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# THE NEWSLETTER

October–December 2021

“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,

One of my pet peeves is the idea that all things in the ministry must be promoted with a positive attitude or with flattery, which is false or insincere praise or gratifying deception designed to manipulate a person into being happy. The extreme opposite is the attitude that, as bad as things are in these last days, there is nothing good that can be said unless it is said

about me. This translates into egotism and chronic or habitual criticism, which can breed nothing but discouragement. The Scripture emphasizes truth, whether negative or positive, hopefully with a positive outcome.

The following is quoted about George Whitefield:

George Whitefield, the man that God used to bring about the great awakening in the seventeen hundreds, learned that it was more important to please God than to please men. Knowing that he was doing what was honoring to the Lord kept him from discouragement when he was falsely accused by his enemies. At one point in his ministry, Whitefield received a vicious letter accusing him of wrongdoing. His reply was brief and courteous: "I thank you heartily for your letter. As for what you and my other enemies are saying against me, I know worse things about myself than you will ever say about me. With love in Christ, George Whitefield."

He didn't try to defend himself. He was much more concerned about pleasing the Lord.

Just as I began preparing these notes with the desire to encourage our readers during all the difficulties that many have faced in the last few years, Brother Wayne Hudson of Texas sent me his most recent newsletter with the following article that says exactly what I wanted to say. With Brother Hudson's permission I offer his good words of wisdom.

Greetings and Blessings from this very troubled time in North Texas. I pray for those who read this letter. I know that some are in struggles, sickness, grief, or other besetting trials. There is political chaos, military debacle, forest fire disaster, wind and flood of hurricane, and Covid pandemic that refuses to go away. We face missing soldiers of our ranks who are at home with the Lord, the disappointments of failures in churches, in brethren, and in ourselves. Peter said that those of us who are saved, in His will and in His power, can expect "manifold temptations," which are more precious than gold to our faith-life and will bring praise, honor, and glory at His appearing but are hard to face in these present times.

Most of us have had a little of that recently and honestly, I don't like it. My heart is to serve Him, and although my hindrances are nothing in comparison to the many that are suffering around us, sometimes it's hard to accept "God's nos," isn't it?

Can I give you an old thought that encourages my heart today? Paul introduces: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (Philippians 3:14). Some of you may be tired, weary, and ready to go home, but God isn't through with you—press on! Some of you are hurting and fearful of what might lie ahead, but you don't know the future—so press on! Some of you feel discouraged because you can no longer do what you used to do, but you can do something—so press on, even if it is at a snail's pace. Some of you feel your efforts are in vain and a waste of time, but it is God who gives the increase—so press on! Keep sowing and watering, and leave the results with God. Some of you feel defeated, as though you have failed, because there is yet so much to do—but press on! You never know what yet might happen—press on! It's always too soon to quit—press on! The fact that you are still here is evidence that you are needed—press on! If you can't do anything else, be a cheerleader urging others to press on! He is no failure who can say he has faithfully finished his course. God demands no more from us. Till then, with Paul—Press On!

In the last couple of years VBP has had more setbacks (negatives) than I care to mention, but not mentioning them doesn't mean the problems didn't occur. It simply means, rather than acting like everything was on an even keel (staying positive), each of the six most dedicated shop workers that one could ever ask for (no flattery—just facts) faced every problem, found a solution, and pressed on, the result being a steady flow of the printed word to a lost world. Before our next *Newsletter*, plans are to ship another container of 25,000 Spanish Bibles into South America and 10,000 to Mexico, plus several smaller orders filled for Spanish ministries in the US. Also, in just a few weeks we will pass the one-million mark (already more than 900,000) of the EDDM cards printed and shipped to other churches to be mailed to every household in their community. If the statistics are right, the average home in America has three people. Each card has nine verses of Scripture, totalling two-hundred and thirty-eight words (some negative, some positive but all true). When one million cards have been mailed, the Gospel will be within reach of three-million people right here in the US.

I personally don't know how to turn a press on, but in my very limited capacity I plan to press on.

In Christ,  
Jim Fellure



## Print Shop News



**Al & Heidi Berg**

Dear Friends and Supporters,  
On July 4, 1776, King George III of England wrote in his diary, "Nothing of importance happened today." but we all know something big did happen that day. That is how I felt when sitting down to write this quarter's notes. Sometimes when putting all these sections of Scripture together it feels that nothing of importance is being accomplished, but then when I sit

down with my own Bible in my lap and glean precious truths from it, I wonder how people get along without a Bible. It is my hope and prayer that thousands of other people will some day be able to sit down with a Bible in their lap and glean some of these same truths for themselves.

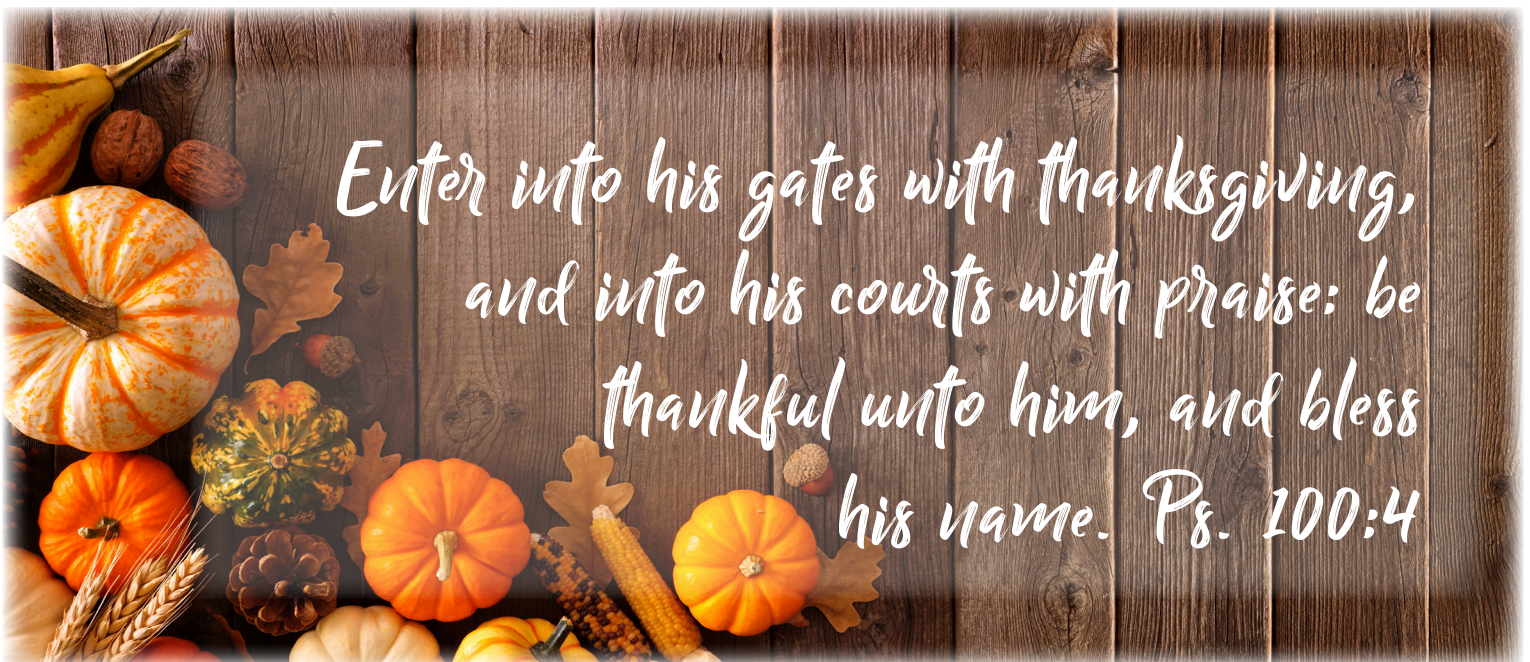
We are on the final stage of collating, binding, and trimming over 30,000 Spanish Bibles. Our barn is nearly busting at the seams because we previously printed both Spanish and English

John/Romans. The plan is to ship the Spanish John/Romans with the Bibles to Peru and Mexico, but until all is done, all must be stored, so it is a little tight in the print shop right now. Please pray that we can finish in a timely manner and that shipping will not be a problem. As of right now, as far as I know, we can ship to Peru, but as you know all that can change at a moment's notice. Virus or not, people need the word of God. It may not cure the virus, but it has the answers to life, most importantly eternal life.

Romans 1:16 says that the Gospel "is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." Hebrews 4:12 says, "For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart." The power of the words on the pages being stored in our shop is unimaginable if it gets planted in good soil. Please pray that we can soon get our seed out of the barn and into the field.

May God bless you,  
Bro. Albert Berg

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



## Memorials

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 1,068 Bibles for the mission field.

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Janie James .....	<b>Bro. Roger Walton</b>
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.....	<b>and Mr. Gene Crumley</b>
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Lisa Burress .....	<b>Lucas Ross Prince</b>
Anonymous .....	<b>Danny Webb</b>
Bruce & Cindy King .....	<b>Kathy Ehmann</b>

Let us come before  
his presence  
with thanksgiving,  
and make a joyful  
noise unto him with  
psalms.—Psalm 95:2

## VBP Field Reps



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## Benefits & Blessings



**Mrs. Pam Leake**

### A Little Bird Told Me!

When reading a novel or watching a movie, the storyline progresses, the anticipation builds as to the outcome and presumed future of the characters, and we are inwardly satisfied when the result is a “happily ever after” scenario. Or so it is with me. So I am happy to report that the conclusion of my previous article about the rescue of the baby bluebirds from certain death by the black snake was

indeed a happily ever after! Within a week or so, the babies had matured sufficiently to fly out of the nest. They remained close by, strengthening their wings as they flitted from tree to nearby tree, not straying too far from the watchful eye of their parents. Over the ensuing weeks they have gotten much bigger (yes, they have stayed nearby) and have appeared now and then on our deck to splash around in the small bird bath/waterer that I can see out of my kitchen window. They have not gotten all of their blue feathers, but they are easily recognizable as juvenile bluebirds, and I’m sure they are our rescues.

I shared all of that to say that the Lord is such a superb Creator God, who does all things well in His creation. And He is a loving heavenly Father to allow us to witness His hand in the events taking place all around us. When life’s circumstances seem to have spiraled to new lows and not much seems to make sense anymore, we can be sure that nothing has taken Him by surprise and He is still in control. What He allows us to observe in nature confirms the loving nature of the Grand Designer, His perfection, and the provision He has made for even the smallest of His creatures. If He cares so much for them, how could we doubt the love He has for us?

I am so thankful for the very fact that He loved me enough to convict me of my lost condition so long ago on that December day in 1981! Not only am I thankful for His saving power, but His keeping power that I know will keep me until I reach my heavenly home! He has blessed me in my spiritual walk, and I have learned much through His word that has helped keep me on the right track. As the new bluebird chicks ventured out to explore their surroundings, I have been allowed to experience many new and different situations and circumstances that have helped me grow and mature in my spiritual life, while staying within the watchful eye of my heavenly Father. The knowledge and wisdom gained through my relationship with Him has enabled me to face a future in this life that is yet unknown but is anchored in the certainty that when this present life is over, my eternal life is already settled and sure!



Though the young bluebirds have survived thus far, avoiding death from the many predators that would seek to gobble them up, they are creatures that have no soul and no eternal destiny, living entirely by instinct and sight. But praise the Lord, I am His creation made in His image, with a body, soul, and spirit, and I am endeavoring to walk by faith and not by sight. One day, for me, it will be a “happily ever after” home for sure!

**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](mailto:pamleake@colonialbc.org)



### Display a memorial and recognition card rack in your church.

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

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E-mail: [news@victorybaptistpress.com](mailto:news@victorybaptistpress.com)

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.

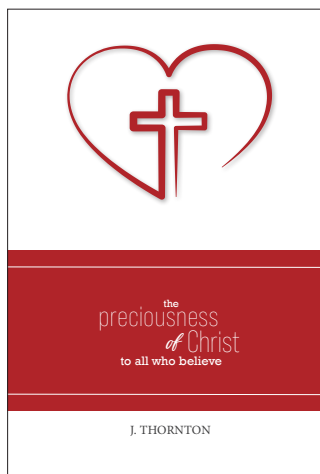
# First Presidential National Thanksgiving Proclamation

Whereas it is the duty of all nations to acknowledge the Providence of Almighty GOD, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor: And whereas both Houses of Congress have, by their joint committee, requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States, a Day of public Thanksgiving and Prayer, to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many and signal favors of Almighty GOD, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

Now therefore, I do recommend and assign Thursday the twenty-sixth day of November next, to be devoted by the people of these states, to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be: That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks for his kind care and protection of the people of this country . . . .

—President George Washington, 1789

## Victory Baptist Press Bookstore



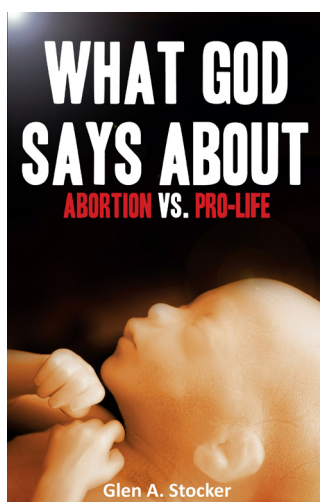
### ***The Preciousness of Christ***

by J. Thornton

**\$10.95**

Other than knowing that John Thornton lived near London, was in the Church of England, and was very evangelistic, there is very little information on record about his personal life. However, his contribution to the cause of Christ and His church through his classic work *Repentance* and this work *The Preciousness of Christ* are priceless. An absolutely must read book.

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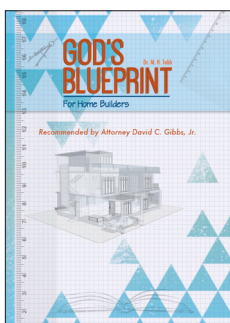
### ***What God Says about Abortion vs. Pro-life***

by Glen A. Stocker

**\$5.00**

The author says, "There is no reputable scientist who is conversant in biology who would not agree that life begins at conception in mammals. No student of the Bible can show that an unborn child is any less a human being, or without complete body, soul, and spirit, than a man or woman outside the womb."

This book has teeth in it. Brother Stocker pulled no punches in proving that abortion is murder.



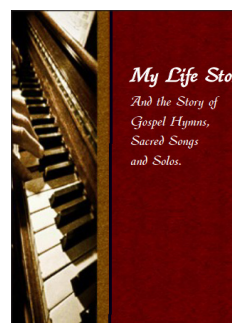
### ***God's Blueprint for Homebuilders***

by Dr. M. H. Tabb

**\$15.95**

"We are living in a day when the family is under attack as never before. There is an assault against biblical values that is truly unprecedented in the history of America. The hope of every family is to faithfully obey what the Word of God so clearly declares."

Dr. Tabb has written an excellent book explaining the biblical roles for the husband and wife whereby they can form a family unit that is what the Lord will honor and bless. You will learn from this book how to make your marriage and family strong by applying the wisdom found in *God's Blueprint for Home Builders*.



### ***My Life Story***

by Ira D. Sankey

**\$15.95**

The intriguing account of the conversion of Ira Sankey and how he came to provide the special music for D.L. Moody in his crusades. As a team, Sankey and Moody touched the lives of untold thousands of people for the cause of Christ. Part two of this great book lists over two-hundred hymns, spiritual songs and solos with the author of the words and music, one stanza of the song and a brief story of its influence. With this book you will have at your finger tips the history of all these great songs.

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## Pastor's Page



Pastor Tim Fellure

## THE CHRISTIAN'S IDENTITY

Romans 1:1

Toward the end of his third missionary journey, the Apostle Paul sat in Corinth with his sight set on Rome. His plan was to make a quick visit to Jerusalem to deliver an offering to the poor saints there, but then he hoped to travel to Rome to make connections with a church that was already there. In preparation for that trip, he wrote the epistle of Romans, which would serve as an introduction of

himself to that congregation (1:10, 13; 15:30–32). In the opening line of most of his letters, Paul gave a brief introduction, but unlike every other letter we have from his hand, this time he was introducing himself to a church that did not know him. They knew *of him*; they had heard his name and knew his reputation, and there were evidently some in the church who knew him personally, as evidenced by him greeting some of them by name at the end of the letter, but he had never been to Rome, never preached to that church, and had never met many of them. So, in Romans 1:1 this great apostle introduced himself with a description that should inspire every believer.

## 1) Identified with a Special Name

"Paul"—There is nothing especially significant about his name, except that he had not always been known as Paul. For most of his life he had been known as Saul, but he came to be known as Paul to the church after his conversion. The name change did not take place at his conversion, and we really don't know why his name changed over time. But we associate Saul with the old life and Paul with the new life. Saul was the persecutor; Paul was the preacher.

Sometimes a man changes his name or has it changed by his acquaintances at different stages of his life. A name change, regardless of who makes it, also represents other changes in life. I can't help but think that every time Paul wrote "Paul," it reminded him he wasn't always *that Paul*. There was a time when people started calling him by this new name, but more importantly, there was a time when the old life represented by the old name ceased.

## 2) Identified with a Servant's Heart

"Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ"—Paul had impressive credentials, but he didn't tell them about all his accomplishments. He will give his credentials as an apostle next, but first he is just a servant. Not the acclaimed author, not the Doctor of Divinity, not the international speaker, none of the titles or trappings we would use to bolster our resume; just "a servant." There has been a big emphasis in recent decades on leadership in our churches, and that is needed, but so is an emphasis on servanthood. Do not be so impressed with your title or position; just find a place where you are needed and be a servant.

## 3) Identified with a Specific Call

"Called to be an apostle"—Paul uses this title because he wanted the Romans to know he wrote with the authority of Christ behind him. He had received direct revelation from God and had been given a specific calling. How did Paul become an apostle? He didn't take a vocational aptitude test that said this would be a good career track for him; he wasn't persuaded by his family or friends that this is what he ought to do; he didn't look through ministry advertisements in the denominational papers and see there was an opening for apostle in the church; he was *called* to be an apostle. He didn't choose it; it chose him. "Arise, and go into Damascus; and there it shall be told thee of all things which are appointed for thee to do."

You and I are not apostles, but do you have a calling of God on your life? Perhaps it is not even the call to preach, but God has gifted you for some ministry: He has set open doors before you; He has given you an aptitude for some part in the body of Christ. Maybe He has called you to be his ambassador at the place where you work: there is no other Christian in that place, and God has set one of his own there to be a light in that dark workforce. Maybe God has called you to raise up the next generation in those children in your home and it is there where God wants you to make your influence. Maybe it is at the nursing home, or in the jail, or in a Sunday School room. Do you have a calling of God on your life?

## 4) Identified with a Singular Focus

"Separated unto the gospel of God"—Romans has as its theme the Gospel. *Gospel* simply means "good news." The Greeks used the word mostly for important announcements: if a war was won, a messenger would be dispatched to go home and spread the good news of victory. The Romans used the word to announce important events in the life of the emperor: the good news that an heir was born or when an emperor ascended to the throne and took power. Do you know what the Gospel is? It is the good news that Jesus Christ was born, lived a sinless life, died on a cross, and rose from the dead. It is the announcement of the greatest victory ever won.

And that Gospel was the singular focus of Paul's ministry. He was coming to Rome, and if you wanted to take on a corrupt government, Rome was the place to be. If you wanted to make a ministry of denouncing all the ills and wrongs of society, Rome was as good a place as any. We do preach against the sins of society, and we do lend our voice against the injustices of our land. But all our complaints against Joe Biden and the crooks in Washington are not going to see one person saved. Paul said, I'm not coming to straighten Rome out; I don't have a hobby-horse; I'm coming to preach Christ (1 Corinthians 9:16).

Can you identify with any of this? Are you able to say I have a new identity in Christ? Can you say, I have no desires for a position or title and feel no need to impress you with my credentials and accomplishments; I just want to serve others? Do you sense a divine calling on your life? Are you dedicated to preaching the gospel of Christ to the lost? May the identity of Paul to a church that did not know him inspire you and me to strive for the same identity.