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# *THE* NEWSLETTER

July – August 2015

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



With the help of the  
many friends that  
support Victory Baptist  
Press we have already  
taken a big bite out of  
the elephant.

See the enclosed letter  
for an up-to-date report

Victory Baptist Press is a ministry of 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 make every effort to keep the paper as free from error as possible. To receive *The Newsletter*, send your mailing address to P.O. Box 766, Milton, FL 32572-0766. Phone: 850-623-0086 • Fax: 850-623-3502 • e-mail: [news@victorybaptistpress.com](mailto:news@victorybaptistpress.com)

## Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Greetings in Christ's name,  
In light of the compromise, lethargy and hypocrisy in even some of our best churches of today, in lieu of my normal lengthy personal notes I am using the following notes from the book, *The Religion Racket* by the late Dr. Norman H. Wells. Dr. Wells studied for the ministry under Dr. J. Frank Norris and served as Dr. Norris' assistant at the First Baptist Church of Fort Worth, Texas in the 1940's. Dr. Wells later pastored the Central Baptist Church of Cincinnati, Ohio for twenty-eight years.

### DELIBERATE DECEPTION

Religion is a failure. In every aspect of life where religion is supposed to be an influence, it is being defeated. This failure is obvious, but the amazing truth is that no one seems to be willing to acknowledge that it is happening. It is truly amazing that a people who will not tolerate failure anywhere else will so meekly accept it in religion.

However, most religion goes right on making the colossal pretense that all is well and that religion is marching victoriously onward and upward. This refusal to admit failure and the insistence upon keeping up the pretense of success has produced a religion that is a deliberate deception. Deliberate deception with the design of securing unfair advantages or allegiance is fraud.

The tragedy is that real religion is buried under the maze of contradicting claims, tired traditions, and deliberate deceptions. This religion racket has cloaked itself in superficial sanctity and hides from honest appraisal. It is time to bring today's religion out into the light of a full investigation of its reality . . . not its pretense. Sacred and spiritual things should demand solemn, serious, penetrating consideration.

Religion is supposed to be characterized by brotherly love. In reality, the average church is a place of fretful feuding and frequent fighting. It is a place where folks seem to be forever fussing. A large percentage of today's churches were started by groups who got licked in a church fight and had to move out. It seems people are harder to get along with in church than anywhere else. If a man were as contentious at his place of employment as he is in church he'd be fired in a week.

In the average church, the battle lines are drawn and the fight is on. Warring factions seek favorable positions and constantly seek to add to their number. Super-sensitive saints walk around with their feelings sticking out like a radar's antenna, constantly challenging anyone to make contact. These folks make a career of contention.

Habitual hypocrisy produces a brotherly love that expresses itself in contentious cliques, fighting factions, and petty partisanship. For a demonstration, attend the business meeting of a local church.

The average pastor has to care for his congregation in the manner of a nursery worker with a roomful of babies with diaper rash. It can be said that the quarreling and fussing of the church is like that of brothers and sisters in a large family. It is loud and contentious, but underneath it all is love. If this is true, why try to pretend the situation doesn't exist?

Yes, habitual hypocrisy does produce some strange goings-on. We say we go to church to worship. Why we really go is an entirely different thing. Instead of a "gospel center," the average church has become a "gossip center." It is where one goes to pick up and pass on the latest bit of gossip. The battle of the backbiters! One thing about these people, they are regular in attendance. To be absent is to become the target of the tales that will be told.

Then there is the one who loves to have the pre-eminence. He has found that the church is about the only place where he's paid any attention. His wife won't let him talk at home and his boss won't listen at work, but in the church, he's somebody important. He finds that everything he does gets attention and acclaim. He thrives on this until he finally expects a standing ovation every time he shows up. It is a common thing for these people to move from one small church to another. They like to be a big voice in a little choir. They usually change churches about the second time they do something that is not given wide acclaim and pulpit recognition.

Going to church is such a good thing. It gives one a chance to parade his piety and ventilate his virtue. How wonderful to be good . . . one hour a week. One hour of holiness is about all the average churchgoer can stand in one week.

Fear and guilt are large factors in why people go to church. It is not generally known what is feared or why there is guilt, but it is known these fears and guilt become greater when one does not attend church, so we attend. Then again, **where can you get all dressed up and go that costs so little? And the entertainment is getting better!**

Note: It's wonderful to have a Christianity that is anchored in Jesus Christ and Him alone, and that doesn't need to be covered up with phony religion. You may order *The Religion Racket* from page seven of this Newsletter. All proceeds from the sale of the book will go toward printing more Scriptures.

Thank you for your help with the **eat the elephant** project. If you are not yet familiar with that project please read the enclosed letter and pray for VBP as we continue to send the Scriptures around the world.

VBP Director  
Jim Fellure



## Print Shop News

Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Summer is upon us once again, especially down here on the Gulf Coast! Amidst the heat and the thunderstorms, I often thank God that I work inside. You may have heard lightning never strikes the same place twice; well, I am here to tell you, that is not true. Every year we suffer some type of lightning damage. So far this year, we have had a network card on a computer knocked out, the phone system has been hit twice, and our internet service knocked out once. In years past the damage has been much worse. Once, a fire was almost started in our church auditorium. I say all that to ask you to pray that God will put His hand of protection on our property so we can continue

in the work of the ministry He has called us to do.

The work we are doing right now is collating, binding, and trimming 40,000 Spanish New Testaments for Colombia, South America. They should be ready to ship soon. Please pray that all will go well with the completion and shipping of this project. We should then have over 40,000 more Spanish New Testaments available for where ever they may be needed as the Lord directs. After that, there are two more projects we have committed to, and we are looking forward to seeing the Lord provide for those projects as well.

Every once in a while a visitor will come into the shop, see the size of it and all the equipment and all the Scripture in various forms of completion, and be fairly impressed. Then they often ask how much we charge for the Scriptures, and they are really amazed when we tell them there is no charge. Then, the next question they have is, "How do you pay for it?" That is when we tell them about you. We know ultimately it all comes from the Lord, but we also know He uses His people to meet the needs of His work, whatever they might be. Thank you for putting a little bit of awe into a few people who pass through here. Even better than that will be when we get to meet those that have been saved and helped with the scriptures that you helped provide. Then all of us together can give the praise and glory to God for His great mercy that allowed any of us to be in His presence.

May God bless you,  
Bro. Albert Berg

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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



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[billrichburg@victorybaptistpress.com](mailto: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](mailto: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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### FOLLOW THE LEADER

Eli Black was a brilliant businessman best known for masterminding the multimillion dollar takeover of the United Fruit conglomerate, and jumping to his death from the 42nd floor of the Pan Am building in New York City. In the book *An American Company*, an executive described a business lunch he had with Eli Black. When the waitress brought a plate of cheese and crackers as an appetizer, Black reached out and took them, placed them on the table, blocked them with his arms, and continued talking. The executive hadn't eaten for hours and hinted that he would like a cracker. But Black acted as though he hadn't heard him and went on with the business meeting. After a while, Black placed a cracker and cheese on the tips of his fingers and continued to talk. Several moments later, Black placed the cracker on the executive's plate and then blocked the rest as before. It was clear that Black was in charge, manipulating others as he pleased.

When you play "follow the leader," check to see who is at the head of the line. Eli Black, for all his power, ended up in suicide. Jesus Christ, in all His humility, ended up the Savior of the world.

—copied

### MATERIALISM

During World War II, "Eddie" Rickenbacker, American's most famous army aviator in W.W. I, was appointed special consultant to Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson. It was Rickenbacker's task to inspect the various theaters of war.

During one tour in 1942, Rickenbacker and seven companions made a forced landing in the Pacific Ocean. There they experienced 24 terrifying days drifting in a lifeboat until they were rescued by a navy plane. After his recovery from the ordeal, Rickenbacker said: "Let the moment come when nothing is left but life, and you will find that you do not hesitate over the fate of material possessions." Rickenbacker understood that at such a time one is concerned about the fate of something more precious than material goods -- life itself.

—Morning Glory,  
January 18, 1994.

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

## SATISFACTION GUARANTEED!

### Benefits & Blessings



Mrs. Pam Leake

Have you ever gotten home with groceries and been surprised, as you unpacked, to find some spoiled items? It's happened more than once to me. I recently purchased a bag of oranges only to find, upon opening the bag, that more than a few were already rotten. It wasn't obvious from the outside of the package, but once I removed them, I was disappointed to see the wasted fruit I had paid for. Though a nuisance to return them, I knew that the grocery store would gladly replace them. I have shopped there for nearly 36 years and have always found them ready to fulfill their motto: Satisfaction guaranteed, or your money back!

Satisfaction, according to the dictionary, means "that which satisfies, amends; compensation; the repose of mind or contentment with present possession and enjoyment." The store compensated me for my loss, and I was satisfied. But today a sense of satisfaction appears to be a fleeting experience. For many folks, being truly satisfied with anything or anyone is unattainable. I've known people who are always pursuing something "new" because they are not satisfied with what they have. And honestly, I would have to say I've been guilty of that a few times myself. Sadly, many are never satisfied with their spouse, or their status, or their successes, which leads to discontentment. They want what they want, not what the Lord provides.

The hymn, "Joy Unspeakable," begins with the phrase, "I have found His grace is all complete, He supplieth every need." Consider that! Truly, there is perfect satisfaction to be found in the Lord Jesus Christ. Psalm 107:8, 9 describes the goodness of the Lord in satisfying us: "Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wonderful works to the children of men! For he satisfieth the longing soul, and filleth the hungry soul with goodness." Elsewhere in scripture it is said that He "satisfieth thy mouth with good things," and that we can be "filled with all the fullness of God."

The wicked one would have us ever desiring more, never satisfied with the goodness of God and thus never wholly devoted to the Lord and content in Him. When our eyes, both physical and spiritual, are focused on our situation and circumstances, it is very easy to become dissatisfied. But to focus on the Lord is to see that He is all we need and that He does supply every need.

The satisfaction that Jesus gives is guaranteed – He will never fail! He knows each of us fully and intimately, guaranteeing that He knows our need and what is best for each of us. As a child of God, you can have the "repose of mind, or contentment with present possession and enjoyment," because of the true satisfaction He gives.

*Hallelujah! I have found Him  
Whom my soul so long has craved!  
Jesus satisfies my longings,  
through His blood I now am saved.*

From the hymn, "Satisfied",  
by Clara T. Williams

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

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace,  
whose mind is stayed on thee: because  
he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the  
LORD for ever: for in the LORD  
JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:  
(Isaiah 26:3-4)

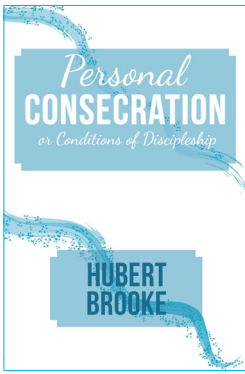
**Peace of mind,  
according to Duke:**

Duke University did a study on "peace of mind." Factors found to contribute greatly to emotional and mental stability are:

- 1) the absence of suspicion and resentment. Nursing a grudge was a major factor in unhappiness.
- 2) Not living in the past. An unwholesome preoccupation with old mistakes and failures leads to depression.
- 3) Not wasting time and energy fighting conditions you cannot change. Cooperate with life, instead of trying to run away from it.
- 4) Force yourself to stay involved with the living world. Resist the temptation to withdraw and become reclusive during periods of emotional stress.
- 5) Refuse to indulge in self-pity when life hands you a raw deal. Accept the fact that nobody gets through life without some sorrow and misfortune.
- 6) Cultivate the old-fashioned virtues--love, humor, compassion and loyalty.
- 7) Do not expect too much of yourself. When there is too wide a gap between self-expectation and your ability to meet the goals you have set, feelings of inadequacy are inevitable.
- 8) Find something bigger than yourself to believe in. Self-centered egotistical people score lowest in any test for measuring happiness.

—Source Unknown.





## ***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:***

"Real consecration to Christ is a lost characteristic in modern day Christian circles. Hubert Brooke in his tremendous book makes it crystal clear that consecration to Christ is an absolute requirement before one can be His disciple. I highly recommend the book, *Personal Consecration*."

—Bobby Thomas,  
pastor of Calvary Baptist Church  
of Greenville, NC for forty-two-years

"The book *Personal Consecration* is a must read for anyone who is serious about a closer walk with God. It is clear and concise and God will surely speak to your heart, as He did to mine. I very highly recommend this classic book. Thanks for making it available."

—Pastor Danny Farley  
Houston, TX

"The truths in this book are just what I preach! I highly recommend *Personal Consecration* by Hubert Brooke."

—Dr. Don Green  
Lansing, MI

"I have always believed real discipleship was not an academic effort in the transfer of information but an spiritual exercise in transfer of life: this is the premise of this volume, *Personal Consecration*, sub titled *Conditions of Discipleship*, by Hubert Brooke, MA, of Reading, England. Brooke puts the bar at Bible level and makes Jesus the standard by which we measure our growth (no seeker sensitive toleration here), while at the same time encouraging us that Christian growth is a life long pursuit that we should not shun but eagerly embrace.

Brooke majors on the core issues in the Christian life/living: taking up your cross and following Christ, dying to self, forsaking all, I die daily, rearranging your affections, etc. This certainly is not just another manual with twenty lessons of fill-in-the-blanks. I personally did not find this book an easy read, not because the words were hard, but because the concepts were huge and unbending. I often felt like Peter after reading Paul's writings when he recorded he discovered things hard to understand. It is by far the best book I have ever read on the subject of discipleship. A must read for the serious student."

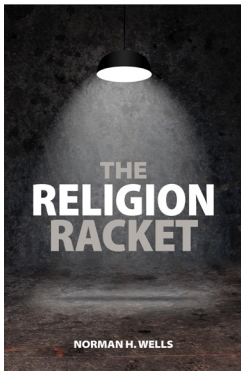
—Dr. Charles F. Keen  
Milford, OH

"*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



### ***The Religion Racket***

by Norman H. Wells

The sham and hypocrisy of modern day religion is brought into glaring light when we compare what we are with what we profess to believe. Repentance and faith produces a reality in our religion that makes sham and pretense unnecessary. It is all summed up in one sublime statement that Jesus made: "[R]epent ye, and believe the gospel" (Mark 1:15).

**181 pages. \$10.95**

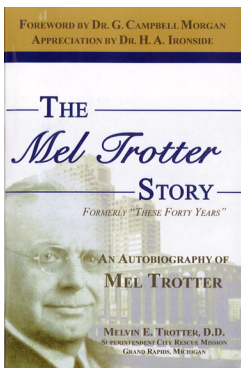


### ***When the Spirit's Fire Swept Korea***

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.

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### ***The Mel Trotter Story***

Mel Trotter (1870-1940), grew up in a drunkards home. His father ran a saloon and it was said that he drank as much as he served! In January 1897, Trotter penniless, drunk and shoeless trudged through the snow in Chicago, headed for Lake Michigan and a cold, watery suicide. Passing a mission he was urged inside and after hearing a testimony of salvation, was soundly converted to Christ himself. Later Trotter was asked how he knew he was saved, "I was there when it happened, January 19, 1897, ten minutes past 9:00, Central time, Pacific Garden Mission, Chicago, Illinois, USA!"

In 1900, he began his rescue mission work of managing the Grand Rapids Mission for forty years and helping to found sixty-seven others across the nation.

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## The Pastor's Page

Tim Fellure

## The Things Which Happened Unto Me

**Philippians 1:12-18**

It had been several years since the apostle Paul had been in Philippi, and the young church had all but lost contact with him. Paul was under house arrest in Rome awaiting trial, so the church at Philippi sent one of their own, Epaphroditus, to get a first-hand account of how Paul was doing. We

do not know how long Epaphroditus stayed with Paul in Rome, but when he returned to Philippi he had this letter in his hand.

One of the reasons for the letter was to address their concerns for his well-being, which the apostle begins to do in verse 10. He references “the things which happened unto me”, but does not list or describe those things. He could have gone into a long story of his troubles but instead he focused on what God was doing in spite of those things. The story Paul doesn’t tell them is found in Acts 21-28: he was the subject of a riot in Jerusalem, arrested for his own safety, held in Caesarea for two years, lied and slandered on, survived a thwarted ambush, and finally shipwrecked and stranded for three months on a deserted island on his way to Rome. At this writing he was under arrest, chained to a Roman guard 24/7 while waiting for a chance to appeal his case. These are the things which had happened unto him. This passage then is Paul’s testimony to how God can take things that happen to all of us and work good from it.

**The Gospel Was Going Forth (v.13)**

One of Paul’s great desires had been to go to Rome for the gospel’s sake. There was already a church in Rome, and Paul saw it as a strategic location to expand the reach of the gospel across the empire. His plans were to begin the journey to Rome as soon as he left Jerusalem (Acts 19:21), but the trouble in Jerusalem probably convinced him he would never make it there. But God assured him one night in the Caesarean jail that, “As thou has testified of me in Jerusalem, so must thou bear witness also as Rome” (Acts 23:11). Of course, he had thought he would go as a preacher, not a prisoner. And he even wrote to the Romans that he hoped to have a “prosperous journey” to them (Rom. 1:10) – shipwreck and stranded on an island had not been in the travel plans.

However, Paul was now in Rome and he was preaching, so why worry about the details. Paul may have been bound but the Word of God was not bound. Every six hours the Praetorium guard sent a new soldier to guard the apostle and Paul saw it as a captive audience. Have you ever tried to witness to someone who wanted to get away – how do you get away when you’re chained to the man? And through his chains Paul was able to preach to an audience he never could have without them.

There has always been opposition, but opposition has never stopped the gospel. It always has run counter to human logic because there is supernatural force behind it.

**The Brethren Were Made Bold (1:14)**

When Paul was brought to Rome, the madman Nero was the new emperor. You can read church history and how he unleashed one of the greatest persecutions ever against the Christians. Some were crucified, some were sewn up in animal skins and thrown to wild animals, and some were covered in pitch, nailed to wooden posts, and burned as torches to light the city.

The church at Rome was beginning to experience the beginnings of Nero’s persecution, and now their leader, the great apostle Paul, was under arrest and awaiting trial. And that church witnessed the resolve and boldness of Paul in prison, and it gave them resolve. If Paul can preach from inside prison, I should be able to outside of prison. If he can preach while chained to a Roman soldier, I should be able to walking about free. If he can witness where he’s at, I should be able to witness where I’m at.

Do you know how easy it is to climb into the pulpit and tell a suffering people that they must suffer patiently, trust God in the storm, be strong in adversity? The most effective way to preach that is not with an alliterated outline, but by demonstration. They need to see how it actually works, not just as another point in the sermon.

**The Critics Were Confounded (1:15-17)**

You would think that every Christian in Rome would rally to support the apostle Paul, but that clearly was not the case. Some of the brethren were perhaps jealous of his success and ministry, and began a campaign to discredit him. They thought if they would go out preaching it would stir the Roman sentiments against Christianity, and that they would prosecute Paul in retaliation.

But there is vindication. And the vindication is that you know Paul, but you don’t know the critics. As far as we know they started no churches, won no souls to Christ, and wrote no epistles. We know Paul moved his world, we don’t know if they moved anything. Paul turned two continents toward Christ; we don’t know if they pointed two people to Christ.

**Paul Was Still Praising (1:18)**

His chains could not stop him and his critics could not silence him. He has rejoiced thus far and, even if he doesn’t win his case, he will go to the execution stand still rejoicing. Every Christian could tell his own story of the things that have happened to him. And if you’re going through trials right now, can you see through the things and see God? I believe we would be more encouraged to take Paul’s approach: despite the chains and critics, I am confident. We have no sad tales to tell. God is glorified, Christ is exalted, the gospel advances, the brethren are strengthened, and we rejoice.