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THE NEWSLETTER

July–September 2025

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



VICTORY
BAPTIST CHURCH

BY ALL MEANS

1 Corinthians 9:22

2025 MISSIONS CONFERENCE

WITH PASTOR ADAM THOMPSON

October 1–4, 6:30 p.m.

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Editor's Notes

**Pastor Tim Fellure**

One of my secret passions is listening to financial and business podcasts. I have always had an entrepreneurial side to me and, as part of that, I listen to a lot of money shows and have read just about every financial management book that has come out in the past twenty years. In personal finance we follow the Dave Ramsey plan and have worked hard to live debt-free. When we first got married, my wife and I made every financial

mistake you have ever heard of and spent many years trying to pay off debt. However, the Lord has blessed hard work, and we are now able to live without any consumer debt. The church and ministries here all operate with no debt, as well. If you have ever been in debt, then you know how crushing it can be. And if you have ever escaped the bondage of debt, then you know how liberating it is to be able to say you owe no man anything.

Though the Bible never actually calls sin a debt, we use that language to acknowledge our sin before God. There is a Christian song that says, I owed a debt I could not pay, but Christ paid a debt He did not owe. The hymn, *Jesus Paid It All*, has the idea that Jesus paid our debt of sin, and how freeing it is to know the “sin-debt” has been paid. But while the Gospel frees us from one debt, it places upon us another debt. Paul spoke of the debt of the Gospel in Romans 1:14 – “I am debtor both to the Greeks, and to the Barbarians; both to the wise, and to the unwise.” The Gospel that had been committed to him placed upon him a responsibility to preach it to all men, and he viewed himself as being indebted to God and to others to carry it around the world.

It is a strange debt. For one thing, most debt you carry is because you spent more than you earned, but this debt does not come because of what you have spent but from what you and I have been given. We are in debt to the world because of the Gospel that has been given to us. Too, all your debt is owed to the person or institution you borrowed it from, but this debt is to a people who have never loaned you anything. We are commanded to take the Gospel to worlds unknown: we have a responsibility to nations and people we have never even been to. Also, debt is a very discouraging thing when you think of how much it costs and how much your lifestyle is hindered because of it, but it is not a burden to share the Gospel or to spend money and time to pay on this debt.

When people get into debt and are overwhelmed, they will usually try three tactics to solve the debt problem. The first solution is to either file bankruptcy or to let the loans go into default and simply not pay the debt. Bankruptcy is never a good solution because it does not address the behaviors that created all the debt in the first

place, so many people who file bankruptcy end up right back in another pile of debt a few years later. Defaulting on a loan is not a good option either because it is bad character and it destroys your credit. The second solution is debt consolidation. There are hordes of companies that promise to help you settle your debts for pennies on the dollar, but these companies have horrible reputations. The way the game is played is they will have you stop making payments on all your debts and, when they go into default, try to negotiate a settlement with the credit card company. Many times desperate people get suckered into scams like this and end up in worse shape than before. If you owe the debt, you should do everything in your power to pay it and there are no shortcuts. You can't just ignore it, and it won't work to hire someone else to pay it off for you. And the debt of the Gospel is not discharged with any such tactics. We must not ignore it as if it is not there, and we can't hire someone to do our job for us. The way my wife and I got out of debt was by what is called the debt snowball. This is a plan whereby you list all your debts from smallest to largest, regardless of minimum payments or interest rates, and you tackle the smallest one first. You make minimum payments on all the debts to keep them current and then throw everything you have at the debt with the smallest balance. Once that debt has been paid add that payment to the next debt in line. As you pay off debts and increase your payments to each next debt, the payments have a snowball effect and this accelerates the payment schedule.

But with our Gospel debt none of these plans work because you will never pay off the debt. You do not ever get to the place where you have shared the Gospel with enough people to have no more debt. Until the whole world knows, we are debtors to all men. Here at Victory Baptist Press we believe the Great Commission is as binding as a debt upon us, but the debt is a privilege not a burden. We should be burdened for the souls of men, but we are privileged to be able to share the Gospel with the world. Thank you to all our friends and supporters for helping us carry the debt.

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

PRINT SHOP NEWS

**Al & Heidi Berg**

Dear Friends and Supporters,
Things have been a little slow the last month in the print shop as we wait for cover stock to finish a run of Spanish Bibles headed to Peru. This is a specialty stock that is custom cut to size. We got caught off guard in ordering because it is taking a little longer than usual to get it in. In the mean time we have been tidying up, mostly, the outside of the shop. Please pray about the future availability of this stock. It

has always been a little more expensive, but the price jumped significantly this last time. We like it because it not only looks good, but it is also very durable, which makes the Bibles last longer.

In June we had the privilege of loading up around 1,500 copies of Ted and Lynn Mullins' latest book, *The Imbonggu Years*, for them about their years of service in New Guinea. We first met the Mullins when they were on deputation before their first term when my wife and I were still newlyweds over 40 years ago. We were able on at least one occasion to send a container of New Testaments and John/Romans to New Guinea, and Bro Ted told us what a blessing that was to them. Another time we sent several thousand copies of a simple tract. To be honest, it did not seem like much, but he told of many conversions from that simple tract. It may be a little different now with the advent of cell phones, but when he was there people did not have all the distractions that we do today, so they could spend more time just thinking. They would take a long time

thinking before making a decision, but when they did, it was solid. We do not hear a lot of stories about what happens with the material we print, so it is a blessing when we do hear the difference it makes in at least a few lives, and I trust there will be many more waiting on the other side.

Our shipment of 60,240 English John/Romans should be in New Zealand by now. It was held up at the port in Long Beach, California for what they called a "random" inspection. Nothing nefarious was found, but we had the privilege of paying \$771.84 extra for this service.

Also, Gerald Sutek in the Philippines should have by now received 590 English John/Romans and 1,122 English Bibles with a military themed cover he hopes to distribute at a military base near him.

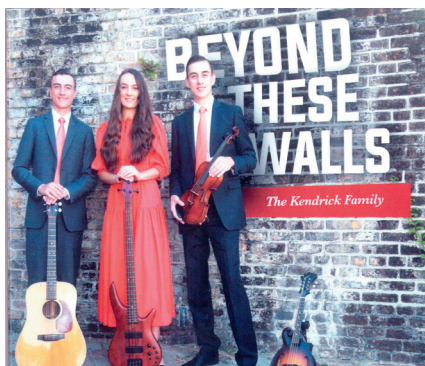
We have also sent 360 Spanish John/Romans and 504 Spanish Bibles to Venezuela through the ministry of Direct Line Ministries which is sending a container loaded with other printed material and supplies.

We are still praying about what the next project will be. There are many opportunities, and we have limited time, talent, and resources, so we want to use them where the Lord would have us.

On a personal note, we are expecting our 5th grandchild soon. It is the first child of our daughter Sarah and her husband Ronald Slutz. They are excited, and I trust that he will be raised in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.

God bless,

Bro. Albert Berg

***Beyond These Walls***

Kendrick Family CD

12 tracks: \$15.00

1. Beyond These Walls 2. I Am 3. How Blessed
4. I Wasn't There 5. His Blood Still Amazes Me 6. I Made It Mine
7. Go Ask the Blood 8. Consider the Lily 9. You're Still God
10. Through It All 11. When He Speaks 12. When I Go Home

***What A Beautiful Day***

Kendrick Family CD

12 tracks: \$15.00

1. I Found It All in the Blood 2. My Heart Knows 3. Secret Place
4. What a Beautiful Day 5. Testing Time 6. Thank God for These
7. Complete in Thee 8. I Remember When 9. Center of Your Will
10. The Greater God's Love Will Shine 11. Thank You, Lord
12. Welcome Home

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.

FROM	IN MEMORY OF
Kathryn and Angela Cowden	John Cowden
Ralph and Ann Coleman	Glenn Lightsey
David and Elaine French–Smith	Becky Heaton
David and Elaine French–Smith	Pat Fontenot
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FROM	IN RECOGNITION OF
Calvary Baptist Church, Belton, SC	
.....	Sylvia Rutledge

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

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Benefits & Blessings

Trust Him, No Matter What



Mrs. Pam Leake

I guess it is only natural that once you move into your “bonus” years past the biblically prescribed “threescore and ten,” that your review of your life becomes more frequent. You have years of experiences, good and bad, that have created memories that can make you laugh, cry, wince with pain, wish to forget, wish for changed outcomes, and a whole host of other re-

actions. But for a child of God, having reached the latter years of life, a review of those past years should serve as greater motivation to give thanks to the Lord for His goodness, faithfulness and unchanging nature.

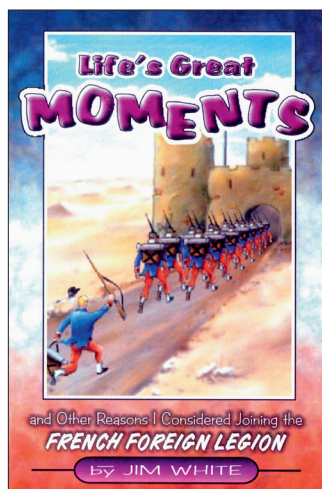
For me, the recollection of God’s goodness includes His preservation of my life until I could recognize my sinful state and need of a Savior at the age of twenty-nine. What mercy He showed me! Looking back I can see His hand directing not only my life, but the life of my husband as we grew and learned to trust His will for us. Thirty-seven plus years in ministry taught us much about the Lord and about people. No doubt there were many occasions for us to fail (and we did) or to be brought to ruin by the wicked one. Through it all, our faith was challenged and stretched and strengthened. We never really considered that He was growing us and refining us for the path He had laid out for us in our old age. Now that we’re there, it’s more needful than ever to trust Him, no matter what!

To be sure, trusting God is not easy in our own strength, but it’s possible because of a rock solid foundation on God’s Word and the proof He’s given us that He will care for His own, come what may. We cannot see what lies ahead, but we can trust that He’s already there and will be with us until He calls us home. That’s the ultimate “benefit and blessing” of belonging to the King of kings. One of my favorite psalms is Psalm 71 which comforts and encourages me each time I read it. When the psalmist writes, “In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust,” I can! When I read, “thou has given commandment to save me,” I believe He will! My trustworthy Lord “hast taught me from my youth . . . now when I am old and grayheaded, O God, forsake me not . . .” and I can rest in assurance He will never forsake me!

I must daily determine to trust Him and not doubt, no matter what comes. I’m a lot closer to being with Him for eternity than I was 43 years ago when He saved me, so I press on and “. . . hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more” (vs. 14). As you look back on your life, I pray you will find Him there, working out His will for you and strengthening your trust in the One who cannot fail. Trust Him and prove Him for you will find Him more than able!

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.

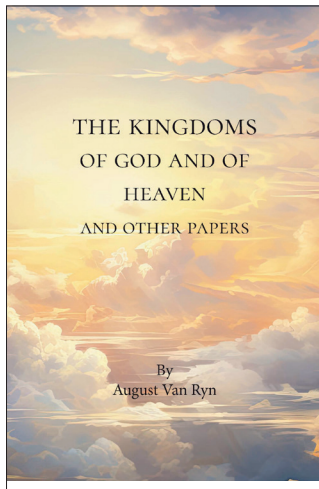
**Life’s Great Moments**

by Jim White

181 pages \$12.95

Jim White looks like Dom DeLuise and writes like Patrick McManus. Everyone who has ever heard him speak has found himself 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, “A merry heart doeth good like a medicine.”

VICTORY BAPTIST PRESS EXCLUSIVES



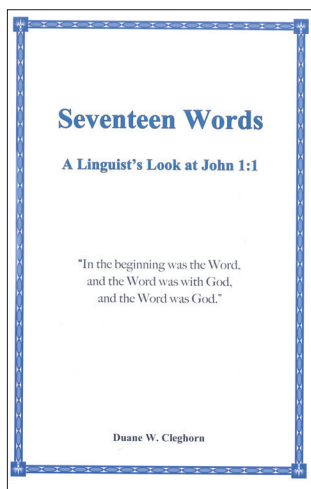
The Kingdoms of God and of Heaven

by August Van Ryn

110 pages \$10.00

Victory Baptist Press's newest book! Get your personal copy today!

"Marvelous grace of our loving Lord! He came to reign, but He can reign only where the heart willingly submits to Him. It is the domination of love combined with the rule of power that blend in Him. He is the King who has come to bless and to save men as well as rule over them. Where once sin reigned unto death, now grace would reign unto eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." (*Excerpt from Chapter One of The Kingdoms of God and of Heaven, available at victorybaptistpress.com*)



Seventeen Words — A Linguist's Look at John 1:1

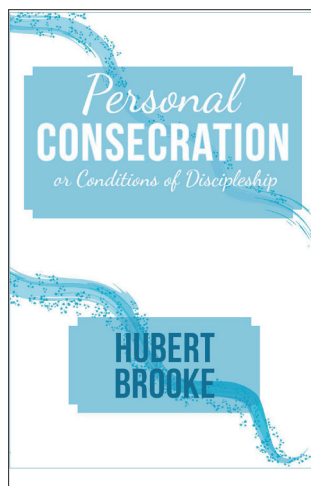
by Duane W. Cleghorn

47 pages \$6.95

My daily habit for more than six decades has been to read the Bible first and then read any other good book that I could get my hands on. I have never read any commentary that equals the clarity and the in-depth study of John 1:1 as this outstanding and challenging book by Brother Duane Cleghorn. After reading *Seventeen Words*, any serious student of the Scriptures will surely agree with me that it should be used as a textbook in Bible study classes and in Bible-believing colleges, or at least be required reading for every student.

May the good Lord bless and give this great book a good distribution.

—Jim Fellure, Director of Victory Baptist Press, Milton, FL



Personal Consecration

by Hubert Brooke

112 pages \$10.95

There is a large portion of God's promised blessings as yet unclaimed by the Church of Christ, and the door that leads in to them is labeled personal consecration. Some things have to be left behind by each soul who means to enter; but far grander things lie waiting to be possessed on the other side. We may well say of this good land, what Pharaoh said of rich Egypt in comparison with famine-stricken Canaan: "Also regard not your stuff; for the good of all the land of Egypt is yours" (Gen. 45:20).

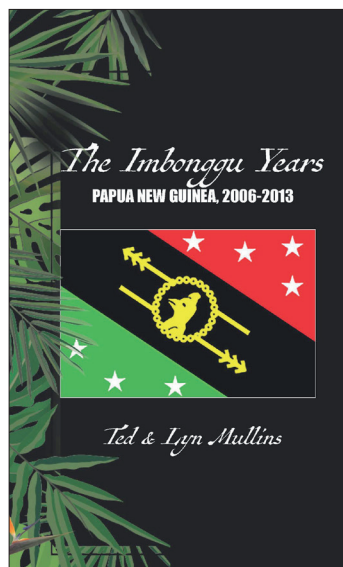
As the pages are read, may the reader's heart be led to a growing conviction of what personal consecration means, and a final decision to respond to the call, which was given in the words of David to Israel: "And who *then* is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the LORD?" (1 Chron. 29:5).

HOT OFF THE PRESS

The Imbonggu Years

by Ted and Lyn Mullins

251 pages \$15.00



This book ends the four-volume series of the Mullins' account of 28 years of mission work in Papua New Guinea. As I read through the pre-press manuscript of this book, there were times when I had to stop and decide whether I should proceed or go back and re-read what I had just read. On several occasions, my heart was so filled with joy that I had to stop and dry the tears. The author of this book has an unusual ability to give attention to details, often being very specific about details that seem to be insignificant. But it always turned out to be a necessary point of the story. One example is about the juniper tree mentioned in the Bible where Elijah rested. After reading about all the benefits of the juniper berry, I found myself trying to find a supplier. This is a must-read book, especially for those interested in fulfilling the Great Commission. If you are a missionary, please don't miss the opportunity to read what could well be the most beneficial book in print today on how to do mission work on the foreign field. (*Jim Fellure, Director of Victory Baptist Press, Milton, FL*)

To purchase your own copy today, contact the author at Ted.lynmullins@gmail.com where you can pay via check or card.

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www.victorybaptistpress.com



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The Pastor's Page



Pastor Tim Fellure

Forgiving One Another

Matthew 18:21–35

In the previous passage the Lord had instructed the disciples on the way of dealing with offenses, which instruction then became the pattern for church discipline. When a brother has offended you, or is living in sin, or is engaging in conduct that hurts the testimony of the church, there is a biblical way to confront him. And if that brother confesses,

then the responsibility of the offended party, and the church as a whole, is to forgive the man and hold no grudges or bitterness against him. The apostle Peter ponders these instructions and, as he is prone to do, takes the principle to the extreme. How much forgiveness is too much forgiveness? Peter is not arguing against forgiving one another, but how much forgiveness? The question Peter raises opens up a conversation between the Lord and His disciples on the subject of forgiveness.

1) An Inquiry about Forgiveness (18:21)

How many times do we forgive a man, yet he keeps committing the same offense over and over? Surely, there must be a breaking-off point where we can justifiably say this is your last chance. Peter suggested the limit could be seven offenses. The Jewish rabbis took the oft-repeated statement in Amos—“For three transgressions . . . and for four, I will not turn away the punishment”—to teach the limit of forgiveness was three transgressions. They misunderstood the statement, but their theology said you get three chances and then judgment. So when Peter suggested seven times, he thought he was being very magnanimous. He was going far beyond what any rabbi or synagogue had ever taught. There must be a limit to forgiveness on a human level, but if we call it at seven offenses then surely we can say we have gone above and beyond in forgiving.

2) An Instruction about Forgiveness (18:22)

The Lord's reply is extreme: not just seven times, but seventy times seven. There is nothing magical about the number 490, but it is just a way of saying there is no limit. Jesus was not saying keep count and cut your adversary off at 490, but was simply playing off the number Peter gave and adding a multiple to it to say there is no number. In Luke 17, the Lord has a similar conversation with the disciples on forgiveness and there says you should forgive a man if he trespasses against thee “seven times in a day.” Again, he is not setting a limit, but making the point that there is no limit.

3) An Illustration about Forgiveness (18:23–35)

The rest of this chapter is taken up with a parable Jesus gives to illustrate the principle He has just set forth.

The Servant's Unimaginable Debt (18:23–25). A lord calls his servant to give an accounting of his life, and he is found to be in a debt of ten thousand talents. That is actually the largest number the Greeks had so the Lord is probably saying he owed a debt that could not be numbered. The debt was too great to count, which is how a man under conviction will see his own debt to God. When the Holy Spirit convicts us and calls us to give an accounting to God, we see our sin as a great debt that we could never settle.

The Sovereign's Undeserved Deliverance (18:26–27). Facing a lifetime of imprisonment for himself and his family, the servant begins to beg for mercy, promising to repay the debt. Maybe if he straightens up his life, the king will apply his good deeds to his debt. But the lord of that servant sees the brokenness of the servant and just wipes the debt off the books. For no other reason but compassion, he forgives the debt and releases him from any obligation or punishment.

The Servant's Unreasonable Demeanor (18:28–30). This servant then goes out and finds another man who owes him pennies and demands full payment immediately. And in the context of the conversation, the picture is of a saved man who has been forgiven of his sins, but refuses to extend that same forgiveness to his fellow man. This shows us how unreasonable bitterness and an unforgiving spirit is in us. The greatest sin any man can commit against you is nothing compared to the sin you have committed against God. And if you have been forgiven of the greater, how much more should you and I be willing to forgive the lesser?

The Sovereign's Understandable Displeasure (18:31–34). The king gets angry at the servant and delivers him to tormentors to punish him. It doesn't say he cast him into outer darkness, but he does chastise the servant. A Christian who will not forgive others is a wicked servant and is subject to chastisement. A tormenter was like an inquisitor who was brought in to put the pressure on you to get you to confess. Just as this servant who was forgiven and would not forgive was punished by the king, so your Father will do the same to you. If your heart is not right with your brother, you will not enjoy your relationship with God if your heart is not right with your brother.

The goal of the Christian is to be more and more like the Christ he follows. What greater way can there be to resemble our Savior than through the significant act of forgiveness! We have been forgiven of so much, the least we can do is demonstrate that same forgiveness to others.