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THE
NEWSLETTER

July–September 2021

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

 **VICTORY**
BAPTIST CHURCH

2021 Faith Promise
**Missions
Conference**
with Adam Thompson
Sept. 29–Oct. 3

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Editor's Notes

**Jim & Mary Fellure**

Greetings in Jesus' name,
In the last issue I wrote about planting our summer garden. I am glad I can now report that the Lord blessed our efforts and almost everything we planted turned out to be a bumper crop, especially strawberries (which Mary enjoyed for breakfast every morning for several weeks), silver queen sweet corn, four different varieties of tomatoes, and the potatoes that our three-year-old great-grand-

son, Anthony, planted. Since summer gardening in Florida is about over for this year, I will now direct my notes toward a more biblical theme.

During these days of useless frustration and uncertainty, it is good to find a never-fail recipe for peace. In Philippians, the letter written not from a palace but from a prison, the Apostle Paul showed that the peace of God comes through our thought life, and he even told us what to think about, with the first thing on the list being, "whatsoever things are true." When I checked the places where the word *true* is found in the Bible, I was blessed to find the first occurrence was in Genesis 42:11 where Joseph's brethren said, "we *are* true *men*."

A true man is a good man, and in the first chapter of Titus, Paul informed the young preacher that a bishop should be a "lover of good men." Barnabas was described in Acts 11 as "a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith," and the result was this: "much people was added unto the Lord."

My recent Bible reading has repeatedly taken me to areas where large lists of saints in days gone by are given. An example of this is the first nine chapters of 1 Chronicles, where the genealogy of several thousand people is given and divided into categories, describing what service each group provided. In verses 10–13 of the ninth chapter, the writer named less than twenty men, but concluded by describing their 1,760 descendants as "very able men for the work of the service of the house of God," showing that the list of unnamed good men was far greater than the ones he named.

Another good example is Romans 16, where the Apostle Paul named several men and women, but when he mentioned Priscilla and Aquilla, he also included, "the church that is in their house," without naming the individuals who made up that church.

Hebrews 11 is well known as a registry of the Old Testament heroes of the faith. After naming many of those saints, the writer brings the chapter to a close by saying, "And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets." Then he went on to say, "And others had trial of *cruel*

mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment: They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented; (Of whom the world was not worthy:) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth. And these all . . . obtained a good report through faith." The "others" that were unnamed would surely outnumber the ones that were named.

One might think, especially in these last days of apostasy and lawlessness, that the only good men (or women) are the ones that we read about in the Bible or in history books, but I want to go on record as believing there are a lot of "others" who usually remain in the shadows. But that is not a bad place to be, because as Psalm 91:1 says, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." A careful study of the book of Hebrews will show that the Old Testament, especially the structure of the Tabernacle in the wilderness, provided a shadow of good things to come. As one old songwriter wrote, "Standing somewhere in the shadows you'll find Jesus."

The next time you sing,

*More like Jesus would I be,
Let my Savior dwell with me;
Fill my soul with peace and love,
Make me gentle as a dove;
More like Jesus, while I go,
Pilgrim in this world below;
Poor in spirit would I be;
Let my Savior dwell in me.*

remember that Jesus made Himself of no reputation. So, I am compelled to declare that as the director of Victory Baptist Press I don't do the actual financing or the printing and shipping of the Scriptures. The unnamed "others" do that, and I get to tell about it.

Maybe in Heaven we will get introduced to some of those unnamed and unknown saints that lived in the shadows while they prayed and gave of their abundance, and some out of deep poverty, so that VBP could continue to send the glorious Gospel of Christ in its purest form around the world.

God bless you,
Jim Fellure

A young woman said, "Pastor, I have become aware of a sin in my life which I cannot control. Every time I am at church, I begin to look around at the other women, and I realize that I am the prettiest one in the whole congregation. None of the others can compare with my beauty. What can I do about this sin?" The pastor replied, "That's not a sin, why that's just a mistake!"

Print Shop News



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,

The last few weeks were a little different in the shop. Bible printing was at a standstill because of lack of plates (which are necessary to run the big press). This was very frustrating, especially since we had a truckload of paper waiting to be printed. Without boring you with all the details, the short story is that our order got lost in the system. The supplier has apologized; they managed to find twenty-

five oversized plates that they cut down to our size, and the rest should be here before we need them again. I honestly do not know if I should attribute this to the devil trying to hinder the work or if it is God delaying it because He knows when it is best to ship this load of Bibles to Peru. Peru is locked down as of this writing, and if they were ready to ship today, we would not be able to because of Covid-19. All I know is that there are always hindrances to God's work, and we just have to keep pressing on. One of my favorite sayings of Dr. Bob Jones, Sr. is, "The door of opportunity swings on the hinges of opposition." Please just continue to pray that God will lead us in the path He wants us to go.

In regards to paths, VBP is entering on a path that we have not taken before. We will finally be printing whole English Bibles. There are several reasons why we have not done this before but feel now is time to do it. It will be a few months before they are ready. We have to finish printing and binding the Spanish Bibles we started a few months ago. Please pray that when they are finished Peru will be ready and open to receive them.

In spite of not being able to print for several weeks, we have managed to send out some John/Romans—a little over ten thousand to Texas and a few other places. If you need some, we still have plenty in stock.

While we may not have been printing Bibles, we have been printing and distributing EDDM (Every Door Direct Mail) cards both locally and around the country. This is a way to get the Gospel into every door in a community, even to those you would not be allowed to go to otherwise, such as military bases, nursing homes, gated communities, etc.

Speaking of EDDM cards, there is a blessing related to that. A few months ago, Billy Richburg, one of our field reps, told me of a paper cutter he had found for very little money and asked if I wanted it. It is nearly identical to the one we already have, with one major difference. It has a PLC (Programmable Logic Control). What this simply means is when we cut the EDDM cards to their final size (we print them two-up on our 4-color press) there are six different cuts that have to be made. On our old machine we would make one cut on the whole stack, having to move it from one place to another, then the next cut and so on until it was done. With this other machine, we pick up one handful of paper, and the computer moves the back gauge to the proper length for each cut. So, now it goes on the cutter one time, gets flipped around a few times and is done. This is not only a time saver, but is ultimately more accurate as well.

In July my wife, daughter Sarah, and I plan to take a road trip to visit friends and family in Kentucky, Illinois, and Wisconsin, and then attend a printers' summit at Bearing Precious Seed in Milford, Ohio. I went once before and it is an encouraging meeting of printing ministries from around the country. It is good to know we are not alone in this work. Some, as far as volume is concerned, do more and some less, but there is no competition in this work. There is plenty for all to do. The key is for everyone to do what they can as the Lord leads. If every truly born-again believer did that, there is no telling the difference it would make in the world.

May God bless you,

Bro. Albert Berg



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Simply send, call, or e-mail your request for a fully-stocked rack to the following:

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There is no cost involved in acquiring or maintaining the rack. Any time you need additional cards, simply contact Victory Baptist Press. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 1,989 Bibles for the mission field.

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Benefits & Blessings

A Little Bird Told Me!



Mrs. Pam Leake

*"... a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter."
(Ecclesiastes 10:20)*

Sometimes after our dinner my husband and I will set aside a few moments to enjoy a cup of coffee together on our deck and take in the peacefulness of an early evening and the symphony provided by the myriad of birds around our house. A few

nights ago, as I prepared the coffee, my husband went out and sat down to "look over" things as he calls it. He soon called me to come outside and check out something that was happening in the edge of the woods. What I saw was distressing to say the least, and it called for some immediate action.

An old birdhouse that we had set aside to discard at some point had been occupied by a bluebird couple that had built a nest and laid eggs. The eggs had hatched, but we had not paid much attention to the goings on of this family. We just enjoyed watching them flitter from tree to house and away again while chattering back and forth. However, this evening my husband, out of the corner of his eye, had caught a glimpse of something long and black hanging out of the bird house. The realization of what was happening was instantaneous...a black snake was raiding the nest! The parents were frantically flying back and forth, dive bombing the snake to try to get it to leave, while their chatter was incessant. In fact, I watched as numerous other birds flew anxiously around them, in and out of the trees surrounding the scene.

Now, my husband and I are in no way fond of any snake, regardless of color, size, or any other characteristic. In short, we don't like them!! In hindsight, we know that the snake was only doing what comes naturally to it as a predator, but our thoughts were on the helpless little birdies in the nest. Hubby jumped into action as a moment of courage and bravery led him to come to the aid of the bluebird babies. He actually approached the snake with a pair of needle-nose pliers to try to get it out of the house. Instead, the snake quickly slithered all the way into the birdhouse!

I can't do justice in explaining what all happened next, but my husband set the house on the ground and reached into the small opening with the pliers, getting enough of a grip on the snake that it came rapidly out onto the ground, striking at him, as he proceeded with the next necessary step. The snake seemed to survive and made haste to escape to the woods, not to be seen again; at least so far! We moved quickly to open up the birdhouse enough to see whether any of the babies had survived, and there we found three small birds hovering in the back of the nest. They seemed to be okay, so we reassembled the house and placed it back where the parents could find it. Long story short, we watched over the following several days as the bird parents cautiously returned to check on and start feeding their young. About a week later we noticed the activity had ceased, so we checked the nest and it was empty. Apparently they had matured and left the nest to go wherever it is they go. If the situation was otherwise, we won't ever know, but we are content in knowing that we helped to rescue those three little birds.

If the situation was otherwise, we won't ever know, but we are content in knowing that we helped to rescue those three little birds.

Thinking back over the whole scenario, it provided an obvious illustration of the subtlety of Satan and the defenselessness of children (or the unsuspecting). For parents, constant vigilance is critical because the evil one can so subtly and silently attack the hearts and minds of their children. Just like the helpless little birds in the nest, our children are often easy targets for the devil, and without intervention can be destroyed before the damage is realized. They must be taught the Word of God, given a spiritual foundation for their lives, and protected from the onslaught of wickedness that prevails in the world. It requires alertness, discernment, immediate action when necessary, and oftentimes courage to do the right thing! Our little ones surely are worth it, and their future demands it.

Note: Pam is the wife of Ed Leake, pastor of Colonial Baptist Church and Director of Colonial Press of Charlottesville, Virginia.

Email her: pamleake@colonialbc.org

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A Message to Garcia

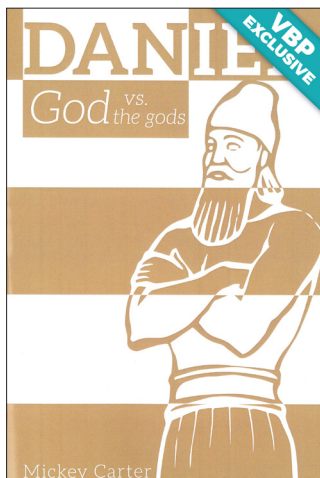
The little booklet entitled *A Message to Garcia* tells the story of Andrew Rowan who served our country during the Spanish American War from 1898 to 1901. The story tells how that when President William McKinley needed to get a message to Garcia who was somewhere in the mountains of Cuba, no one knew where he was. No mail or telegraph message could reach him. The president needed to secure his cooperation, and quickly. What could he do!

Someone said to the president, "There's a man named Rowan. He will find Garcia for you, if anybody can."

Rowan was sent for and given a letter to be delivered to Garcia. Rowan took the letter, sealed it up in an oil-skin pouch, and strapped it over his heart. In four days he landed by night from an open boat off the coast of Cuba and disappeared into the jungle. In three weeks he came out on the other side of the island, having traversed a hostile country on foot and delivered his letter to Garcia.

McKinley gave Rowan a letter to be delivered to Garcia. Rowan took the letter and did not ask, "Where is he?" To Rowan, where Garcia was made no difference. The only thing that mattered was the orders of his Commander-in-Chief. Kind of like a Spirit-filled disciple obeying the Great Commission of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Victory Baptist Press Bookstore



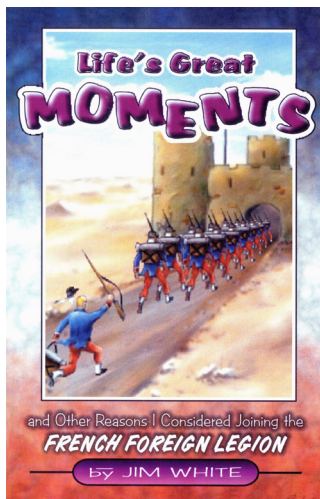
Daniel: God vs. the gods

by Mickey Carter

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The book of Daniel is an exciting book for our time. Many current events were predicted in the book of Daniel long ago. Daniel is about the battle of the gods—the true God, Jehovah, vs. the pagan gods. This battle continues today; Americans are trying to adopt all the false gods of the world and put them on the shelf with Jesus. This conflict will continue until Jesus returns and takes command, and He will do just that.

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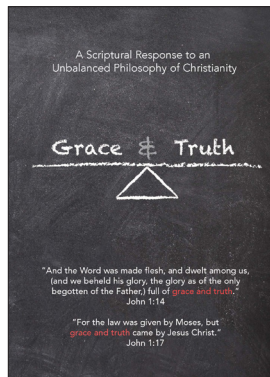


Life's Greatest Moments

by Jim White

\$12.95

Jim White looks like Dom DeLuise and writes like Patrick McManus. Everyone who has ever heard him speak has found themselves steam-rolled by his humor. Those who have heard him have often wondered "Did this really happen to him?" The answer is, "Yes." Jim seems to be a "Trouble Magnet." He is "Mr. Murphy's second cousin." If it can happen it will happen . . . to Jim White. In this book Jim has taken some of his funniest experiences and shared them with us. You will find that the Bible is so correct when it says, "Laughter doeth good like a medicine."

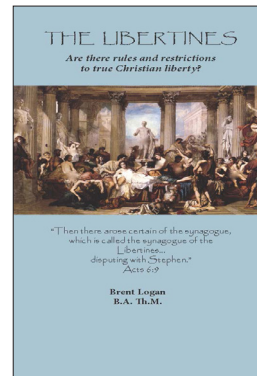


Grace and Truth

by Brent Logan

\$3.95

A false Christian religion is nothing more than the works of men. An overcorrection of that misunderstanding is to say that Christianity is only about grace. To be in either ditch is to do a disservice to the claims of the Bible upon the lives of those who have been truly born again. Christianity is about Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ is about Grace and Truth. They must remain together. Christianity is not the philosophy of Do to Live, but it is the reality of Live then Do. To totally divorce the Do that should come after the Live is just as perverse as divorcing Christ the Life from Christ the Righteous.



The Libertines

by Brent Logan

\$3.00

"Then there arose certain of the synagogue, . . . which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, disputing with Stephen" (Acts 6:9). Our discussion opens with the presence of a Spirit-filled preacher, a genuine picture of the Lord Jesus Christ, preaching the truth to those in desperate need of it. This crowd does not receive the love of the truth. Sadly, in this generation the flesh life abounds, and now, the carnal have resurrected an old doctrine of devils to promote their profaneness with a stamp of Christianity. An absolute must read.

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Guest Editorial



Jacob Fellure

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

(1 Corinthians 15:58)

The wonderful promise of the believer's future is stated clearly in verse 53, "For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality." As Paul argues in this

chapter, because Christ died for us and rose again, the future resurrection for the believer is absolutely certain. This certainty is apparent in Paul's victorious words in verse 55, "O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave where *is* thy victory?" The believer is the only type of person who can look death in the face and say, "To die *is* gain." We cannot be harmed by death, because we will receive bodies not able to be corrupted by sin.

But the certain future which we have to look forward to does not merely impact our relationship with death. Paul shows as he concludes the chapter, it impacts our day to day life.

"Be ye stedfast, unmovable"

Because we have a certain future of resurrection, we ought to be stedfast and unmovable. We are to be stedfast in our message and in our ministry.

Paul is writing to these fickle believers in Corinth—don't back down from the truth of the Gospel. Don't back down to the mocking, scorning world. Stand strong for the defense of the truth of the Gospel. We too should not back down from the defense of the Gospel or compromise the Gospel in any way to make it more acceptable to the world.

To be stedfast implies consistency and dependability. In light of a certain future, our lives ought to be characterized by consistency. Much like Peter when he began to sink because he looked away from Jesus, we get our eyes off our glorious future and allow our uncertain circumstances to dictate the stability of our spirits. That ought not be. As long as nothing can change the fact that we shall receive incorruptible and immortal bodies, nothing should be able to shake our spiritual stability.

Paul carried this idea a little bit further by writing that we ought to be unmovable. There is a sense in which Christians should both be unmovable and unstoppable. We are to be unmovable in our message, but we are to be unstoppable in our mission. I've seen plenty of Christians who were unmovable from the comfort of their seat to serve the Lord; certainly that is not in obedience to this verse. We are to be unmovable from the word of God, no matter the pressure of the world; we are to be unmovable from the will of God, even though it can mean moving halfway across the world; and we are to be unmovable from the work of God.

How much pressure would it take to get you to compromise your message? What would be required to shut you up from sharing the Gospel? How much discouragement would it take to get you to slow your service of the Lord? Or are you truly unmovable? You ought to be able to say, "It doesn't matter what the world does, what the brethren do, or even what the Lord allows, I'm not moving away from God's will and calling for my life."

"Always abounding in the work of the Lord"

Abounding is going beyond the expectation or comparison. Think of Romans 5:20—"Where sin abounded, grace did **much more abound**." Though the weight of my sin was heavy, the weight of God's grace in my life exceeded it. Or consider the wonderful verse in Ephesians 3:20—"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding **abundantly** above all that we ask or think" The Lord can exceed our expectations in a way which we can't even comprehend. Here in 1 Corinthians 15, Paul used this word in verse 10, where he said, "I laboured more **abundantly** than they all." Paul's labor exceeded the labor of the other apostles.

To abound in the work of the Lord is not merely to do enough, it is to do more. It is to overflow in the service of the Lord.

If you are in a good local church, you can probably think of someone right now that abounds in the Lord's work. They don't need to be told what needs to be done: they take the initiative. They are faithful and reliable in their areas of service. They are somehow always involved in other areas of service. They are always looking to improve or expand their work for the Lord. Praise the Lord for those who abound in God's work! Could you find a way to increase your work in the Lord? Have you simply done your part, or are you exceeding expectations? Are you truly abounding in the work of the Lord?

Notice also the important word "**always** abounding in the work of the Lord."

There is never a time to quit abounding in God's work. You never get too old, you never get too sick: there is always spiritual work to abound in.

"Your labour is not in vain in the Lord"

How easy it is to spend our lives doing things that are vain! How many Christians have put off committing themselves to the Lord until tomorrow only to wake up one day and realize they wasted their entire lives on vain things? The devil will introduce constant distractions till the day you die, trying to get you to stop abounding in the work of the Lord.

But how stedfast would we be if we constantly were reminded that any sacrifice will be worth it? How unmovable would we be in God's will if we realized that God is watching and will reward our actions and attitudes.

No matter what you contribute to the Lord, and no matter how small and insignificant it may seem to be, God sees it, and uses it, and He will reward it.