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THE
NEWSLETTER

July–September 2024

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



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Founder: Dr. Thomas F. Woodward (1935–1994). Pastor: Tim Fellure. Editor & VBP Director: Jim Fellure.

The *Newsletter* is the official quarterly publication of Victory Baptist Press and is sent free of charge to those who request it.

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Editor's Notes



Jim & Mary Fellure

The Power of the Printed Page

by Milton Martin

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

After nearly two millennia of evangelization, over 50% of the world's population has never heard the Gospel. It is estimated that the average foreign missionary has an

outreach to only 5,000 people during his tenure. At that rate, we would need to send a million more missionaries to the field this year. This is probably humanly impossible.

God has a key—a means of giving the message to “every creature” in a meaningful, relevant, heart-reaching manner. God does not give commands that are impossible to fulfill. With every command given, God also makes available everything necessary to complete it. A key to many countries, languages, and people groups is the printed page.

In America the printed page has become “cheap” and has been taken for granted. This is not true in many foreign fields. In Latin America, for example, one can walk through the villages and towns and pass out literature wherever there are people and the message will be read on the spot. It is not uncommon for people to actually approach the missionary and ask for a piece of the gospel literature. It is amazing to be a witness of the results of gospel literature. There is nothing else that produces such results, taking into account or regarding time and money expended, as gospel literature.

Have you ever considered the impact of the printed page upon your life? Our opinions are molded, our character is formed, our very attitude toward life is determined largely by what we read. The typewriter is mightier than the tank.

The greatest invention of all time is the printing press. How fitting that the first thing printed on Gutenberg's first press was the Bible. Gutenberg wrote in the 15th century, “God suffers because of the great multitudes whom His sacred Word cannot reach. Religious truth is captive in a small number of manuscript books which guard the treasures. Let us break the seal which holds the holy things; give wings to the truth that by a means no longer written at great expense by the hand that wearies itself, but multiplied by an unwearied machine, it may fly to every soul born in the world.”

We are at war—not a war of tanks, and guns, and planes, but a war of WORDS. The weapons are paper and ink, the victims are the minds of men, and the struggle is ideological. Early missionaries blazed the trail for literature evangelism. In recent years,

though, we have allowed the cults and the communists to use this weapon which was forged by many of God's pioneers.

Charles Darwin wrote a book called *The Origin of the Species*. This one book changed the course for evolution. Evolution is now taught, even though a hypothesis, in every state university and college, as well as most public schools in the world. The belief in God has been weakened by one book.

Karl Marx wrote just one book—*Das Kapital*. Almost two billion souls in at least 20 countries have lost their freedom and have had to live under a totalitarian regime because of this one book. It has been responsible for 100 million deaths.

When Lenin took over Russia he said, “The people will never believe or understand communism unless they are indoctrinated with communism by the printed page.” Every person was required to become literate, and a nationwide attack was made on illiteracy. Now Russia is among the most literate nations in the world, even more literate than the United States. It is doubtful if any other people on the earth read more than the people of Russia. They read three times more than the average American. The Russian people have been molded by what they read, and by controlling what is given them to read the Communist Party is able to convince them that they have the best form of government in the world. The communists proudly boast. “Let the missionaries teach the people to read; we will provide them with literature.”

The words of Daniel Webster are as appropriate today as they were over 100 years ago: “If religious books are not widely circulated among the masses in this country I do not know what is to become of us as a nation. If truth is not diffused, error will be. If God and His Word are not known and received, the Devil and his works will gain the ascendancy. If the evangelical volume does not reach every hamlet, the pages of a corrupt and licentious literature will.”

The message of salvation can be presented through means of the printed page. It never flinches, it never grows tired, it never grows disheartened; it works while we sleep; it travels cheaply and requires no rented building; it never loses its temper; and it works long after we are dead. The printed page is a visitor which gets inside the home and stays there; it always catches a man in the right mood, for it speaks to him only when he is reading it; it always sticks to what it has said, and never answers back.

The printed page is deathless: you can destroy one, but the press can reproduce millions. As often as it is martyred it is raised. It can enter doors locked to the evangelist; it preaches in the factory, the train, the kitchen; it visits the school and the jail; it whispers in the ear of the dying.

The printed message can reach those whose religions forbid them to go to church. It can reach the student who, proud of his . . .

Continued on page 5

Print Shop News



Al & Heidi Berg

Dear Friends and Supporters,
The poet Robert Burns said something like, “The best laid schemes of mice and men go often awry.” We here at Victory Baptist Press had some great plans for 2024 that started out pretty well. We started printing a truckload of paper back in January and got it finished by the end of April, which I believe is a record time for us. I thought we had the next truckload of paper ordered, and it was supposed

to arrive around the middle of May. When the paper did not come, I called to see if there was some sort of delay. It turns out the order was never placed. I probably did something wrong, but there was nothing we could do about it except to get another order in. The problem is that paper mills do not always run the same kind of paper, so it is not like they could run another truckload just for us. We got this truckload a few weeks ago and are now printing Spanish Bibles. We hope to get around 26,000 from this load. Our pastor, Tim Fellure, and Pastor Brent Logan of Sweet Water Baptist Church in Tennessee, are teaming up to have an evangelistic campaign in Costa Rica in the month of November this year, with the intention to distribute 5,000 Bibles while there. Please pray that we can get these done so they can ship and be there on time and that God would bless the meeting. The remaining 20,000 or so will go to Bro. Don Rich in Peru for distribution around South America, with a few other smaller orders going out from here.

Normally, the Scriptures we print do not stay on the shelf very long, but we do have roughly 43,000 Spanish John/Romans in the barn. If your church has a ministry to Spanish-speaking people, we would be glad to send you some.

When I first came to Victory Baptist Church in 1985, the printing ministry was young, and so was I. There had been two pressmen

before I started printing in the late 80’s. When I started, I told Bro. Tom Woodward I would do it until they found some one who knew what they were doing. They still have not found anyone, and I am not young any more. Although I have learned a lot over the years, I continue to learn new things all the time, partly because things change, and partly because offset printing is an art, and I have never considered myself an artist. What I have been able to accomplish has not come easy to me, and it is by the grace of God I can do what I do. A lot of our equipment is old, which is an advantage to me because all of the new equipment has some sort of computerization that is supposed to make things easier. Well, they do make things easier when they work, but when they don’t, they don’t. We have had to have some parts either made or repaired at a machine shop, but at least God has given me the understanding most of the time of what needs to be done. Our internet went down in June due to a power outage, and all I know is that some box that made it work got fried, and it is old (over five years!), so a replacement is not readily available. So, the new stuff gets old faster than the old stuff, and it seems that when it is done, it is done. I say all that to ask you pray that God will send a young man who I can teach the old stuff to as much as possible. Being a younger man, maybe he will have a better understanding of the new stuff as well and when it breaks, he will not be as lost as I am.

Thank you for all your prayers and support. None of this would be possible without either. Our plans do not always go the way we wish, but we were recently reminded in church, in a message from Revelation 4, that God is always on the throne and is sovereign. His plan is right on schedule.

God bless,
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 Bibles for the mission fields of the world without charge to those who receive them.

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Benefits & Blessings

Blueberry Blessings



Mrs. Pam Leake

Mmmm! Blueberry muffins . . . blueberry cobbler . . . blueberry preserves . . . For the last two weeks, I have enjoyed the daily picking of blueberries from our lone bush. It has been very productive again this year, as it has been for the last six or seven years. When the chill of winter starts to lessen, and the spring warmup begins, I make my rounds of our property walk-

ing my pup. Excitement builds as I notice the new growth of trees, flowers, and my blueberry bush!

As the buds develop and the tiny berries begin to form, I anticipate the coming crop of tasty berries, with the expectation and hope that I will be able to replenish my freezer with the sweet fruit for use throughout the year. Because of its past performance, I can anticipate that this one bush will produce an abundant supply, but I'm not in control of that outcome. God is in charge of the natural circumstances that determine whether or not I receive a bounty of berries. My part is to care for the plant. As far as my input toward the crop I receive, I can fertilize, water, and prune the bush, which allows me to expect to receive a decent output of fruit. Yet, the ultimate fate of this plant rests in God's hands.

I trust in the goodness of the Lord, and His faithfulness that, as certain as the seasons change each year, that blueberry bush will survive and grow and produce, year after year. Thus, I can hope to have a freezer full of blueberries. I trust, therefore, I have hope. And just as I do what I can to help my blueberry bush to thrive, I need to care for my own spiritual growth and fruitfulness by allowing the Master to feed and prune me through the experiences of life, for I can say with certainty, "He's still working on me!"

That's how it is with the Lord. He never changes; He is a faithful God and Creator who has ordered nature in such a way that enables me to rely on Him—not only for the blueberry blessings each spring, but I can rely on Him to sustain me, as well, through the up and down seasons of life. His Word that is full of sure promises gives me a hope of Heaven, an expected future, and anticipation of joy forever more! Meditate on that , , , it'll get you through any day, and it far exceeds that beautiful crop of blueberries that now fills my freezer and, this morning, tops my bowl of oatmeal.

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.

The Power of The Printed Page Continued from page 2

. . . intellectualism, refuses to listen to the Gospel or relate himself to it for fear of his fellow students or professors. Away from searching eyes, from the probing investigations of the state, away from the demand of superstitious religion, away from the critical intrusions of friends and family, the message of salvation can be read and understood.

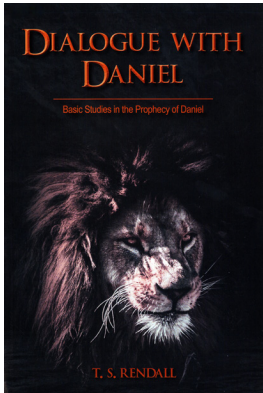
Yes, literature is the link to life. Tomorrow, many missionaries will have to leave their field, but our witnesses can remain. Remember—people everywhere are reading. Education has become compulsory for school-age children in most countries. They are eagerly extending their hand for reading material.

The way to reach the most people in the shortest period of time is with the printed page. Certainly this does not imply that we should neglect other means of evangelism, but the churches of America should awake to the importance of the printed page.

Churches, like the proverbial ostrich, have hidden their heads in the sand of neglect, ignorant and indifferent to the value and potential of literature in the evangelization of the lost and growth of believers. It is time to take massive projects, systematically covering countries and metropolitan areas with the printed page. Do not send your missionary to the battlefield without ammunition.

Missionary Milton Martin

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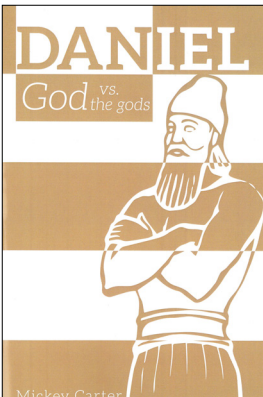


Dialogue With Daniel

by T. S. Rendall

302 pages \$16.95

Many young Christians know the familiar stories of Daniel taught in Sunday school, but they are ignorant of the content of Daniel's visions. And it is not only the young Christians. Many shy away from reading and studying Daniel because of the sensational interpretations of some who consider themselves as "prophetic experts" and who promote explanations of the text of God's Word in terms of novel theories. We must stop looking at Daniel as puzzling and accept it as profitable. That is just what Dr. Rendall does in this never-before published commentary.

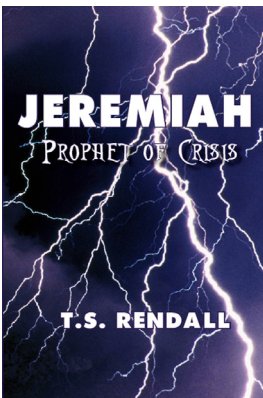


Daniel: God vs. the gods

by Mickey Carter

279 pages \$14.95

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.

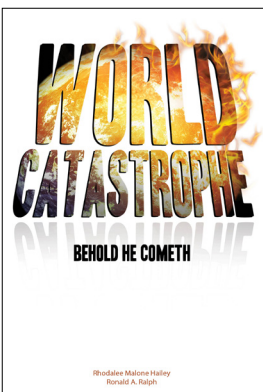


Jeremiah: Prophet of Crisis

by T. S. Rendall

259 pages \$14.95

What does Jeremiah have to say to our times? In this book, Mr. Rendall finds that Jeremiah the Prophet is as up-to-date as this week's *Times* and far more relevant. Jeremiah is the prophet of crisis, for he preached at a time when his nation was in a state of decay and facing its doom at the hands of the Babylonians.



World Catastrophe

by Rhodalee Malone Hailey & Ronald A. Ralph

138 pages \$11.95

We have a backdrop of signals from the beginning of world history, down to the present day, to warn us of the dire consequences which come to peoples and nations that forget God and scorn His commandments. God's Word has gone out concerning our godless generation. Civilization is headed for a coup d'état with destiny! The conflagration is at hand; even at the doors! No Christian library is complete without this great book.



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9. My Father Planned It All
10. Prayer Moves the Heart
11. Joy Down in My Heart
12. I'd Rather Have Jesus
13. When I Knelt the Blood Fell

"I will *sing*
 unto the LORD,
 because he hath dealt
bountifully with me."
 Psalm 13:6



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The Pastor's Page



**Guest notes from
Bro. Joseph Bertram**

Living in the Light

1 John 1:5-10

Through the pages of 1 John, the author presents a dichotomy of two relationships with God that is generally viewed as the same idea. Toward the end of the book, John examines the sonship between the believer and the heavenly Father. But as he begins the book, John discusses the fellowship between these two agents. Although both affiliations are similar, they are not the same concept.

Suppose that I had an argument with my earthly father that deemed our relationship to be beyond reconciliation. No matter the drastic measures I reach to eliminate any connection with him, he is still my father, and I am still his son. While my sonship with him may remain, my fellowship with him would be completely ruined. And so it is with our heavenly Father. The blood of Christ runs through the veins of His children, regardless of what we do; but our closeness to God is dependent upon if our lives are comprised of obedience, love, and truth. Bearing this in mind, notice three facts to consider as we strive to live in the light of God's fellowship.

The Contrast of the Light and the Darkness (v. 5)

Perhaps one of the greatest contrasts in our Bible is seen between light and darkness. Paul said himself, "What communion hath light with darkness?" The answer is, "None." There can be no fellowship between light and darkness because the light is much greater than its opponent. Even in the darkest room, the light of the faintest candle persists and permeates through the shadows. The darker the night, the brighter the light will be.

The message declared to us from the Word of God is that God is light, and He possesses no darkness within Himself. While God is that light, sin is that darkness—and both cannot exist in the same place. He has called us "out of darkness into his marvellous light" to become the "children of light." Therefore, if we are walking in the light, the darkness must leave.

The Contradiction of Our Life and Our Words (v. 6, 8, 10)

In each of these verses, John begins with the phrase, "If we say that . . ." But as we continue reading, we note that what is being said by the believer is not being reflected in the life of the believer. Herein lies the contradiction in the lives of many Christians. Although some may proclaim their life to be one lived for the Lord, their walk contradicts their words. The unfortunate truth is that most "walks with the Lord" can be more accurately described as "talks to others about their walks with the Lord." Our lives should be confirming to others what our lips are claiming us to be.

As we continue in this contradiction, we begin to witness a spiritual

decline of deception from each of these three verses. In verse six, we are lying to others. In verse eight, we are lying to ourselves. Then, at the peak of our deception, in verse ten, we are lying to God.

Charles Spurgeon invited a man to his home after hearing his claims to be "without sin." As this man elaborated on his perfect sinlessness, Spurgeon threw a glass of water into his face. The man was outraged and went on to curse his host for several minutes. Spurgeon replied, "Ah, you see, the old man within is not dead. He had simply fainted and could be revived with a glass of water." Just like this man, we can often be deceived into thinking that we are better off than what we really are. If we are not living in the light of His Word, we are really walking in the darkness of our sin.

The Consequences of Living in the Light (v. 7, 9)

The word "consequence" carries a negative connotation, but it is simply the result of an action. As a result of our living for the Father, we can experience spiritual blessings from His hand. We find two of these specific blessings in this passage.

First, we experience the communion with the saints. Naturally, darkness is concealing; but light is revealing. We cannot see the light itself; we can only see what the light exposes. That is why we read verses like "men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil." But those that are of the light share a common bond in Christ. There are no secrets being kept. There is no going behind each other's backs. There is only transparency and communion among the believers.

Last, we experience the cleansing of our sins. From Genesis to Revelation, we understand that only the blood deals with the sins of mankind. With the old covenant, the blood from the animal sacrifices covered the sin of the people temporarily, but with the new covenant, it is the blood of Jesus Christ that cleanses our sin permanently. But the context here is not concerning our salvation—rather our restoration. John declares that the same precious blood that cleansed our past sins will continue to cleanse our present and future sins. All we must do is confess our sins, and He will forgive us and cleanse us from our unrighteousness.

In south central Kentucky lies one the most wonderful sites—the Mammoth Cave. Explorers have mapped this spectacular rock formation to consist of 426 miles, with new passages being discovered even to this day. At one point in the tour, the workers will turn off every light that illuminates the cave. For just a minute or two, you can experience the oppressive darkness within its walls. But when any person is surrounded by darkness for an extended period, their eyes begin to adjust to the darkness. It is that darkness that reminds me of the world that we live in today. I am afraid that Christians who have been exposed to the light are adjusting their lives to the darkness of this world and their sin. We must be reminded of what Paul says in the book of Ephesians, "For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light." Being the children of light, we must walk as such.