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THE NEWSLETTER

November-December 2015

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



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Editor's Notes

*Jim & Mary Fellure*

Greetings in the name of Christ our wonderful Lord,

This is Wednesday, October 14, and I am writing these notes from my motel room in Houston, Texas, where I am attending the annual Faith Promise Missions Conference at Shady Acres Baptist Church. For the past two years this good church has given over one million dollars

per year to world-wide missions. The actual count for this past year

was \$1,004,843.41. I remember hearing Pastor Danny Farley say that the former pastor, Jack Wood, always wanted to give a million dollars to missions in one year. Brother Wood passed on into Heaven without ever realizing that blessing, but Brother Farley has continued to lead the church in that direction and has now seen Brother Wood's vision become a reality. Shady Acres Baptist is a great church, and its people are setting an example of what can be done through faith in a great God, who can and will do supernatural things, if all that we do is for His glory.

As a young preacher I was taught that the milk of the Word was the simpler, or more easily understood, truths of the Bible, but that the meat was the deeper doctrines – like dispensations, the Trinity, different kingdoms, etc. But a little thinking about milk and meat causes me to believe since milk is a biproduct of a cow and meat is the cow and all truth is a biproduct of the teacher, therefore, regardless of how deep or how hard that truth is to understand, it is still milk. One can only say they are feasting on the meat of the Word when they are feasting on the teacher, and our teacher is none other than the Lord Jesus Christ. Could that be the reason the great apostle Paul could say to the Corinthian believers, "For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified."?

We could even say that every biblical truth, in one way or another, will point us to Christ. If it does not, then it might be classified as knowledge, or information, but not scriptural truth. If

we could ever get our minds cleared of all the extra information that causes us to wander from our thoughts of Christ, and think only of Him, we could then joyfully say that not only is Christ all I know; He is all I need.

A few years ago I stopped searching the Scriptures for new truths and started looking for principles to include in my daily living, but now it seems the older I get the more I am looking for Christ in all of the Scriptures. I think it was Charles Spurgeon who once said

to his preacher boys that good preaching is when you take your text in the Old Testament and head straight for Jesus. Our goal at VBP is to glorify and bring honor to God through our Lord Jesus Christ in all that we do.

It seems like just a few weeks ago, I was working on the last issue of this Newsletter for 2014, and now at breakneck speed another year has passed into forever, and I find myself facing the same task of getting another last-of-the-year issue ready for print. I have been responsible for getting the Newsletter out six times per year for the past twenty-four years. However, I believe I will soon be getting some new help with editing. The pastor's son (my grandson), Jacob, has done all the work on this edition, except my personal notes and the book sales on pages six and seven. Hopefully, Jacob will someday become the editor, and I will be able to concentrate on other areas of the ministry. It is not a done deal yet because he is getting married in December and that could make drastic changes in a lot of areas. Jacob is marrying pastor Joe Cammilleri's daughter, Anna, and we expect them to have a great life together. My granddaughter, Jacob's twin sister, Megan, is also getting married to Andrew Dare, a good Christian young man in our home church. Megan will beat Jacob to the wedding altar by about a month. Her wedding is planned for November at our home church, and Jacob will go all the way to Rochester, New York, to get his new bride. Jacob and Megan are both dedicated Christians, and I have the utmost confidence in their commitment to Christ and His service.

In these days, almost every time I preach, I have something to say about old age. I just can't seem to get it off of my mind! About the time I get a little freedom from it in my thought life, another pain reminds me I am no longer a spring chicken, and as I remind people so often, I hate old age with a passion. The only consolation I have is that it won't last long. As a part of my witness for Christ, when people in public ask, "How are you today?," I often respond with a witness of, "I'm doing great because Christ is my Saviour, all my sins are forgiven, and I am having a good day, but the day I die will be the best day of my life. The minute I stop breathing I am going straight to Heaven." Praise the Lord!

The Lord has blessed Mary and me with unusually good health for people our age, but we do have a couple of issues we would like for you to pray about with us. I have a doctor's appointment to find out about a hip replacement and will probably need both sides done before it is over. Also, for the past several months Mary has had severe back pain and has taken four shots in her lower back from the pain management doctor. She is a little better but still has a lot of room for improvement. She works hard and complains very little, but I know that some days she has to make herself go. Please remember her in prayer.

Thank you for your prayers and support,

Jim Fellure

Print Shop News

Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Things have been a little different here in the shop lately. We finished collating all the Spanish New Testaments and sent over 40,000 to Colombia where they started a campaign on October 22. Please pray that God will greatly use these New Testaments in Colombia. We also have around 40,000 more we have put together and about 16,000 of those have already gone to Mesa, Arizona, where they will work their way into Mexico. We have also sent a few boxes at a time to various prisons around the country. One Latino brother heard about us and has connections with

many of them, so he periodically sends us their addresses, and we ship them to the chaplains who then give them to inmates that request them.

We recently finished our missions conference here at Victory Baptist Church and were challenged by several missionaries. One in particular was Don Rich, who distributes Bibles and other literature in South America from the country of Peru. In his presentation he showed some slides from a meeting of national thanksgiving. Many dignitaries were there, including the president of Peru, and they all received a Bible printed at Victory Baptist Press. Another slide showed a jungle church where nearly half of the people were barefoot, also holding their Bibles. Please pray that all of these Bibles will get read and not become a paper weight.

Currently, we are rejoicing for the Lord's recent provision for the next truckload of paper which will be used to print more Spanish Bibles. In between jobs we have taken advantage of the extra time to go through and organize the whole shop, and in the process have gotten rid of a lot of things that have just been collecting dust for a long time. We found a few things we forgot we had (a few which might have saved a trip to the hardware store had we known we had them). The moral of that story is, even if you save something because you might need it some day, by the time you need it you will have forgotten about it and will buy another one anyway. Save the clutter and let the hardware store store it for you!

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

MEMORIALS

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 199 Bibles for the mission field.

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"Within the covers of the Bible are the answers for all the problems men face."

Ronald Reagan



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

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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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More Like Christ

When the wife of missionary Adoniram Judson told him that a newspaper article likened him to some of the apostles, Judson replied, "I do not want to be like a Paul...or any mere man. I want to be like Christ...I want to follow Him only, copy His teachings, drink in His Spirit, and place my feet in His footprints...Oh, to be more like Christ!"

—Source Unknown

Choose One Chair!

"When I was a boy, my father, a baker, introduced me to the wonders of song," tenor Luciano Pavarotti relates. "He urged me to work very hard to develop my voice. Arrigo Pola, a professional tenor in my hometown of Modena, Italy, took me as a pupil. I also enrolled in a teachers' college. Upon graduating, I asked my father, 'Shall I be a teacher or a singer?' 'Luciano,' my father replied, 'if you try to sit on two chairs, you will fall between them. For life, you must choose one chair.' I chose one. It took seven years of study and frustration before I made my first professional appearance. It took another seven to reach the Metropolitan Opera. And now I think whether it's laying bricks, writing a book—whatever we choose—we should give ourselves to it. Commitment, that's the key. Choose one chair."

—Guideposts

Get in the Game!

You must get involved to have an impact. No one is impressed with the won-lost record of the referee.

—John H. Holcomb

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

Benefits & Blessings



Mrs. Pam Leake

I KNOW HE LOVES ME

I approached the cash register where a young girl, probably younger than my daughter, was working. She was polite and pleasant, continually referring to me as *honey* and *sweetie*, as I made my purchase. Though not the first time I had encountered this, I always think it funny that a much younger person would address me in those terms, as I am obviously much older than she.

Sometimes it seems a little patronizing, once in a while perhaps a bit sarcastic, but most of the time there is no ill intent in using these names for someone who is your elder. However, since we are strangers to each other, those terms hold little true expression of endearment.

My husband and I, like most couples, have special names we use for each other – terms of endearment that mean something special to us. We might refer to one another as *honey*, *sugar*, or *sweetheart*, but we also have more intimate names that are best kept between the two of us. The use of these pet names indicates to each of us that we are special to the other, loved and set apart from others in our lives. I know from these expressions of love that my husband sincerely and deeply cares for me and I can be secure in his love because I am his and he is mine.

Of course there are other relationships that cause us to use particular terms of endearment such as our children and grandchildren. There's just something very special about being called by an intimate name by one who loves you because it indicates your special place in their heart. Always calling a close loved one by their given name would fail to indicate the sense of closeness and depth of the relationship that is so satisfying.

However, far surpassing the relatively meaningless terms of affection used by strangers, and even surpassing those we use with our loved ones, are the terms our heavenly Father uses for His children. Words such as *beloved*, *brethren*, *children*, *little flock*, *sons and daughters*, all indicate the great love that the King of glory has for those of us who have been redeemed by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Throughout God's love letter to us, He expresses His love in many ways. His words are not empty of meaning but rather contain a greater depth of love than we can even imagine. I often like to ponder being in His presence in Heaven and actually hearing Him say to me, "my child." The greater blessing of being there is that I will have perfect knowledge and will truly understand all that phrase means.

I'm thankful that a stranger would refer to me as *sweetie* rather than some derogatory term, and I'm so grateful for the endearing expressions of love that my husband uses for me, but none can compare to the love expressed by my Savior, as He calls me His *beloved*. He lets me know that I am His and He is mine for all of eternity!

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

Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God:

I John 3:1



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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.



Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, Dr. Ted S. Rendall, after beginning his training in Glasgow and London, left his native land in 1953 for Canada where he continued his schooling. In 1956, he joined the faculty of Prairie Bible Institute, Three Hills, Alberta, Canada, where he taught Bible until 1998 and served as president for a number of years. In addition, he served as pastor at Bethel Fellowship Church (1955-1975) and at the campus church, Prairie Tabernacle Congregation (1975-1998). For many years, he was editor of the Institute's monthly magazine, *The Prairie Overcomer*. In 2006, Dr. Rendall began teaching in association with Drs. Stephen and David Olford at the Stephen Olford Center for Biblical Preaching in Memphis, TN. Dr. Rendall has authored seven books and has very graciously given Victory Baptist Press permission to republish his out-of-print books, and we are pleased to now offer the last one of the seven, *Give Me That Book!*, a great book dealing with twenty-four symbols used in the Bible to express the importance of the Scriptures

A brief excerpt from *Give Me That Book!*

The Sufficiency of the Bible's Light

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path"
(Psalm 119:105).

The Bible's light is derived from the God of light. This fact suggests to us the sufficiency of the Bible's light. Concerning itself, the Bible could well say: "Our sufficiency is of God" (2 Cor. 3:5). Unlike the lamps in the Tabernacle, which needed daily to be replenished with oil, the lamp of the Bible burns on strongly and steadily, fed from an inexhaustible Source.

The light of the Bible lamp is sufficient to dispel our darkness. "The entrance of thy words giveth light . . ." testified the psalmist (Ps. 119:130).

In her book, *Windows*, Miss Sarah Stock states there is the darkness of ignorance (Ps. 82:5); the darkness of sin (Prov. 2:13); and the darkness of this world (Eph. 6:12). The glorious fact with regard to the Bible is that it is powerful enough to dispel all the darkness that envelops us.

Concerning this power of the Bible, Robert E. Lee wrote: "The Bible is a book in comparison with which all others in my eyes are of minor importance, and which in all my perplexities and distresses has never failed to give me light and strength."

The light of the Bible is sufficient to disclose all the dangers in our pathway. After having referred to the statutes of the Lord, the psalmist testified: "Moreover by them is thy servant warned . . ." (Ps. 19:11). No danger lies concealed from our eyes if we walk with the Lamp of God's truth in our hearts. No error or evil can trick us or trap us if our trust is in God's Word.

David Hume was a Scottish agnostic who believed in the sufficiency of the light of nature. One evening, Hume visited in the home of Principal Robertson, a godly evangelical minister who firmly believed in the necessity of revelation and in the insufficiency of the light of nature. The two men discussed the subject. Friends of both were

present, and it was reported that Robertson reasoned with unusual clarity and power. Whether Hume was convinced by Robertson's reasoning, we do not know; at any rate, he did not acknowledge his conviction. Hume was very much of a gentleman in his manners, and, as he rose to depart, bowed politely to those in the room, while, as he retired through the door, Robertson took the lamp to show him the way. Hume was still facing the door.

"Oh, sir," said he, "I find the light of nature always sufficient," and continuing with, "Pray, don't trouble yourself, sir," he walked on.

The door was opened, and presently, as he went along the hall, he stumbled over something concealed, and pitched down the steps into the street.

Robertson ran after him with the light and, as he held it over him, whispered softly.

"You had better have a light from above, Mr. Hume," and, raising him up, bade him good night, and returned to his friends.

Finally, the light of the Bible is sufficient to deliver us from disaster. Hence, Peter exhorts us to take heed to the ". . . more sure word of prophecy . . . as unto a light that shineth in a dark place . . ." (2 Pet. 1:19). If we wish to avoid making shipwreck (see 1 Tim. 1:19), we must pay full attention to the instruction of God's Word. "Made up of many parts," Matthew Henry wrote about the Bible, "proceeding from the pen of many writers, it is yet so beautifully blended in its rays of various hues as to make one brilliant light to shine upon man's pathway from time to eternity."

The Bible? That's the Book — the Book indeed,

The Book of books,

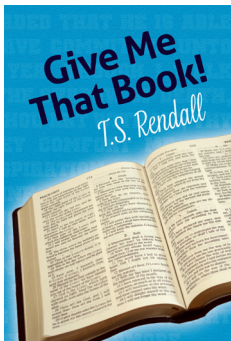
Of which who looks,

As he should do, aright, shall never need

Wish for a better light

To guide him in the night.

—Christopher Harvey



Give Me That Book!

by T.S. Rendall

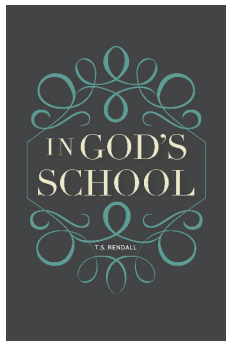
This is the seventh and most recent book that VBP has published by Dr. Rendall. The study of God's book, the Bible, has been approached from many angles, but few have identified and interpreted the symbols used to describe the vitality and value of the Scriptures. In this book Dr. Rendall has explained twenty-four of these symbols and included hundreds of relevant illustrations and quotations. In addition, a selection of great hymns and poems about the Bible has been included.

Here is a *vade mecum* for every preacher, teacher, and student of God's Word.

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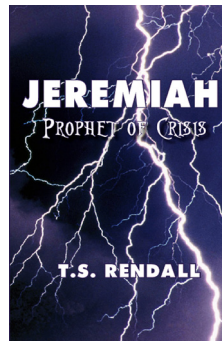
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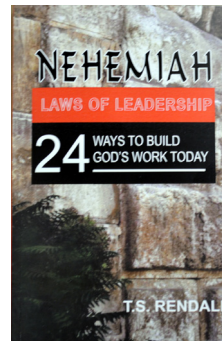
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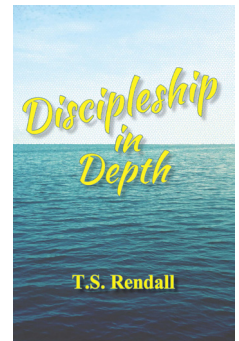
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The Pastor's Page

Jacob Fellure

Our Response to the Gospel

Romans 1:14-16

The apostle Paul is often regarded as the greatest Christian (certainly the greatest missionary) to ever live. Certainly Paul lived for the cause of the Gospel. Every time he picked up the pen to write, he would write about the Gospel. Every time he lifted up his voice, he would declare the Gospel. Everywhere he traveled, it was with the intent to share the Gospel.

He never got beyond the simplicity of the Gospel. He never got over the impact of the Gospel in his life. He saw no greater purpose in life than to declare the good news of Jesus Christ. Just like Paul, the Gospel ought to be the focus of our lives. It ought to be the passion of our lives. In our text, Paul states three responses he has to the Gospel, and that every believer ought to have as well.

1) An Obligation Because of the Gospel

"I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise." In our text, Paul begins by telling us he had a moral obligation to get the Gospel to the world. If I see an infant who cannot swim fall into the sea, how can I sit and watch him drown without any effort to rescue him? This is the way Paul felt. He could not sit by in apathy and watch men slip into hell without any effort of rescue.

We certainly have been commanded to preach the Gospel to all nations, and no believer is exempt from the command. But beyond our biblical obligation to God, we have a moral obligation to mankind. To whom much is given, much is required. We who have received the Gospel must get the Gospel to those who have not received it. As pathetic as it would be to watch an infant drown without any attempt to rescue the baby, it is at least just as pathetic for one who has received Christ to sit back and watch those we have contact with die without Christ without ever trying to rescue them. Do you feel a moral obligation to preach the Gospel to the world?

At the time of Paul's writing, if you were not a Greek, you were a Barbarian. So Paul is declaring that he wants to get the Gospel to the whole world, not just to a specific group of people. Not only does he want to, but he is obligated to get the Gospel to everyone. Do our actions reflect that same obligation? In our declaration of the Gospel, in our giving, in our prayer for others – do we show a passion to get the Gospel to the world?

2) A Preparation for the Gospel

"So, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also." Undoubtedly, his preparation to preach the Gospel is connected to his awareness of his obligation to preach the Gospel. He cannot help but be ready to preach the Gospel if he is to fulfill his moral duty.

What does Paul mean when he says, "I am ready?" In one sense, it means to be *eager*. He is a man on a mission! He is looking for every opportunity to preach the Gospel. But when Paul says that he is ready, I think he means more than just being eager, he is also speaking of *endurance*. Here is a man that knows the cost of preaching the Gospel. We see this in 2 Corinthians 11:23-28, where Paul speaks of being beaten five times with thirty-nine stripes, he was beaten with rods three times, he was stoned, he suffered shipwreck three times, he had been forsaken, and he had been imprisoned. Paul knew when he said, "I am ready to preach the gospel" that he wasn't in for a life of ease or luxury. It was going to cost him his life. But because of the debt he owed to his fellow man, he had to set aside ease and preach the Gospel. We must realize that a life fully dedicated to declaring the Gospel will not be easy. But we must get the Gospel to the world no matter what the cost is.

Not only does our text imply eagerness and an ability to endure, it also shows us that we must be *enabled*. We cannot do anything to reach one person unless the Lord helps us. We cannot expect God to help us if we have sin in our lives. To be ready to preach the Gospel is to be right with the Lord. Are we ready to preach the Gospel?

3) An Association with the Gospel

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." This seems to be a rather obvious statement. Of course Paul wouldn't be ashamed of the Gospel; it had made a world of difference in his life. We see this when Paul says, *"For it is the power of God unto salvation."* Because of this transformation in Paul's life, he was very proud of the Gospel.

Just like Paul, the Gospel has transformed our lives. We were once enemies with God, but now are His children. So, it would seem natural for us to be unashamed of the Gospel. But many Christians act like it is an embarrassing part of their lives. Some of us do not share it because we are afraid of what people will think. We must be able to see beyond the mockery and the rejection of the world and see souls who need the Gospel.

As believers, there is nothing more important or valuable than the Gospel that we could invest our lives in. It is to be the focus and passion of our lives. Paul certainly lived with the Gospel as his focus. And at the end of his life, he tells Timothy, *"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith."*

Paul, as a result of his life, had no regrets at the end of his life. If we are going to have no regrets, like Paul, we must live with the same passion for the Gospel that Paul did.