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THE NEWSLETTER

April–June 2023

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Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

Dear Friends,

The notes by Joseph Bertram following my few thoughts were written at my request with the understanding that he will soon become the assistant director of the ministry.

Victory Baptist Press is debt free, all the printing equipment is in good condition, and we now have the best team of shop workers that we have ever had. The Lord has abundantly blessed VBP, and it's in the best con-

dition ever. He has now sent us a young man that has the ability to learn and manage every aspect of this ministry. **To God be all the glory!**

Of course, I have no idea how long I have left to work with the ministry, but however many years may be left, I feel like I will make a good assistant to Brother Joseph.

One might think that Brother Al Berg is the man to run the print shop, but although I don't like the idea, the day will come when he too will begin feeling his age. He has now been with VBP for thirty-eight years and knows all there is to know about the operation. As far as I can tell, he is faithful and honest and works just as hard as ever, but I have noticed that his hair is beginning to thin somewhat.

Thank you for your support and prayers,
Jim Fellure



Dear Friends,

Brother Fellure, has asked me to contribute to the editorial for this edition of our *Newsletter*. Understanding that most of our supporters do not know me well, I will use this portion as an introduction.

I spent the first fourteen years of my life in my hometown of Shepherdsville,

Kentucky. Our family served under Pastor Jack Roberts at Maryville Baptist Church for as long as I can remember. Our lives were embedded in that ministry. Some of the greatest moments of my life happened because of the faithfulness of the men and women who served there. After making professions of faith as a little child, it was not until July 17, 2008, that I realized it was my sin that was sending me to Hell. That night, my salvation was forever settled in Heaven; not because of what I had done, but because of what Jesus Christ did for me on the cross of Calvary.

When I was fourteen years old, my family and I moved from Kentucky to Pensacola, Florida. There was no obvious reason as to why we were moving; my father simply knew that the Lord wanted our family to move here. The point came where we knew that if we stayed, we would be miserable and out of God's will. As we anticipated our move, we asked many men of God about churches in the area. Over time, it became apparent that Victory Baptist Church of Milton, Florida, was the place where God wanted us to be. Our family joined in August of 2016.

A few years later, the Lord began dealing with my heart about doing more for Him. On March 6, 2019, I answered the Lord's calling to be a preacher of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It was then that the prospective of what my life would become completely changed. After counseling with my pastor, I decided to stay in Milton, Florida, where I would begin working at Victory Baptist Press in the summer and attending Victory Baptist School of Ministry in the fall. My first day of work at Victory Baptist Press was June 3, 2019, which means I have been working in this ministry for nearly four years. Since then, I have tried to provide help in any area that I am needed in the print shop.

We have been busy here at Victory Baptist Press. Among many other projects, the EDDM operation has occupied most of my time at the print shop. Simply put, the United States Postal Service offers an option, called "EDDM" (Every Door Direct Mail), which allows us to send a card to any desired zip code. Since August of 2020, we have sent out 2.1 million of these scripture cards with the cross of Calvary on them all over the nation. With the average household containing 2.5 persons, over 5 million people have been exposed to the glorious Gospel of Jesus Christ. We look forward to sending out more of these cards as the Lord wills and provides!

It has been such a privilege to work in the print shop for the last few years. Lately, I have tried to help more with logistics and order details, taking on a more operational approach in this ministry. There has been some uncertainty regarding the future, but I believe that the Lord has placed me here on purpose and for a purpose. I may not know exactly what that purpose is now, but I will be seeking the Lord's will as He gradually reveals it to me. Whether I become a field rep or prepare for more potential leadership possibilities, I know that God has given me the desire to continue working in this ministry, in whatever capacity that may suggest.

As we press on, please keep Victory Baptist Press in your prayers. Decisions are being made every day, and we need the wisdom to discern precisely what is best for this ministry. Thank you for your support and for your prayers.

In Christ,
Joseph Bertram

Print Shop News

**Al & Heidi Berg**

Dear Friends and Supporters,
People often ask me if we are staying busy in the print shop. The answer is not always yes, because at times we are waiting for paper or some other supplies, but recently the answer has been a definite “Yes.” We were busy making 25,000 Bibles for South America when a project came up that Bro. Jim Fellure thought we should do before finishing that project. It is 26,000 copies of a basic Bible doc-

trines book by Brent Logan translated into the Chichewa language for Malawi, Africa. It is my understanding that many people get saved in Africa, but have no discipleship. This ninety-six page book is an attempt to correct that problem. Hopefully it will help those who have been truly born again to get grounded in the word of God so they will not be so easily turned aside by cults and other false doctrines. Those books are finished now and should be on their way soon. We are now back to collating and printing the rest of the Spanish Bibles.

In the meantime, requests keep coming in for more John/Romans. So, for the first time, we are having them printed at another location. Beacon of Truth Ministries in Pennsylvania has agreed to print a truckload of these for a very reasonable price. We will still need to collate them and print the covers, but it should save a considerable amount of time.

Speaking of covers, God has given us an unusual supplier of coverstock. It is a cheese factory in Wisconsin. Bro. Tim Carpenter with Bearing Precious Seed in Oshkosh let us in on this deal. Someone in their church works at the factory, and they use sheets of cardstock to separate stacks of boxes, and they were just being discarded. This brother thought, “These could be used in the print shop as coverstock.” As it turns out there is a lot of it, and they should be sending us some of that soon.

On a personal note, recently the Lord laid a verse on my heart in my daily Bible reading. First Corinthians 16:22 says, “If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha,” which means “cursed when the Lord comes.” Paul dealt with many issues in the book of 1 Corinthians, including topics such as hair, diet, church discipline, marriage, divorce and remarriage, the doctrine of the resurrection, spiritual gifts, and others, but he concludes the book with this stern warning. It reminds me that Jesus said the most important commandment was to love the Lord thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. It seems to me if you break the greatest commandment of all, you must be as big a sinner as you can be. So, even if you have all the other issues in order, if you are not doing the most important one, you are in serious danger. Paul’s words were written to the church at Corinth, not to lost people. However, the following verse says, “The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.” May the grace of God help you and me to truly love the Lord Jesus Christ, so that we will not be “Anathema Maranatha.”

May God bless you,
Bro. Albert Berg

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

MEMORIALS

Each contributor listed below, through their individual contribution, has helped provide 805 Bibles for the mission field.

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Carolyn Wright... **Anniversary of Ed & Beverly Logan**

FROM *THINKING OF*
Bruce & Cindy King **Faye Gates**

A few days before his death, Dr. F. B. Meyer wrote a very dear friend these words:
"I have just heard, to my great surprise, that I have but a few days to live.
It may be that before this reaches you, I shall have entered the palace.
Don't trouble to write.
We shall meet in the morning."

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Benefits & Blessings

**Mrs. Pam Leake****Is He Enough?**

With every year that goes by . . . or even every week that goes by, the longing for my eternal home intensifies. How about you? As I write this, the new year of 2023 is already nearing the end of its first quarter, and it's been something! I can only write from my own perspective, but being acquainted with others in the family of God and their circumstances, it is obvious this has been a very challenging year thus far for them as well.

So I ask, "Is God enough?"

A friend's three-and a-half-year-old daughter with cancer, a young adult sister in Christ who had a stroke, a missionary pastor going through radiation . . . so many trials of great health afflictions of young and old, not to mention the disappointments of relationship failures or the sense of personal loss and impending financial difficulties. These are just a few of the challenges I'm personally aware of that my family and friends are going through. I'm sure anyone reading this can relate in greater or lesser degree and agree with me when I say, "Even so, come quickly, Lord Jesus!" But while our earthly journey continues until then, I ask, "**Is He enough?**"

For me, one positive outcome of these situations is an intensified prayer life. I find myself praying throughout the day as the thought of one of my friends or loved ones comes to mind, praying as I wake up with someone the Lord has put on my heart, praying for the mercy, love, and grace of God to be applied as a balm to hurting souls. Some answers have come quickly, while some are yet to be realized. In the waiting, I ask, "**Is He enough?**"

The answer to every "**Is He enough?**" is a resounding "**Yes!**" Without a doubt **He is enough**. The Word of God is my foundation of truth, and it is full of confirmation that God is indeed sufficient. In His hand are unlimited resources from which to supply my needs. From His heart flows a love beyond comprehension, a virtual hug that draws His child close, under His wing to protect and comfort. Throughout His written Word are illustrations and examples of old that display His great power and ability to pull down strongholds of doubt and fear.

Everything we need can be found in God. That may sound a bit oversimplified, but the truth of this statement is life-giving, thirst-quenching, and soul-satisfying. When life comes at you hard, and the pressure intensifies, don't despair—He's always there! If it seems there's no human solution to your problem, hope in God—His eternal love is boundless and compassionate. If the thought has crossed your mind that the Lord doesn't care about what you are going through, meditate on 1 Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." And when your faith grows weak, remember, that with a word, He calmed the stormy sea. He knows where you are physically, spiritually, emotionally, and in every way. Best of all, as His child, you are safely in the palm of His hand!

Holocaust survivor Corrie ten Boom said, "You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have." I know, for me, it's been a lifelong lesson to learn, but when all is said and done, I know I'll find **He's my God and He's enough!**

Note: Pam Leake served alongside her husband, Ed Leake, in the pastoral ministry for over thirty-four years. They make their home in Charlottesville, Virginia and continue to serve the Lord as He opens doors of opportunity. Pam's email address is leakepm@gmail.com.

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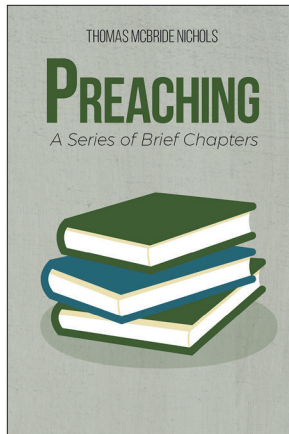
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VICTORY BAPTIST PRESS BOOKSTORE

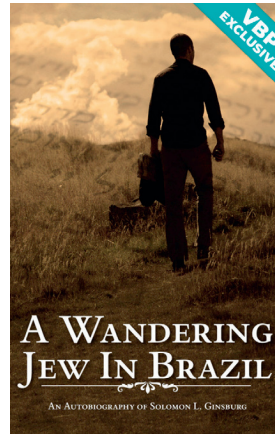


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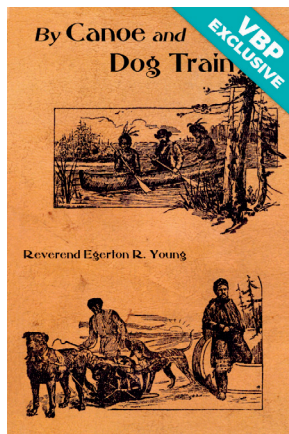
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A Wandering Jew in Brazil

\$13.95

Solomon Ginsburg was born into the home of a Jewish Rabbi and trained to be a Jewish teacher. However, as a young man he was confronted with the glorious Gospel of Christ by another converted Jew. Within a few months of his first encounter with the Gospel he was saved. Soon after his conversion, persecution by friends and family and even attempts on his life began. God overruled, though, and used him for thirty-five phenomenal, fruitful years of service as a missionary in the country of Brazil.

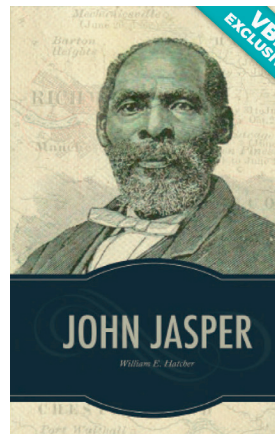


By Canoe and Dog Train

by Reverend Egerton R. Young

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This is the story of...missionaries to the Indians of northern Canada. The author tells of his sufferings, toils, and triumphs: of being lost in freezing blizzards, fishing in picturesque lakes, learning Indian customs—some humorous, others abominable—suffering the loss of a child, the triumph of winning souls, and watching God transform their lives. One hangs onto every word like children at hearthstones listening to tales of adventure.



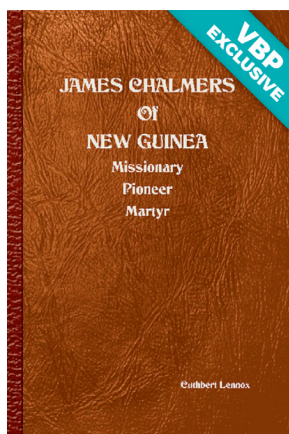
John Jasper

The Thrilling Story of the Negro Preacher of Richmond, Virginia

By William E. Hatcher

\$12.95

John Jasper was a slave for 50 years and was a preacher during 25 years of his slavery. Freedom came full-handed to him, but it did not in any notable degree change him in his style, language, or manner of preaching. He was an antebellum preacher until 89 years of age. He was the last of his type, and we shall not look upon his like again.



James Chalmers of New Guinea

By Cuthbert Lennox

\$12.95

"You may kill us," said the white man, "for we never carry arms.... Remember that we are living among you as friends." This white man was none other than missionary James Chalmers, the "Great-Heart of New Guinea," who, after fourteen years of phenomenal Christian service among the savages, was brutally murdered and eaten by cannibal tribesmen. This great missionary biography is a must-read book for Christians of all ages.



The Lord Is My Shepherd, and That's Enough

By Jim Fellure

\$12.95

Brother Fellure spent the greater part of one year researching what other authors had to say about this pearl of the Psalms. Many quotes from the best books available are included, making this one of the most thorough devotional commentaries in print today. The many notes, quotes, and illustrations will be a great help to any Christian who desires to know more about the Good Shepherd.

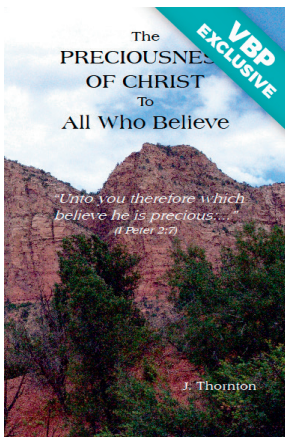


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The Preciousness of Christ to All Who Believe

By John Thornton

\$10.95

There is very little information on record about the author's personal life. However, his contribution to the cause of Christ and His Church through his classic work on Repentance and this work on The Preciousness of Christ are priceless.

An absolutely must-read book.



Let's Go Fishing with the Doctor

by Walter L. Wilson, M.D.

\$9.95

The purpose of this excellent book is to provide simple, yet very reasonable methods of witnessing to the unsaved, one at a time.

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The Pastor's Page



Tim Fellure

Jesus and the Shady Lady*John 4:1-9*

Do you believe in providential encounters? You and I will not always know the reason, but our lives are filled with such encounters. John 4 records a providential encounter in the life of Jesus Christ: “And he must needs go through Samaria.” Neither Jesus nor the woman were at the well by chance or accident; it was an encounter orchestrated by Heaven.

In His conversation with the Samaritan woman, Jesus gives us an example in how we can witness to those around us. In John 3, He witnessed to Nicodemus and now the woman at the well, and no two people could have been more different. Jesus did not approach them in the same manner: He did not tell Nicodemus he needed living water, and He did not explain the new birth to the woman. He knew where people were and how to get to the heart of their need.

1) How Christ Witnessed at an Inconvenient Period (4:1–3)

The opening verses remind us that Jesus had moved out of Jerusalem and was spending time in the wilderness of Judea, preaching and performing miracles. At the close of John 3, we learn that His popularity was beginning to eclipse that of John the Baptist and that some ministerial jealousy amongst John’s disciples was beginning to surface. So, Jesus decided to leave the crowds and go into Samaria where He would minister to just one person. When He came into Sychar, He was “wearied with *his* journey,” so He could have said He was too tired to minister to someone. He could have focused on His physical needs rather than someone else’s spiritual need, but Jesus was there for that purpose, so He witnessed even when He was weary.

As we go through life, God brings us to encounters with people who need the Gospel, but it is not always at a convenient time. Sometimes we are so busy in the successes of our life that we don’t have time to talk to someone, or we are too consumed with the weariness of life to want to talk to anyone. But if we are going to follow the example of the Savior, we must accept that no time is a bad time and be ready to speak up for Christ even in the inconvenient period.

2) How Christ Witnessed in an Inhospitable Place (4:4)

Although the shortest route from Judea to Galilee was through Samaria, the Jews hated the Samaritans so much that they would go around Samaria, and cross over the Jordan River twice just to avoid Samaria.

When the northern kingdom was conquered by the Assyrians in 722 B.C., the Assyrians implemented a repatriation policy which meant transplanting Jews to other parts of their kingdom and

importing Gentiles into Samaria. Eventually, the conquered Jews that remained began to marry the Gentiles, losing their distinctive Jewish heritage. This began a hatred and rivalry between the Samaritans and “pure” Jews in the south that would last for over four hundred years.

So, when the Bible says Jesus “must needs go through Samaria,” this was unusual. Of all the places Jesus could have gone to in Israel, this was the most unlikely place.

You and I live in a world much like ancient Samaria. A world that is enslaved in idolatries and false religions, a world that has been taught to hate God and Jesus Christ, a world where people are blinded to the truth. And just as there is no bad time, so there are no bad places to witness for Christ.

3) How Christ Witnessed to an Improbable Person (4:7–9)

We are so quick to prejudge people: either they have too much or too little; they’re too sophisticated to need the Gospel or they are too far gone to get help from the Gospel. Many of us would not have witnessed to Nicodemus because he was too religious, nor would we have witnessed to the Samaritan because she was in the wrong religion. But Jesus looked beyond the obstacles and saw her as a soul that thirsted for something more than her religion could give her.

In the gospels, the conversation between Jesus and the Samaritan woman is the longest conversation Jesus had with anyone. There are longer sermons but this is the longest private, one-on-one conversation. John wants us to know Jesus had time for little people. The woman wasn’t looking for Jesus, but Jesus was looking for her. He didn’t come to Sychar to get a drink of water; He has come to Sychar to give her the living water.

When Jesus turned to this woman to speak to her, there were three barriers that stood between Himself and this Samaritan. A *gender* barrier said it was inappropriate for a Jewish man to speak to a woman in public if she were not his wife. This was not a law of Moses, but was a silly tradition they made because they considered themselves to be so far above women. A *racial* barrier existed because of the afore-mentioned tensions between the Jews and the Samaritans. When He first spoke to her she was shocked because, “The Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans,” but Jesus was not like other Jews. This Jew would have dealings with Samaritans. A *moral* barrier existed because she had been in a series of bad marriages and was, at the time, living with a man who was not her husband. She had too many strikes against her but Jesus talked to her anyway! And each exchange only brings her closer to Him until she is able to place her trust in Him as the Messiah.

May each of us determine that we will follow the example of Christ and witness even in the inconvenient periods of life, that we will not bypass the inhospitable places, and that we will reach out even to the most improbable people we encounter.