misery. If you ever find yourself thinking everyone else is blessed more than you, and you have lost your joy, stop and take a look back over the years, and you’ll be amazed to see the hand of the Lord in your life. He’s been your help, your provision, your strong tower; and He will continue to be.

“Because thou hast been my help, therefore in the shadow of thy wings will I rejoice” (Psalm 63:7).

Benefits & Blessings



Mrs. Pam Leake

*Pam is the wife of Ed Leake, pastor of Colonial Baptist Church and director of Colonial Press of Charlottesville, Virginia.
Email: pamleake@colonialbc.org*

GOD'S WRITTEN WORD

Laden with guilt, and full of fears,
I fly to Thee, my Lord,
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in Thy written Word.

The volume of my Father's grace
Does all my griefs assuage:
Here I behold my Saviour's face
Almost in every page.

This is the field where hidden lies
The pearl of price unknown,
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own.

Here consecrated water flows,
To quench my thirst of sin,
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells therein.

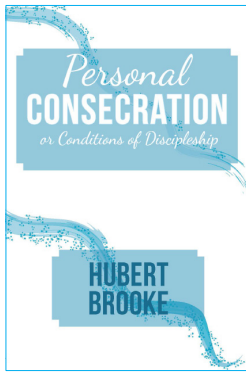
This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail,
My guide to everlasting life
Thro' all this gloomy vale.

Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command;
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

— Isaac Watts
taken from *Give Me That Book!*
by T.S. Rendall

There is a lamp whose steady light
Can guide the traveler in the night;
'Tis God's own Word; its beaming ray
Can turn a midnight into day.

— first stanza of
There Is A Lamp, by H.J. Betts
taken from *Give Me That Book!*
by T.S. Rendall



Personal Consecration or Conditions of Discipleship

by Hubert Brooke (First published in 1897)

A large portion of God's promised blessings are yet unclaimed by the Church, and the door that leads into them is labeled *personal consecration*. Some things have to be left behind by each soul who means to enter; but far grander things lie waiting on the inner side.

As the pages are read, may the reader's heart be led to a growing conviction of what personal consecration means, and a final decision to respond to the call, which was given in the words of David to Israel: "And who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?" (1 Chronicles 29:5).

112 pages. \$9.95

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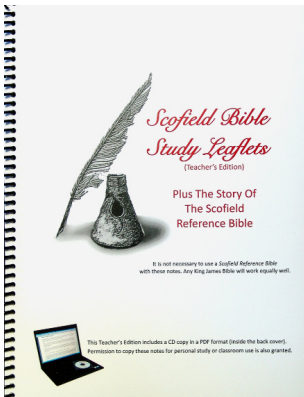
What others are saying:

"*Personal Consecration* is a masterpiece. I would rank it with L. E. Maxwell's classic, *Crowded to Christ*. Any pastor who wants to bring his church out of a state of Laodicean lethargy can find a wealth of preaching material in this book, and any Christian who wants a closer walk with Jesus, will find principles to help them 'make the grade.'"

—Dr. Harold Tabb, Ft. Walton Beach, FL

"*Personal Consecration* is a sobering read. Brooke forces you to think deeply about Christ's terms of discipleship and whether you meet those terms or not. I have just finished going through the book for the third time, and each time it has challenged me in new ways. I wish that every Christian would read this book. In this generation of shallow, superficial Christianity, we need something to expose our lack of commitment to Christ and redefine what true discipleship looks like. *Personal Consecration* does that better than any book I've read."

—Pastor Tim Fellure, Milton, FL



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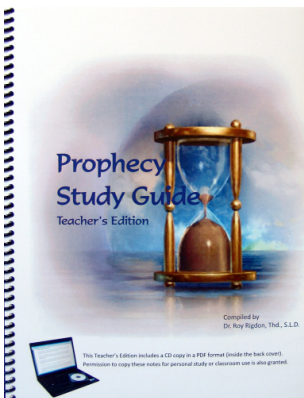
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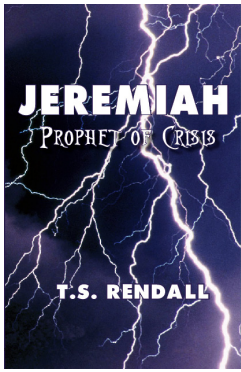
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by T.S. Rendall

What does Jeremiah have to say to our times?

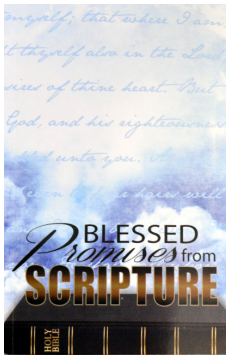
In this book, Mr. Rendall finds that Jeremiah the Prophet is as up-to-date as this week's *Time* magazine and far more relevant. Jeremiah is preeminently the prophet of crisis, for he preached at a time when his nation was in a state of decay and facing its doom at the hands of the Babylonians.

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Mr. Rendall examines these and twenty other topics in *Jeremiah: Prophet of Crisis*. All studies are outlined and fully cover the main themes of Jeremiah's prophecy. Use this practical guide as you study the Book of Jeremiah personally or in a fellowship group.

259 pages. \$13.95



Blessed Promises from Scripture

by Larry Stallings

This book prepared by Missionaries Larry and Donna Stallings lists more than 1,000 verses dealing with 95 different topics. Brother Stallings says, "God's Word will answer your questions and help solve your problems. Put your faith in the reality of the Bible. It will never fail or disappoint you."

198 pages. \$4.95



When the Spirit's Fire Swept Korea

by Jonathan Goforth

This is the last message pioneer missionary Jonathan Goforth preached on this earth. It's a heart-rending account of the great revival he experienced in Korea in 1907.

26-page booklet. \$3.00

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The Pastor's Page

*Tim Fellure***The Death of Balaam**

Joshua 13:22; Numbers 23:10

A Wicked Man Who Wanted to Die the Death of the Righteous

Our text is an isolated statement dropped in the middle of Joshua recording the death of Balaam, the false prophet. It is interesting that it is placed here because the story of Balaam is in Numbers, not Joshua. Furthermore, the context of Joshua

13 is dividing the land of Israel, not the death of apostates. Balaam is that diviner who was hired by Balak, king of Moab, to curse the Israelites. After a traumatic experience with his talking donkey, Balaam refused to go along with the plan. However, he did influence Balak to seduce the Israelites to sin, causing God to pronounce the curse and kill 24,000 Israelite men. There is no question that Balaam was a false prophet. He speaks the Word of the Lord only under duress, the Bible never calls him a prophet of God, and the New Testament speaks of him as a pagan seer (2 Pet. 2:15–16; Jude 11; Rev. 2:14).

In a recent study of Joshua, I was struck by the recording of his death. His death actually took place in Numbers 31:8, so why is it recorded here? It doesn't even fit the Joshua narrative, and we already know how he died—in a war against the Midianites, slain by a sword, and left lying in a field. Then you find a statement Balaam made to Balak in Numbers 23:10 where he expressed a desire to die a peaceful death, "Let me die the death of the righteous." Like a noble death, he would like kind words spoken over him, a proper burial, lots of mourners, but it was not to be for Balaam. Do you know how he died? He died as he lived.

The two texts teach that the wicked and righteous do not die the same deaths (Ps. 116:15; Isa. 57:1–2; Rev. 14:13). Wicked men lie on their deathbed trying to make last amends with their Maker; righteous men go to their death knowing that all is right between them and heaven. Wicked men die trying to make last-minute peace with their soul; righteous men die with peace flooding their soul. Wicked men die wondering what lies beyond the grave; righteous men die confident of what lies beyond the grave. Wicked men die with fear and terror; righteous men die with hope and trust. Wicked men die and are cast into hell; righteous men die and are welcomed into heaven.

And how many times has a wicked man come to his deathbed and realized he has played a fool all his life? And facing death, he would rather go as a righteous man rather than the wicked man he has been. So he calls the priest, hoping one more confession will fix it; or he has a deathbed conversion that has no true godly sorrow behind it. He may even swear to God that if He'll spare him, he'll clean up his life and start going to church.

"Let me die the death of the righteous." Why? If it's good enough for living, then surely it should be good enough for dying. If a man wants to live the life of the wicked, then why would he want

to forsake it at death. Balaam had lived as a greedy false prophet, a soothsayer, an abomination to God, and desired to curse Israel for a pocket of gold; but he knew he didn't want to die that way. However, the reality is that men usually die as they live. Balaam consorted with the enemies of God, and he died with them. His disgraceful life ended in a disgraceful death. The curse he sought to put on the people of God turned around and came back to him.

A Righteous Man Who Willingly Died the Death of the Wicked

Men die as they live. Wicked men die as wicked men; righteous men die as righteous men. So you would not expect to see a righteous man die forsaken of God, cursed, and punished for another's crimes. But one day I traveled to Golgotha's Hill and saw a spectacle the world had never seen—a righteous man dying a wicked man's death. His accusers knew He was righteous because they had to make up the charges. Sin had never crossed His mind, never been uttered from His lips, and never been committed at His hand. When the mob cried, "Crucify!" Pilate asked, "Why? What evil hath He done?" He hadn't done any evil. All He did was heal the sick, raise the dead, cast out devils, preach truth, and offer salvation to a hurting world.

You would expect this Man to have His death attended by 10,000 angels. There should be hundreds of weeping mourners at the foot of the cross, some preacher should give a eulogy to remember all the good He has brought into the world, and the procession at His funeral should include every king and emperor in the land. Surely, He should die with calmness and tranquility in His own soul because a righteous man should die as a righteous man.

But there He hangs! He has drunk the cup of sin, He has been forsaken by the Father, His visage is marred more than any man, they are shooting their lip out at Him, and taunting Him as He gasps for breath. Smitten, beaten, bloody, naked, and thirsty—even God has turned His back on Him; and from the darkness we hear this righteous Man cry, "My God, my God, why hast Thou forsaken Me?"

Wicked Men Who Will Die the Death of the Righteous

Here is a righteous Man dying a wicked man's death. Not for His wickedness, but for mine. Not for His sins, but for mine. Because of His death, I have been given His life. However, sitting in our churches are men and women who have committed every kind of sin that is named; and hell should have opened a long time ago and swallowed us all because wicked men should die a wicked man's death.

But one day I came to Jesus with all my sin, all my messes, and I have been made righteous in Christ. And because God no longer sees me as wicked, but righteous, I have the assurance of knowing I will die the death of a righteous man. I deserve to burn in hell, but I will go to my grave with peace in my heart, assurance of heaven in my soul, no sins to atone for, and no fear of the grave—just a wicked old sinner who will die the death of the righteous.